

MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD 4th DECEMBER 2019

PRESENT - Councillor Y. Sayers (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs): Carr, K. Hughes, McKinley and J. Sayers.

ALSO PRESENT – A. Spencer (Amenities Manager) and S. Larking (Minutes)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies received from Cllrs Josh Burns and Desmond.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – Cllrs McKinley and Y. Sayers declared pecuniary interests as Sefton Ward Councillors for the agenda item on the Parks review.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None received.
4. **MINUTES OF AMENITIES COMMITTEE 25th September 2019.**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of Amenities Committee held on 25th September 2019 were approved as a correct record.

5. AMENITIES MANAGER UPDATE – COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

The Amenities Manager noted that many actions had been completed. He provided an update by exception for the actions in progress:

- Mersey Forest: Held meeting; Planting, where appropriate, to begin in February/March 2020
- Judo Hut: Quotation for demolition received; considering other options for re-use. Update requested on bid to Sport England for indoor sport facility for racquet sports. Noted that level of vandalism reduced and that embankment an on-going issue
- Fleet: will present proposals for replacement vehicles (2 flat beds and a van) to Finance and General Purposes Committee on 16 December. Proposal includes maintenance agreement, MTC livery and safety features. Noted that tax incentives for low emission vehicles
- Culvert on Hall Lane: Update requested on responsibility as works required to trees and to clear watercourse which is full of bottles. Noted that Sefton responsible as this was excluded from lease.
- Celebration benches: Agreed at last meeting. Cost of bench and installation approximately £370. Resident who requested bench is happy with progress. Scheme to be promoted in New Year.
- Parks review: update on agenda (item 7)

RESOLVED that

1. **Amenities Manager to seek update on funding to Sport England for indoor sport facility**
2. **Amenities Manager to seek clarification from Sefton Council about responsibility for trees in culvert along Hall Lane**
3. **The report be noted**



6. AMENITIES COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

The Amenities Manager reported progress on the work programme, linked to the Council's Business Plan:

- Parks Review: Funding agreed for KGV Park (£86,766). Approval to be sought at Finance and General Purposes Committee on 16 December. Proposal for Glen Park to be reviewed (Agenda item 7)
- Priority One and Two Trees works: Trees identified for work have been felled, some waste to be removed from site
- Internal Audit recommendations: On-going

RESOLVED that

- 1. The report be noted**

7. PARKS REVIEW 2019 – PLAY EQUIPMENT AND PLAY AREA UPGRADES AT KING GEORGE V FIELD

The Amenities Manager gave a verbal report on upgrades to KGV Park to be funded from s106. Cllrs considered a site plan/layout provided by Wicksteed (playground suppliers). Key points:

- New and refurbished play equipment.
- Equipment fully accessible
- Fencing around play area for younger children

Other points:

- On-going works in parks to reduce anti-social behaviour (ASB) including reducing hedges
- Additional infrastructure required including additional lighting and CCTV

Key points made by Cllrs:

- Netherton received funding to reduce ASB. Amenities Manager to contact Sefton to check if funding available
- Concerns about reliability of cameras at Leisure Centre
- Agreed that Sefton Arc would provide reports on ASB. No feedback received. Need confirmation that Sefton Arc are scrutinising cameras in Maghull
- Issue about ongoing revenue costs for CCTV

RESOLVED that

- 1. Amenities Manager to seek clarification about funding for tackling ASB from Sefton Council**
- 2. Amenities Manager to seek clarification about ASB reports from Sefton Arc**
- 3. Report be noted**

8. SEFTON COUNCIL PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (Dog Control)

The Amenities Manager reported that the Council is working to publicise Sefton Council's Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control). It is an opportunity to respond to residents' concerns about dogs on children's play areas and sports pitches. Sefton have stepped up enforcement patrols. MTC limited in publicising the order as there are no notice boards in parks. Signs, screwed into hardboard, to be hung on railing and bollards. An example of signage was circulated at the meeting. Cost for 35 signs is approximately £674.

Key points made by Cllrs:

- Gated play areas used by dog walkers to exercise dogs
- Signs great
- Need to provide some context for signs
- Scheme to be managed fairly and firmly
- Check who receives income from fixed penalty notices
- Check if funding available from Sefton for signage. Town Clerk to write to Sefton.

RESOLVED that

- 1. Amenities Manager to seek clarification about who receives income from fixed penalty notices**
- 2. Town Clerk to write to Sefton about funding for PSPO signage**
- 3. The report be noted**

9. DEMOLITION OF JUDO HUT AT MAGHULL TOWN HALL

Update provided under agenda item 5.

10. CHAIRS REPORT

No report given

11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded due to confidential nature of the item under discussion.

12. PARKS REIVEW 2019 – PLAY EQUIPMENT AND PLAY AREA UPGRADES AT GLENN PARK

The Amenities Manager provided an update:

- Cllrs agreed to fund an upgrade of Glen Park of £34,00 from s106 funding
- Site visit including Cllr McKinley
- Quote received for £51,279 which exceeds budget set by Cllrs
- s106 funding available for Sudell Ward which Council could bid for
- Play area to be expanded incorporating boundary of green gym
- ASB an issue on green gym, proposal would help reduce ASB
- Other works in park to reduce ASB including reducing hedge which has increased passing surveillance

- Will join up with "Friends Of" group. Residents around Haymans Green keen to look after the park
- Link to work with schools to adopt areas in parks
- 2 options:
 - Bring scheme in line with original budget
 - Apply for s106 funding
- 3 Sudell Ward Councillors would need to agree s106 funding
- Recommendation is that park is upgraded as equipment and play equipment is outdated

Key points from Cllrs:

- Consider reducing entry point to reduce egress route
- Friends of group could apply for funding from Police and Crime Commissioner
- Update to be provided on use of Powers of General Competence to run an arm's length company which would be eligible for funding not open to the Council to bid for
- Concerns about future funding for core MTC business; MTC to milk assets better

RESOLVED that

1. **Approval for play equipment and play area upgrades at Glenn Park.**
2. **Approval that officers liaise with Sudell Ward Councillors to apply for S.106 funds (at a Sefton Council level) to "bridge the gap" between committed S.106 funds (by a Maghull Town Council level) and the overall cost of proposed upgrades at Glenn Park.**
3. **Approval that the resolutions of Amenities Committee with regards to S.106 expenditure (at Glenn Park) be referred to Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.**
4. **The report be noted**


 CHAIRMAN

4/3/2020.