

**MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**HELD 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**PRESENT** - Councillor Carragher (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs) Josh Burns, Ferguson and T. Hughes.

**ALSO PRESENT** - P. Dillon (Community Services Manager), S. Larking (Minutes) and 3 members of Maghull in Bloom.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies from Cllr Desmond, Doherty, Mullen and Y. Sayers.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Representatives of Maghull in Bloom (MiB) spoke in support of their grant application for funding in 2020/21:

Key points from MiB:

Local Environment:

- The “environment” is a major national and international issue with a high media profile. Sefton Council are working with “park” and “in bloom” groups. Maghull Isolated No forum in Maghull to meet, provide support or share expertise. Would Cllrs be interested in leading a community forum?

Grant Application:

- In response to a condition of funding for 2019/20 MiB provided a draft design to use on barrier baskets in recognition that Maghull Town Council (MTC) is a partner and provides funding. Proposal is for branding on 15 (out of 25) baskets. MTC provide 25% of the funding for plants at Maghull Square
- Watering continues to be an issue; London and Cambridge Properties (LCP) have reported a significant increase for watering (6 hours a week for 15 weeks) for 2020 to around £15,000. LCP not responding to emails. MiB are seeking support from MTC for watering. Contact details for Contractor to be sent to Community Services Manager
- Receive approximately £25 a month in donations.

Competitions:

- MIB did not take part in North West in Bloom in 2019 as not happy with the quality of judges. Also marked down for the state of Central Square. Melling also withdrawn from the competition.
- Local garden competitions stopped due to lack of support/interest but happy to work in partnership with MTC on future competitions

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Response from Officers/Cllrs:

- Thanked MiB for their work in Maghull
- Have contacted LCP about watering; waiting for a response
- Will explore options for setting up an ecology/environment group for Maghull
- Welcome support from MiB for gardening competition (best front garden, best school garden etc) for 2020 as part of Sefton Borough of Culture
- Confirmed that Cllr Desmond is the MTC representative on MIB

**RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The report be noted

**4. MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

**RESOLVED THAT:** The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 were approved as an accurate record.

**5. COMMUNITY SERVICES BUDGET 2020/21**

The Community Services Manager reported that it was an opportunity to consider the budget options. This would feed into Finance and General Purposes committee on 16 December which would consider the overall budget for the Council. He made the following key points:

- Assuming a cost neutral budget; based on the 2019/20 budget this would result in a budget deficit of £639. This could be taken from community grants
- Will be holding events to support Sefton as borough of culture 2020; some events will be self-financing
- Will continue to run annual activities including Christmas events (hampers and lunch)
- Any other significant events would incur additional costs e.g. fireworks would be an additional £15,000, only partly offset by potential income
- If include fireworks in budget for 2020/21 this would result in a budget deficit of £9,081
- Options are
  - to meet budget or
  - increase the precept

Cllrs Carragher and Josh Burns provided feedback from their evening (Mischief night) spent with Merseyside Police to see challenges they are facing in the Maghull area:

Key points:

- It was an eye opener
- Incident at Morrisons – gang of youths caused a disturbance
- Groups on KGV Park throwing items at passing cars and making abusive comments to staff from Active Sefton who were providing activities on the Park
- Police brought in from other teams to deal with volume of incidents in Maghull
- On Halloween a matrix van was patrolling in Maghull

- Police resources taken up dealing with young people in Maghull area. Young people from Maghull, Kirkby and surrounding areas.
- People over 18 out on Mischief night
- Budget should be spent on wider community and diversionary activities rather than a one off event e.g. fireworks

Points made in discussion:

- ASB is a major issue in Maghull
- Concerns that Morrisons in Maghull seen as a “soft touch” compared with shops in other areas
- Extend Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)
- Consider a Street Ranger Service to engage with young people to find out what they want as young people do not always want traditional activities e.g. a youth club
- Active Sefton can draw on range of support including Youth Offending Team
- Cost of firework event is disproportionate to other activities and does not offer VFM
- Priority is for resources to be spent on diversionary activities to reduce ASB
- Unanimous agreement that a fireworks event should not be held in 2020 due to significant costs; resources to be used to support diversionary activities and the wider community given significant levels of ASB

Response from Officers:

- Dedicated Police Office for Maghull
- PSPO extension under consideration
- Report to be provided on ASB incidents including type of offence, location of incident and home address
- Police would welcome additional CCTV in parks and additional lighting

Update on 2019/20 Budget:

**Neighbourhood Activities.** Includes funding for neighbourhood plan activities. Proposal to vire £300 from budget for subscription to Survey Monkey to carry out survey about parks. Will link results to bid for English Heritage bid for parks trail. Survey will be open to all households in Maghull

**Events:** On track. Includes expenditure for Civic Awards to be held in February 2020

**Christmas Activities:** on track. Includes expenditure for hampers, lunch and Christmas Tree switch costs

**Youth provision:** No spend to date. Have met Parish Hall who are keen to arrange vocational training for hair and beauty. Waiting for a report from Active Sefton about Halloween activities (climbing wall and glow sports). Exploring additional activities which MTC could fund

**Grants:** Grant (£2,000) awarded to Maghull in Bloom. Application received from Maghull Life Saving Club to increase volunteers. Grant to be considered by Town Clerk under

delegated powers as application received after committee papers issued. Bid for external grant funding submitted for Maghull Radio, if unsuccessful may apply for MTC funding

### Sefton Borough of Culture 2020:

An event to be held every month. Plans as follows:

MONTH	EVENT
January	Town Hall Open Day
February	Civic Awards
March	Beer Festival (self-financing)
April	Launch of Heritage Trail
May	Literary Festival
June	
July	Fun Fair (KGV Park)
August	Sports event linked to Olympics
September	Kite festival/Toy fair
October	Lantern Parade
November	
December	Christmas activities

Cllrs confirmed that are happy to proceed with the timetable of events.

#### RESOLVED THAT:

1. Virement of £300 from neighbourhood Activities to events to purchase Survey Monkey
2. Budget for 2020/21 to exclude a fireworks event as priority is resources for diversionary activities to tackle ASB
3. The report be noted

#### 6. CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2019

The Community Services Manager reported that Christmas events are in full swing.

Christmas Tree: Tree at the Square, provided by London and Cambridge Properties (LCP). The Council supported the "switch on" event. Mayor of Maghull turned on the lights. Maghull and Aughton Rotary Club provided their Santa sleigh and Maghull Wind Orchestra provided the music. Will continue dialogue about Christmas with LCP. Hope to have a communitree, planted on land by Halifax, for 2020.

Hampers: Provision for 50 hampers. Morrisons providing support. Any surplus food will be taken to the Food Bank.

Christmas Lunch: Moved to Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Maghull School choir performing along with Jo from musical memories. Nominations welcome.

#### RESOLVED THAT:

1. The report be noted

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## **7. CIVIC AWARDS 2019/20**

Members considered the categories and criteria for the Civic Awards.

Categories as follows:

- Civic Awards
- Environment
- Good Neighbour (new award)
- Local Business
- Youth Award

Noted that no category for Woman of the Year. This was a special category for 2018/19 in recognition of the centenary of women voting for the first time. The Mayor will have the opportunity to make discretionary awards.

Applications will close on 13 January 2020. The Awards will be held on 20 February 2020.

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

1. **Categories and criteria agreed as set out in report**
2. **The report be noted**

## **8. CIRCUS MONTINI**

Members discussed a request from Circus Montini to visit Maghull (KGV Park) in May 2020 for 4 days. Circus Montini is an established animal-free circus. It was noted that £400 income would be generated and that a bond would be held to ensure the park was cleared and left in good order. Cllrs agreed the land license and land charges.

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

1. **Land Licence agreed**
2. **Land charges agreed**
3. **The report be noted**

## **4. COMMUNITY GRANT - FREE ROOM HIRE**

Members considered the report provided by Imagine Independence on progress since their employment advice and support service started at Maghull Town Hall.

Cllrs welcomed the support to residents and the outcome achieved. It was agreed that free room hire should continue.

### **RESOLVED THAT:**

1. **Free room to continue.**
2. **The report be noted**

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**5. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair's report was given as part of Agenda Item 5.



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**CHAIRMAN**