

MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD 5th June 2019

PRESENT - Councillor Carr (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs): Josh Burns, P McKinley, J Sayers, S Doherty, K Hughes, T Hughes and D Mullen.

ALSO PRESENT – A. Spencer (Amenities Manager), D. Healey (Finance Officer) and S. Lawrence (Minutes).

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – None received.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – None received.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None notified.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2019 for Audit & Governance Committee were approved as a correct record.

5. **STATEMENT OF CORPORATE OBJECTIVES**

The Amenities Manager reported on behalf of the Town Clerk that the Council consider adopting a set of corporate objectives which would then be held as a benchmark for the Council. .

Members considered the objectives and the value they would bring to the work of the Council.

Key points made by Cllrs:

- Add Openness & Transparency (Audit & Governance) to corporate objectives – offer openness throughout all the council and the council dealings.
- Cllr asked what Traditions and Values does Maghull Town have? Can these be added to the objectives?

RESOLVED that

1. **The Statement of Corporate Objectives be agreed in principle;**
 - **2. That Transparency and Openness be included in the Corporate Objectives;**
 - **3. That the traditions and values of Maghull be further investigated;**
 - **4. The report to be noted****Remove the bullet point formatting**

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30th APRIL 2019**

The Finance Officer reported that the finance reports had now been split into departments, therefore giving a clear view of each department, rather than solely income and expenditure. As this was the beginning of the financial year the precept had not yet been received in full. However, it was expected that all of the precept would be received by September. As this was the start of the financial year there were no overspends which was to be expected.



Members queried the possibility of external grant funding for projects. The Council had only S106 monies held for improvements to the green spaces in Maghull. Further work would be completed by the Community Services Manager to see if further funding for projects could be obtained.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

7. MEMORIAL PROJECT

The Amenities Manager reported:

- Phase one of Memorial project was a success and asked members for approval for phases two and three as detailed in the report. For the next two phases funding will be provided by Section 106.
- A summary provided about the WWI steering group
- Phase two – landscaping works to be carried out to sides of existing memorial at an estimated cost of £4000.
- Phase three – Artwork to cover existing wooden fence to tell the story of a journey through war at an estimated cost of £15000.
- The process undertaking to get these phases underway, MTC thought it prudent to access North West Chest for procurement purposes. This had proved problematic. Quotes had been sought from an approved contractor list but this had not proved successful. This would lead to further complications within the procurement process at a later date.

Key points made by Cllrs:

- Who will look after the memorial once all works are completed? The Amenities Manager stated this space would be formally adopted by Maghull Town Council, therefore would be maintained by the facilities team, this was designed to be a low maintenance space.
- The need to use the North West chest for Openness and Transparency. This was to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
- Going forward all projects being funded by section 106 need to be approved by Finance & General Purposes Committee as well as full council.

RESOLVED that

- 1. The Memorial Steering Group become a working group of the Finance & General Purposes Committee;**
 - 2. The estimated cost of £4000 for phase two of the project be agreed;**
 - 3. 3. The estimated cost of £15000 for phase three of the project be agreed**
- The report be noted.**

8. INFO SCREEN – MAGHULL TOWN HALL

The Amenities Manager informed Members that this item would need to be put back on the agenda for the next meeting as no report had been completed. Information relating to the

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Council's services and operations and its dissemination was being considered as part of the Communications Strategy currently being drafted.

RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next available Finance and General Purposes meeting.

9. DEBTORS TO THE COUNCIL

The Finance Officer reported key points:

- Informed the sage system produces invoices yearly but let the customers pay monthly therefore the outstanding balances for the majority are being paid.
- Aged Debtors included Anchor Hanover Group, Homestead Consultancy Services Ltd, Mr Simons (lease holder for The Venue) and Sefton CVS.
- Debtors Policy was in place and MTC were robust in recovering debt.
- Informed the debtor report was not very clear and would simplify the report for next meeting.

The Amenities Manager key points:

- The Anchor Group & Homestead were maintenance contracts that MTC had. Both were disputing the work carried out. MTC have not provided the visits as agreed and therefore would not be paying the outstanding invoices. The issues included time sheets not being filled out correctly by the facilities team. The Amenities Manager to follow this up.
- All leases are under review and will be dealt with by the Amenities Committee. To be completed by 30th November 2019.

Key Points Made by Cllrs:

- A discussion took place regarding the Debtors Policy and outstanding debts.
- Whether any agreement regarding part payment could be made so MTC recover something rather than nothing. The Amenities Manager stated they have said no agreement will be made.

RESOLVED that

- 1. Finance Officer to bring a revised Debtor Policy to the next available Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting;**
- 2. Any disputes to be provided separately on the next debtors report produced to provide a clear view;**
- 3. Town Clerk to arrange meeting with A Simons to discuss lease.**
- 4. The report be noted.**

10. CHAIRS REPORT

Nothing to Report.



CHAIRMAN

