

ALSAGER INSTITUTE COMMITTEE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 520002/1
SCHEME NUMBER 125.029

NOTES OF INFORMAL MEETING HELD IN
ALSAGER INSTITUTE
ON TUESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Present Councillor R Tyson (Chairman)
 Councillor S Bishop
 Councillor C Burgess
 Councillor R Fletcher
 Councillor M Gruse
 Councillor S Helliwell
 Councillor D Hough
 Councillor H Robinson

Also present D W Dingle Acting Town Clerk
 C Bagnall Assistant Town Clerk

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Burgess, Councillor S Jones, Councillor J Smith and Councillor P Williams.

Condition Survey

At the invitation of the Chairman the Acting Town Clerk referred to the Building Condition Report, Alsager Institute undertaken by property consultants Butters John Bee dated 8th July 2016.

The purpose of the Condition Report was outlined in so much as to make available the condition of the building, it's disrepair and to provide a 10-year planned maintenance programme inclusive of budget costs in order to inform the debate on a future strategy for Alsager Institute in its service provision to the local communities of Alsager.

Reference was made to the conclusion of the report "General Condition and Age of the Property / Elements of the Property and the 10-year maintenance Programme" which amounts to £104,703.

It was agreed that the recommendation to the next meeting of Alsager Institute be as follows:-

1. That the Building Condition Report undertaken by Butters John Bee dated 8th July 2016 be received and noted
2. That the Planned Maintenance Programme as contained within the Building Condition Report be approved and adopted

Alsager Institute Strategy

The Chairman referred to the discussion paper previously circulated and outlined the purpose of the meeting; that of informed discussion by the Alsager Institute Trustees in the development of a sustainable strategy for the Alsager Institute or otherwise in its future service delivery to the community of Alsager.

The Acting Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk outlined the charity overview and framework relating to Alsager Institute Registered Charity Number 520002 and its constituted purpose that of

“To maintain the Institute for the purposes of physical and mental training and recreations and social and intellectual development for the benefit of the towns people of Alsager”

It was further explained that Alsager Institute was constructed between the 1930's and 1940's and has operated as a Charity since. The Town Council elected members became trustees in 1974. The Constitution of the Town Council facilitates the Institute Committee of 6 nominated Trustee members to manage the Institute from a Town Council Membership of 14. The Town Councils governance arrangements are employed in the corporate management of the Alsager Institute.

Further reference was made to Alsager Institute Bowling Green which forms part of the Alsager Institute Charity Commissioners property ownership. It was confirmed that the extent of the adjoining bowling green is the subject of a separate leasing arrangement to Alsager Institute Bowling Club a separate Registered Charity Number 1125463.

For information the following information was circulated: -

- Charity Commissioners “Alsager Institute” website Registered Charity Number 520002 includes charity overview and Financial History.
- Charity Commission “Alsager Institute Bowling Green” website Registered Charity Number 1125463 including Charity overview and Financial History

To further inform discussion and debate examples of the weekly booking diary was made available indicating both regular hirers and booking times.

In the determination of a sustainable five-year strategy or otherwise for the Alsager Institute and Bowling Green the following questions were asked in the interests of promoting discussion and debate.

1. Does the Alsager Institute and Bowling Green still meet the objectives / activities of the Charity Commission in its service to the Community of Alsager?
2. Does the change in ownership at Alsager Civic effect the objectives and activities of Alsager Institute now that the Town Council manages both the freehold ownership and service delivery of Alsager Civic in its service to the Community?
3. Does the building condition and amount of capital investment required to bring the Alsager Institute up to a standard that meets modern expectations be accommodated by

the Institute alone or will it be dependent on continued external contributions including the Town Council?

4. Is there a need for further understanding around the options available to Trustees of the Institute in managing change and its community and financial implications?

Following a comprehensive and well informed discussion / debate as a result of the above questions and other trustees matters of interest the following was agreed to recommendation to the next Alsager Institute Committee meeting: -

1. That opportunity be welcomed to develop a five-year strategy for the Alsager Institute and Bowling club
2. That the service provision provided at the Alsager Institute and Bowling Club meets the Charity overview / objectives of the Charity Commission Registered Charities N^os 520002 and 1125463 with a continued need in serving the physical and mental training and recreation and social and intellectual development for the benefit of the towns people of Alsager.
3. That in the knowledge of the Building Condition report dated 8th July 2016 undertaken by Butters John Bee the 10-year planned maintenance programme be adopted in the asset management of Alsager Institute and that by way of implementation the financing of the programme be undertaken by annually approved items of repairs and maintenance as contained within the annual adopted budget for Alsager Institute and Bowling Green.
4. That in meeting the requirements of the Building Condition Report dated 8th July 2016 and bringing the Institute up to modern expectations every opportunity is sought for the provision of external grant funding.
5. That the current Trustee member and governance arrangements with Alsager Town Council continue.
6. That all the above recommendations set out the next five-year sustainable strategy for Alsager Institute and Bowling Green.

It was then agreed that these recommendations be forwarded to the next meeting of the Alsager Institute Committee for formal adoption and Alsager Town Council for ratification.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and concluded at 8.35pm

R Tyson
Chairman