

## **Maghull Town Hall**

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## Dated this 18th Day of November 2020

To: The Mayor and Members of Maghull Town Council, Maghull Town Hall, Hall Lane, Maghull.

You are hereby summoned to attend a Remote Meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 6.30pm to transact the business detailed below.

**Note:** DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

This meeting will be open to the press and public to view via the following link:

https://youtu.be/NBpU9bafpPA

#### A G EN D A

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- Public Participation. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic public participation will be dealt with via the submission of comments or questions to the Council prior to the meeting commencing. Anyone wishing to submit a comment or a question to the Council must do so by 5pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- 4 To confirm the Minutes of Full Council held 30th September 2020 (Pages 1-3)
- 5 Planning Applications

DC/2020/01437 Erection of a Class A1 foodstore with associated access, car parking, servicing and hard and soft landscaping following demolition of existing buildings and outline permission for the erection of two drive thru restaurants. Members are asked to consider a response.

Deadline for comments 5th December 2020 (Page 4)

P.T.O



- 6 **Minutes for Noting** Members are asked to note the following:
  - Amenities 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 (Pages 5-11) and Community Services on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020 (Pages 12-15).
- 7 Website Update Members are asked to consider the report on a new website for the Council. (Pages 16-25)
- 8 Annual Governance and Return Members are asked to consider the response of the External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn to follow
- 9 **Low Secure Unit Maghull Health Park** Members are asked to note the consultation and consider a response. (Page 26)
- 10 NALC Consultation Committee on Standards in Public Life Members are asked to note the consultation and consider a response. (Pages 27-29)
- 11 **Municipal Calendar** Members are asked to agree the municipal calendar for the year. (Page 30)
- 12 Christmas Arrangements Members are asked to consider the Christmas arrangements for the Council given the current Covid 19 restrictions
- 13 Chair's Closing Comments
- 14 Exclusion of the Press and Public
  That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972,
  the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of
  business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under
  paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on
  balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.
- 15 Land East of Maghull Planning Inspectorate Hearing Update Members are asked to consider the update.

Miss A. McIntyre FSLCC Town Clerk

Kollutyre.

# MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL HELD 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 VIRTUAL MEETING

PRESENT - Councillor Josh Burns (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs): June Burns, Desmond, Ferguson, K & T Hughes, Lloyd, McKinley, J & Y Sayers and Sharp.

ALSO PRESENT – A. McIntyre (Town Clerk), P. Dillon (Community Services Manager), S. Lawrence (minutes), Edward Landor (Landor Planning Consultants), Public viewing via YouTube.

- 1. <u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u>: Apologies were received from (Cllrs) Carr, Carragher, Carlsen and Doherty.
- 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None.
- 3. <u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u>: due to the Covid 19 pandemic public participation is by submission of comments or questions to the Council prior to the meeting commencing. None received.
- 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the minutes of Full Council held on 27th July 2020 were approved as a correct record.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DC/2020/014

The major planning application was for a new Aldi food store to be situated on Northway.

#### Comments made by Clirs:

- Enquiries to be made regarding the level of S106 payments requested and for which works/improvements.
- Regarding flooding Why are the developers using data from 2011 to create a surface water development plan (SWDP)? Sefton Council are currently updating the data which will include proposed site therefore a more accurate plan could be produced of they would use the most up to date data.
- Adding another set of lights could be confusing to drivers.
- Information from a third-party Aldi developer could be encouraged to have tanks on the roof to collect wastewater which have slow release. Which could solve/help with the suspected flooding issue?
- Suggestion to close the pedestrian crossing and only use the new crossing at the proposed site.

 Noise could be an issue for local residents during the development phase and a proposal for screening around the site to ensure minimal noise would be requested.

#### **RESOLVED that:**

- 1. The Town Clerk to take questions/comments made by Cllrs to the planning authority.
- 2. The application be recommended for approval;
- 3. The application be noted.

#### 6. MINUTES OF COMITTEES FOR NOTING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of Finance and General Purposes on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020, Amenities 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Community Services on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 be noted.

#### 7. COUNCIL CONSITUTION:

Members were informed that the Council Constitution needed to be reviewed on at least an annual basis. The Constitution would normally be reviewed at Annual Council but this had not been able to take place this year. Therefore, the matter was being brought before Council at the meeting.

#### RESOLVED that:

- 1. The Council Constitution be approved and adopted;
- 2. The report be noted.

#### 8. COUNCIL SCHEME OF DELEGATION:

Members were informed that the Council Scheme of Delegation needed to be reviewed on at least an annual basis. The Scheme of Delegation would normally be reviewed at Annual Council but this had not been able to take place this year. Therefore, the matter was being brought before Council at the meeting.

#### RESOLVED that:

- 1. The Scheme of Delegation be approved and adopted;
- 2. The report be noted.

#### 9. CHAIRS CLOSING COMMENTS:

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.

#### 10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC:

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

#### 11. LAND EAST OF MAGHULL - RULE 6 STATMENT:

Members received an update regarding the progress of the Public Inquiry relating to the Appeal for the southern site on the Land East of Maghull. Members were informed of the key dates leading up to the Inquiry which was due to be held 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

#### **RESOLVED** that:

- 1. The Clerk's instruction of Counsel to represent the Council at the Public Inquiry be approved;
- 2. The Statement of Case, as drafted by MTC's Planning Consultants and agreed by Counsel be agreed by Council and forwarded to the Planning Inspector;
- 3. The representation from Maghull Town Council for case hearings and round table discussions would be the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council;

4. The report be noted.





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Date: 11th November 2020 Our Ref: DC/2020/01437

**Dear Miss McIntyre** 

Site Of Alt Service Station, Northway, Maghull, Erection of a Class A1 foodstore with associated access, car parking, servicing and hard and soft landscaping following demolition of existing buildings and outline permission for the erection of two drive thru restaurants

Deadline: Any comments you may have should be sent to us by 5th December 2020

We have received an application which may be of interest to you. The application can be viewed on our website at <a href="http://pa.sefton.gov.uk/online-applications/">http://pa.sefton.gov.uk/online-applications/</a>. Please log in to the website to access the consultations you have been sent. If you have any comments about the application, please make your comments via the website by the date at the top of this letter.

If you have not contacted us by this date we will assume you have no comments to make. It is important that if you want to make comments you do so promptly. Any written comments will be made available for other people to see.

Yours sincerely

Planning Services



# MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 23rd SEPTEMBER 2020 VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

<u>PRESENT</u> - Councillor Y. Sayers (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs): Josh Burns, Desmond, K. Hughes, McKinley and J. Sayers.

<u>ALSO PRESENT</u> – A. McIntyre (Town Clerk), A. Spencer (Amenities Manager), S. Larking (Minutes) and B. Greenaway (Mersey Forest)

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies received from Cllr Carr
- 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS None received.
- 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION No requests received
- 4. MINUTES OF AMENITIES COMMITTEE 4th MARCH 2020.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of Amenities Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 were approved as a correct record. Note: Minutes to be signed at the next opportunity.

#### 5. PROPOSED TREE PLANTING SCHEME WITH MERSEY FOREST

Ben Greenaway from The Mersey Forest explained that he was working with Maghull Town Council to increase tree planting in Maghull. Funding streams were available to support planting. The focus has been on 8 public green spaces and one privately run space:

- Hall Lane Park
- Pimbley Playing Fields
- Mersey Avenue Playing Fields
- Moss Park
- Dodds Park
- Round Meade
- South Meade
- Bobby's Wood
- Moss Side Cricket Field

There are 34 hectares of green spaces in Maghull which includes 14 parks and 19 open spaces. Using data from Fields in Trust the Green Space Index for Maghull is 20m2 of green space per person; the average is 29.37m2.

The offer from Mersey Forest is as follows:

- Woodlands and micro forests: Hall Lane, Pimbley, Round Meade and Bobby's Wood. Cost £21,000
- Standard Trees and additional hedging: Mersey, Dodds, Moss, South Meade and Moss Side Cricket Club.

Notes:

- Money not secured for standard trees
- No funding for street trees
- Urban Tree Funding requires 50% match funding
- No rush to do work. Funding to be spent in a timely manner. Good quality woodland and green space is the priority
- Mersey Forest may comment on local plans but do not comment on individual planning applications. Recommended looking at a development in North Knowsley which incorporated green space

#### Key points made by Cllrs:

- Amenities and green space a priority for Maghull residents
- Surprised by amount of green space in Maghull. Thought Maghull was green compared with other areas
- Developers on Land East of Maghull sites making claims about biodiversity. Concerns about infrastructure and flooding. Will ask Sefton if the proposals meet the requirements for Green Space
- Noted that planting trees is a mitigation against climate change

#### The Amenities Manager made the following points:

- Community engagement needed to get support for proposals. Will build on Cllr Sharp's work in Bobby's Wood
- Two of the sites owned by Sefton Council (Old Hall Park ad Bobby's Wood) and there
  will therefore be a requirement to consult.
- Planting provides an opportunity for the Amenities Team to develop their skills. Team have capacity to deliver planting scheme as winter works started early.
- Aim of presentation was to flag up work to Committee and get agreement to firm up proposals and start community consultation.

#### **RESOLVED that**

- 1. Officers to develop proposals and work with the Community and Sefton Council
- 2. The presentation be noted

#### 6. AMENITIES MANAGER UPDATE - COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

The Amenities reported that 6 resolutions were in progress. Updates by exception for the actions in progress (highlighted in grey in report) as follows:

- Mersey Forest: Presentation to Members
- Council's Vehicles/Fleet: Progress delayed by Covid 19 pandemic and waiting for agreement of Procurement Policy. Procurement Policy and agreement with Knowsley Council was approved by Finance and General Purposes Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> September. Work on fleet will be progressed as part of Procurement Policy
- Judo Hut: Update to be provided as part of the Agenda (item 11)
- Alternative Legal Provision: This has not been progressed due to savings required due to Covid 19 Pandemic



- Bid Writer: This has not been progressed due to savings required due to Covid 19 Pandemic
- Grounds Maintenance Operations 2020/21: Update to be provided as part of the Agenda (item 7)

#### **RESOLVED** that

1. The report be noted

#### 7. REVIEW OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS 2020/21

At its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Amenities Committee had approved proposals for 2002/21 Grounds Maintenance Operations. The ambition was to enhance parks and open spaces. Work had been impacted due to lockdown during the Covid-19 pandemic. Following return to work the Grounds Maintenance Team have prioritised work to achieve pre lockdown standards. They have achieved, and in some areas exceeded pre-lockdown standards and some winter works e.g. hedge cutting have started early. However, maintenance of play equipment and assets such as pavilions was behind schedule.

The Amenities Manager asked for the Committee to consider five changes to the work programme:

- 1. Removal of Play Equipment identified as posing a danger to health and safety in the annual ROSPA report
- 2. Repainting of play equipment and assets (pavilions, entrance barriers and park signs)
- 3. Installation of bins as part of phase two of bin replacement programme
- 4. Installation of benches as part of council's celebration bench scheme
- 5. Tree planting. As well as improving parks and open spaces would be an investment in the team and meet training needs

#### Key points raised by Cllrs:

- Positive feedback about grass cutting in Old Hall Park
- Concerned that equipment removed and not replaced. Long term funding strategy required as core duty of Council to provide and maintain parks and equipment
- Update requested on Maintenance Operative vacancy

The Town Clerk noted that Personnel Committee would need to meet to agree to fill the vacancy – the budget had been approved. Preference was to hold face to face rather than virtual interviews which may need to wait until local lockdown restrictions were lifted.

#### **RESOLVED** that

- 1. Additional works approved for the 2020/21 autumn/winter operations window
- 2. The report be noted

# 8. UPDATE ON THE REFURBISHMENT OF CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA AT GLENN PARK PROPOSED 2020/21

The Amenities Manager reported that he had liaised with Wicksteed regarding the refurbishment of the play area at Glenn Park. They are aiming to start work in the second week of October. There are some works for the Facilities Team to complete in advance e.g. removal of concrete posts. There is ongoing ASB in the park. Priority is to protect

the play equipment. Hedgerow had been retained. Considering a two-metre high fence with access gates at either end. He noted a comment from Cllrs about fencing being scrambled and potential liability. His informal view was that if anyone fell after climbing the fence that contributory negligence could be used in defence

#### **RESOLVED** that

1. Verbal report be noted

# 9. PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP WITH MAGHULL IN BLOOM TO SUPPORT LITTER PICKING IN GLENN PARK

The Amenities Manager reported that he had received a request from Maghull in Bloom (MiB) to support litter picking in Glenn Park. Three regular park users had volunteered to litter pick. The Council could provide litter pickers and high viz tabards (without logos) if needed. Litter picking on Council land is covered by Council's insurance. Residents are keen to form "Friends Of" groups in Balls Wood and Round Meade. Work on-going with the Community Services Manager to formalise groups.

#### Key points from Cllrs:

- Conservative Group have up to 10 volunteers available to help with litter picking in parks: litter pickers, glove and high viz tabards
- · Would like an update on "Friends Of" Groups at the next meeting

#### **RESOLVED** that

- 1. Members supported the partnership with Maghull in Bloom for litter picking in Glenn Park.
- 2. Update on "Friends Of" Groups for next meeting.
- 3. Report be noted.

#### 10. FOOTBALL PITCH HIRE 2020/21

The Amenities Manager reported that work by Sefton Council to improve drainage at Pimbley Playing Field had been successful. Water logging had been reduced. Sefton District School Boys Under 15s FC had played on one pitch last season with no adverse impacts. Both pitches ready for hire for 2020/21 season. Lots of interest from clubs. Sefton District School Girls Football Club had enquired first (February 2020) and should be offered the pitch. Changing rooms are not be available. Covid-19 risk assessments will be required from both clubs to support the Council's own risk assessment. Clubs also providing/will provide contact details for Government's trace and test programme. Details will be kept for 21 days and destroyed thereafter.

#### Key points raised by Cllrs:

- A football club is providing Football Coaching at Whinney Brook on Saturday mornings. Up to 60 parents and children attend. Cars parked on verges causing a nuisance to residents. If this is a business, they should be charged as they are using a Council asset which incurs costs to maintain. Officers to investigate.
- Noted clubs hiring MTC facilities are providing contact details for Government's trace and test programme.

The Town Clerk suggested using social media to make residents aware that the organisers of the coaching sessions do not have permission to use Council land and that their insurance may be invalid

#### **RESOLVED that:-**

- 1. Both football pitches at Pimbley Playing Field are reopened for the 2020/21 football season.
- 2. One pitch is made available to Sefton District Schoolboys Under 15's Football Club.
- 3. The reopened second pitch is made available to Sefton District School Girls Football Club.
- 4. Officers to explore use of Whinneybrook Playing Field on Saturday mornings and issue message on social media that Council has not agreed the hire and that insurance may not be valid
- 5. The report be noted

#### 11. DEMOLITION OF FORMER JUDO HUT AT SITE OF MAGHULL TOWN HALL

The Amenities Manager reported that despite efforts to secure the judo hut, it is blighted by high levels of vandalism and puts the tennis pavilion at risk. The cost of demolition is £7,320 and £200 + VAT to disconnect the electricity.

#### Cllrs noted the following

- Building not been used in recent years
- Options to retain skeleton and refurbish considered as a base for Grounds Maintenance Team. Council has other assets it could use
- Access an issue for use as a garage
- Plan to rationalise the estate going forward and bid for funding for a sports facility

#### **RESOLVED** that

- 1. The former Judo hut is demolished by Winterburns of Rochdale Ltd and electricity disconnected
- 2. The costs associated with demolition of the former judo hut to be met by asset maintenance nominal code within the 2020/21 Facilities Budget
- 3. The report be noted

# 12. RESPONSE TO SEFTON COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION ON PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (DOG CONTROL)

The Amenities Manager reported that Sefton Council's Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) (Dog Control) had been in place for 3 years. Sefton Council is carrying out a consultation about its effectiveness and any improvements. Closing date is 5<sup>th</sup> October. Key points from MTC response:

1. State the names of Town/Parish Parks and Open Spaces within the annex of the new PSPO to give greater certain in terms of enforcing the order

- 2. Universal signage across Sefton would help as currently each Parish/Town Council has different signage.
- 3. A contact point within Sefton Council should be identified to help inform where patrols should be deployed where dog control is an issue.
- 4. Funding should be made available to support community clear ups

#### **RESOLVED** that

1. The verbal report be noted

#### 13. FUNDING APPLICATION - FRIENDS OF MAGHULL AND DISTRICT

Friends of Maghull and District have requested funding for two crowd funding signs (£95.00) to help promote the work of the Friends of Maghull and District. The cost will be met from the Parks Management nominal code.

Cllrs commended Cllr Sharp for his work to improve the local environment. They noted that he had raised over £66,000 for projects in Maghull

#### **RESOLVED that**

- 1. Funding of £95.00 agreed for Friends of Maghull and District to purchase crowd funding signs to be installed at Bobby's Wood
- 2. The report be noted

#### 14. CHAIRS REPORT

No report given

#### 15. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

#### **RESOLVED** that

1. The press and public be excluded due to the confidential nature of the item under discussion.

#### 16. HEDGE PLANTING AT DODD'S PARK

A resident, whose property borders Dodds Park, requested that a hedge is planted on the boundary of the property due to privacy issues from an item of play equipment. The resident has made a number of complaints which have been investigated by Officers. The resident has planted a laurel hedge along their boundary, but growth is slow. The resident claims that poor growth has resulted from the proximity of two silver birch trees and has requested one or both are felled. The Council's policy is not to remove trees unless they are damaged or diseased. Knowsley Council's Tree Officer (who carried out the 2018 Tree Survey) advised that it was not necessary to fell either tree which were both in good health.

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had visited the property. Part of the laurel hedge was not growing as fast as in other parts of the garden. This could be due to a number of reasons. Silver birches are not known to take up large quantities of water. The Council has been working to reduce the height of hedges across Maghull's parks, in response to feedback from residents and was something which members supported within council's Parks Review. Hedges are cut to a uniform height rather than by household preference.

Cllrs carefully considered the request to plant a hedge to the rear of the property in Dodds Park. A majority decided to reject the request to plant a hedge and agreed that there should be no works to either silver birch trees.

#### **RESOLVED** that

- 1. Rejected request to have hedging with the boundary of Dodd's Park to the rear of a property on Dodd's Lane
- 2. The Town Clerk should write a letter to the resident explaining the resolution of members.
- 3. The report be noted

CHAIRMAN

# MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL VIRTUAL COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD 19h AUGUST 2020 BY ZOOM

<u>PRESENT</u> - Councillor Carragher (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs) Desmond, Ferguson. T. Hughes and Mullen

ALSO PRESENT - A. McIntyre (Town Clerk), P. Dillon (Community Services Manager) and S. Larking (Minutes)

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs Josh Burns, Doherty, Lloyd, Sharp, and Y. Sayers

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

#### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received. Meeting being recorded and will be available for viewing. Note: due to technical issues only part of the meeting was recorded.

## 4. MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF 11th MARCH 2020

RESOLVED THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 were approved as an accurate record.

#### 5. <u>COMMUNITY SERVICES WORK PROGRAMME</u>

The Community Services Manager reported on the impact of Covid 19 pandemic on events and activities agreed by the Committee on 11 March:

- 1. Cinema Trip: Cancelled by Sefton CVS. Credit note from Maghull Coaches to be used when event is rescheduled
- 2. Mini Soccer: Postponed. Will run in September/October when schools return
- 3. Go Girl afterschool project: Postponed. Looking to start again when schools return
- 4. Green Trail; Lottery Funding directed to Emergency Covid Funding. Unclear when will be able to bid for funding
- 5. Family Fun Day: Cancelled. No current plans to re-arrange
- 6. Family Park events: Cancelled
- 7. Mini Olympics: Postponed.
- 8. Literary Festival: Postponed. Library has been closed.
- 9. Lantern Event: Unlikely to happen as no funding. Community Services budget reduced (by £16,000) due to Covid

- 10. Fun Fair: Postponed. Organisers keen to host an event in September 2020. They have been advised this is not possible under current regulations. Looking at one or two fairs in 2021.
- 11. Circus: Offered dates for 2021. Agreed to invite back on same terms
- 12. Toy Fair/Kite event: To revisit in 2021

Views from Cllrs are welcomed about other potential events.

On a more positive note, the Community Services Manager ran through what had been delivered in recent months:

- 1. Calls to vulnerable residents. 50 people contacted and offered support. The list may increase as other residents identified who need support due to isolation
- 2. Sefton CVS Volunteer Shopping: 200 deliveries. Scheme closed on 14th August. Some is shopping continuing for the most vulnerable residents. Unfortunately, the Sefton CVS Community Connector for Maghull is moving to a new post. In the short term there will be a shared service, with Southport, which will create a gap
- 3. Maghull Food Bank: Working with Morrison's Community Champion to support the Food Bank. Funding secured via Cllr McKinley. Some money still available. Generous donations from Maghull residents; sometimes food gets reallocated to other parts of the borough. Numbers attending the food bank range from 2 to 31. Includes single people and families. Most users are from Maghull and Lydiate.
  - a. Points raised by Cllrs:
    - i. Local churches all offer Food Banks
    - ii. Trussle Trust has strict rules about referral (via GP or Cllr) and there is a maximum number of visits (3 per year)
    - iii. Some people are embarrassed by using a Food Bank and will go out of area to avoid being seen by people they know
- 4. Social Media: Promoting and signposting advice and assistance e.g. information about Citizens Advice services. Increased number of likes. More work to do to drive users
- 5. Bobby's Wood: Good response on survey monkey. Support for "Friends Of" group. Draft guide for "Friends Of" groups which will be used for Bobby's Wood and Glen Park
- 6. Land East of Maghull: Over 100 responses sent directly to MTC and collated in support of Option 6 (Haul Road).
- 7. Tesco Bags of Help: £500 funding received for Volunteer Expenses. Forwarded to Sefton CVS as the volunteer co-ordinator. Some money still available to support volunteers
- 8. Sefton's Community Response Cell: Community Services Manager has been liaising with support officer and circulating minutes to councillors. Helpful to have a coordinated approach across Sefton. Three cells being merged. Meetings moving to bi-monthly.

9. Community Groups in Maghull: Officers have had regular contact with Community Groups and hirers. Outdoor bowlers are back bowling at KGV Park. It was noted that Maghull in Bloom had been in contact about social distancing for volunteers. Government Guidance about social distancing applies to all activities.

**RESOLVED THAT: The report be noted.** 

#### 6. TACKLING SOCIAL ISOLATION

The Community Services Manager reported that he has spoken to the Chair about loneliness and how to tackle it. He attended a virtual conference which had some good ideas. There is lots going on in Maghull; work is needed to map services to identify gaps. A second wave of Covid over Autumn/Winter could increase isolation. Need to think how to communicate and reach out to elderly residents who are not on social media. There was a pool of volunteers (8) who provided the shopping services. The plan is to try and retain services for Maghull and increase the numbers.

Looking at options for Christmas. Will be able to provide Hampers but there is no social contact. Unlikely will be able to host a Christmas Lunch but will keep under review. Will maintain contact with vulnerable residents to identify who needs help.

Partnership arrangements to be reviewed. Will host a virtual partnership/volunteer event.

Maghull Radio exploring digital inclusion and digital champions. Maghull not a priority for digital inclusion scheme run by Sefton CVS

Key points from Clirs:

- Link up young children and elderly residents e.g. pen pals. Evidence has shown this lifts the spirits of all involved. Could set up with schools when they return from summer holiday
- Details of people wanting to volunteer to be passed to MTC Officers to forward to Sefton CVS
- Remote buddying, good neighbour schemes
- Funding available from IT/Media companies to encourage digital inclusion and access to Social Media
- Issues about Zoom/Skype for some people e.g. those with learning disabilities, not just the elderly. The preference is for 1-2-1 contact

**RESOLVED THAT: The report be noted** 

#### 7. COMMUNITY YOUTH SUPPORT NETWORK

Cllr Mullen gave an update on proposals to support families with a child living with neurodevelopmental conditions including Autism Spectrum Disorder and ADHD. She is in contact with ADDvanced Solutions who have been supporting families who have been under pressure due to isolation/withdrawal. Meeting space is urgently needed to engage with those who want to meet in person. Looking at Zoom meetings for those families who are struggling. It was noted that issues include anxiety and separation.

Concerns about availability of A Level courses in local schools. Schools supporting students but more support may be needed.

In response the Community Services Manager reported that as the Town Hall was currently closed to the public it could signpost to services and support. It was suggested that a working group be set up to look at issues and how to support children and young people

**RESOLVED THAT: The report be noted.** 

#### 8. CHAIRS REPORT

The Town Clerk gave a short update on the consultation about Land East of Maghull.

- Around 4,000 individual views had been recorded
- 1,300 responses received
- 94% of respondents voted for Option 6 for a haul road route through the northern part of the site
- This was a very good response
- Social media worked
- Thank you to all Clirs who delivered posters etc. in a short timescale
- An email would follow to all Clirs about the latest developments with the planning application

The Chair thanked everyone for staying at/working from home to help keep everyone safe. Priorities for the Committee would be tackling social isolation of the elderly and supporting young people. Her final message was stay safe.

**RESOLVED THAT: The report be noted.** 

CHAIRMAN

Report to:

Full Council

Date of Meeting:

25th November 2020

**Agenda Item Number** 

7

Subject:

Development of new council website

Report of:

**Community Services Manager** 

**Exempt / Confidential Report:** 

No

#### **Summary**

Development of a new website for the council is required to bring the site up to date using contemporary website software (Wordpress) and to enable staff ease of access and an improved ability to edit the content directly. The new website will also include a private area for councillors and staff allowing access to procedures and policy documents and enabling closed discussion areas about issues as required by council. The new website also ensures fully compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 AA standard.

Maghull Town Council Priority	Yes/No
Development and Protect the Community	No
2. Develop Parks and Green Spaces	No
3. Value for Money and Enterprising Council	Yes
4. Develop Leisure and Activity for All	No
5. Develop/support Community Services and Groups	Yes
6. Support Culture and Heritage	Yes
7. Health and wellbeing Programme	No
8. Statutory Requirement	Yes

#### Recommendation(s)

- 1. Members consider the website development update and the benefits this will bring for staff, councillors and customers
- 2. The report be noted.

#### Reasons for Recommendation(s)

The website requires updating to ensure regulatory compliance and to improve user experience.

#### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected**

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

#### (A) Revenue

Set up £699, Annual maintenance & support £400

#### (B) Capital

None

**Implications of Recommendations**: Establish new website and host for Maghull Town Council.

Financial Implications	Cost of initial set up and ongoing support package paid annually						
Resource Implications	None						
Legal implications	LGA 1972, Audit & Accountability Regulations 2015, Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.						
Equality & Diversity Implications	Meeting accessibility requirements will improve everyone's user experience						

**Implementation Date for Decision – following full council meeting.** 

Appendices- Appendix 1 Netwise brochure

Appendix 2 Screen shot of website homepage

#### **Background Papers**

<b>Contact Officer</b>	Phil Dillon	
Telephone	0151 526 3705	
Number		
Email Address	phil.dillon@maghull-tc.gov.uk	

#### 1. Background

The current website hosted by BOnline has proved to be increasingly difficult to modernise and update. Communication with the company is remote and they have proved to be unresponsive to recent requests for relatively simple amendments to website pages. Reviewing other council websites demonstrated that technology has moved on and that MTC needs to bring the website up to standard with a site that is easily amended by staff, meets accessibility requirements and can act as a platform for communication to the community across a whole range of issues.

A review of the options available was conducted by the Community Services Manager in August and September 2020. After comparing several options St Helens based Netwise offered the best value for money for a Wordpress based website. (Netwise Brochure please see link Appendix 1

https://parishcouncilwebsites.org.uk/brochure-request/) They could accommodate the demands of hosting a private area and offered an excellent support package. The price for the Premium Plus Package Support and Maintenance Setup Fee was £699 with an ongoing annual support and maintenance package of £400.

The new website has an attractive and user friendly front page, with an easy to access menu that incorporates all the key areas that are the focus of public queries and highlights the key meetings and events that are pending at a glance. It retains access to councillor profiles and information broken down by ward. Collated details of the town's parks and leisure amenities will enable people to relate facilities to each park. The menu includes sections about Maghull as a Town and has a dedicated area about new build developments which would be expected to reference land east

of Maghull as information is required to be disseminated during the ongoing consultation process.

Please see appendix 2 for a screen shot of the home page.

Councillors will have access to a closed Forum area which will be for their exclusive use. This will provide access to council documents including policies and procedures. It can be used as a chat room for specific issues and should help ease remote communication which at the present time is invaluable.

Councillors need to consider how to make best use of this facility and it will be possible to provide basic training on how to access and utilise the private area which will be administered by council staff.

It will be possible to promote information campaigns using the headline and galleries facilities of the new website which can be developed and amended in real time which is not currently the case. Promotion of events will be considerably easier to highlight and can be linked into the social media platforms of Facebook, Twitter and the council's YouTube channel. This provides an integrated communication hub which residents can use to view a whole range of items, from finding out about programmed council events, to viewing council meetings remotely and looking at the facilities and services that are on offer.

Netwise also provide a facility to swiftly adapt the front page in the case of Operation London Bridge being activated following the death of a senior member of the royal family. This is an improvement on the existing facility which does not offer an option for changing the website in real time.

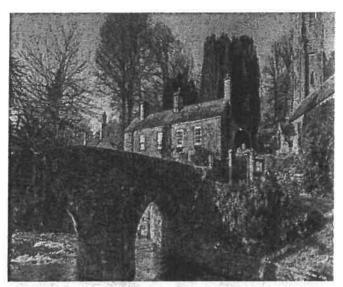
The new website would need to be launched and promoted to encourage greater use by residents. The Community Services team is considering features that would attract usage with a focus on useful local information and potentially working with local organisations and businesses to promote their activities in the community. Current topical issues would also be reported on and changed daily to keep the site relevant via the News section of the menu.

Shifting to Netwise hosting the website will future proof it for the foreseeable future by utilising the contemporary software and enabling staff to make use of the improved accessibility and functionality that this offers.

#### Recommendation(s):-

- 1. Members consider the new website design and the improvements this will provide.
- 2. The report be noted.

At last,
a website made
for Parish
Councils







# Compliance

Transparency Code WCAG 2.1 (Accessibility) GDPR

Our websites are designed to comply with the Transparency Code,
Accessibility Regulations and also GDPR. Each website is designed to be
simple to update including uploading minutes, agendas and financial
reports.













# A New Website

## A hub for your community

A new Parish Council website can be used to bring your community together. The Transparency Code only requires statutory information to be published, however by keeping the website up to date and informative the council members can help towards creating a tighter community spirit.

Our websites make it easy to post a news article, create an event and even include such functionality as Facebook feeds or links to Fix My Street.



# Ease of use makes our websites a Parish Clerk's dream!



Our websites are packed with features to make updating and maintaining your Parish Council web pages a breeze!

Check out the video on our website for an overview of the key features available. You will see how easy it is to add new events, notices, minutes, agenda items and much more.

As an administrator, you simply login to the easy to use dashboard and add your content to the various sections. With instructional videos, range of training options and ongoing support, you simply can't go wrong. And if you have any questions, we're always available to answer them.

Don't struggle with a generic website. Choose to have a website that is designed specifically for parish councils and smaller authorities.

Our websites are designed to allow smaller authorities and parish councils to comply with the transparency code, GDPR and accessibility regulations with minimum fuss and cost.

Each website has all the features needed to comply with the relevant regulations and to keep your community members informed. Each website is fully responsive and so can be viewed on any device including tablets and mobile phones.

In addition we also offer training options to those members responsible for updating the website and we even provide domain name registration services including .gov domains along with fast reliable, UK based hosting and backups.

Take a look at the features below to see how we can relieve the burden of compliance.

# Packed with features

#### **Document Archive**

A facility to enable the easy upload of any document, PDF, Word Doc, Excel File or images can easily be uploaded and sorted into categories.

This allows the upload and easy display of minutes, agendas, financial reports, audits and everything else that you are required to publish in order to comply with the transparency code.

#### **Events**

Create community events with just a few clicks and have them display in order on your website. Connecting with your community couldn't be easier.

#### **Notices**

Community notices are just as easy to publish and allow your community to flourish.

## **Ongoing Support**

We offer webinar training to your key members and clerks to enable them to update the website in a timely manner and with ease. We realise that many smaller authorities find complying with the transparency code daunting, with that in mind we also offer ongoing support including a members area with help files and short 'how to' videos.

#### Hosting

Our hosting is secure and fast ensuring that your website is always available. We ensure that your system is always up to date, we take care of any software updates leaving you free to do the more important work in your community.

#### **Examples**

Here are some other council websites which we have recently completed:-

#### **Video Tutorials**

We have created some instructional videos which are available on our Youtube channel and from the links below:-

How to add an article - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0vRK\_CtdVU How to add an event - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIFdygG53OA How to upload a document - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aBGHTPv7qg

## See What Other Councils Say...

#### NetWise Has Made Setting Up A Compliant Website So Easy

"We chose NetWise as they offered a fully compliant website service, and the ability for us to upload everything at a reasonable set-up and annual cost. Their training videos are so straightforward and easy to follow (included in the cost of the set-up fee), and after a month, we now have a fully compliant website."

Peter Higgs - burford-tc.gov.uk

#### Excellent Service and a Great Product

I would thoroughly recommend using NetWise for your town or parish council website. The CMS is simple and straightforward. It makes updating, maintaining and changing the site easy and quick. Adam and Steve respond quickly to any enquiries and help out if there are any issues.

Pip Alder - melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk

read more reviews on our website

We have become the number one choice for Parish Council websites.

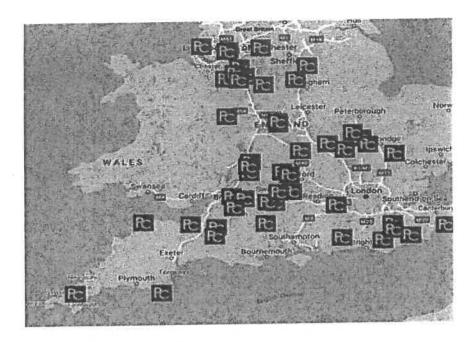
Our friendly
approach, affordable
prices and
dependability have
resulted in us hosting
more Parish Council
websites than any
other independent
company in the UK.

Please contact Steve or Adam

or call us on 0151 272 0104 or

0788 999 8247 (mob)

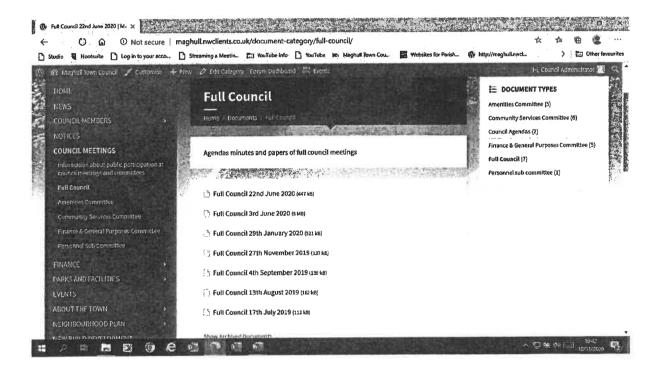














#### Help us with your views

**Community and Mental Health Services** 

We are looking for your views on proposals for our new regional specialist hospital for people with learning disabilities.

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust wants to establish its new low secure unit for people with learning disabilities at its Maghull Health Park off School Lane, Maghull.

We are keen to hear from local representatives and their communities how establishing it here can contribute to regeneration and jobs in the area, as well as create a centre of excellence for such specialist learning disability and associated mental health services on the Maghull site as the town's largest employer.

Last year, the Secretary of State confirmed funding for the new hospital. Mersey Care held a series of events to display plans at Maghull Town Hall and has achieved outline planning consent. As we continue with the necessary approvals process we want to share developments more widely now. To do this safely and accessibly, and to reach as many people as possible during the current restrictions caused by the pandemic, we will be using a website to gather people's views. The website address is: https://yoursaymerseycare.co.uk/

On the website you will be able to see artists impressions of what the low secure unit could look like and fill in a short survey to tell us what is most important. You will need to register to sign in to complete the survey and feedback.

On the website is a place to leave your ideas and for people to tell their stories. We want to hear from our communities and people who may use the service as well as their carers and families. Feedback given through the website will assist us creating the best possible environment for people who need this specialist facility as we apply for final planning permission in the coming weeks.

STOP PRESS: We have now launched a competition to help name the new low secure unit – send in your naming suggestions suitable for this addition to Maghull Health Park and the local community via the website <a href="https://yoursaymerseycare.co.uk/">https://yoursaymerseycare.co.uk/</a>

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: Did you see the footage of Rowan View on Granada Reports prior to its forthcoming opening? You can watch a short broadcast again on the ITV News website <a href="https://www.itv.com/news/granada/2020-10-19/inside-the-new-53-million-secure-merseyside-hospital">https://www.itv.com/news/granada/2020-10-19/inside-the-new-53-million-secure-merseyside-hospital</a>



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21 OCTOBER 2020

# PC13-20 | STANDARDS MATTER 2: PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR SURVEYS

#### **Executive Summary**

The Committee on Standards in Public Life has recently launched a consultation as part of its review into the institutions, processes and structures in place to support high standards of conduct. The terms of reference of the review are to: review the evidence as to how well ethical standards are upheld in public life in the UK, review the evidence on the strength of the UK's arrangements for regulating and promoting ethical standards, review the adequacy and continuing relevance of the Seven Principles of Public Life, identify examples of best practice in the regulation of ethical standards, identify examples of best practice in the promotion of cultures that celebrate and encourage high ethical standards. NALC will be responding to this consultation. The main consultation document is available here.

#### **Consultation questions**

NALC will be responding to the consultation questions as follows:

Consultation Questions:

#### Question 1: Standards of Conduct in the UK

A. How well do you think ethical standards - as enshrined by the Seven Principles of Public Life - are upheld in public life today?

B. Do you believe that there have there been any notable shifts in approaches or attitudes to ethical standards in public life in recent years?

C. What do you see as the most significant threats to ethical standards in public life today?

#### **Question 2: The Seven Principles of Public Life**

A. Do the Seven Principles of Public Life accurately describe the appropriate ethical responsibilities for those in public roles, including both political and non-political office-holders?



t: 020 7637 1865 e: nalc@nalc.gov.uk w: www.nalc.gov.uk a: 109 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LD

B. Would you amend or replace any of the principles or their descriptors? If so, how?

#### Question 3: The UK's arrangements for regulating standards

- A. Are you confident that the UK's arrangements for regulating ethical standards are robust and effective?
- B. Are there any areas of public life where regulation on issues of ethical standards is not strong enough?

#### Question 4: Best practice in standards regulation

- A. What makes an effective standards regulator?
- B. Do the UK's standards regulators have the right powers and remit to act effectively?
- C. Should the independence of standards regulators be enhanced and protected, and if so, how?

#### **Question 5: Creating ethical cultures**

- A. How can the Seven Principles best be embedded within a public sector organisation's working culture?
- B. What are the most significant obstacles to embedding high ethical standards in a public sector organisation?

#### **Your Views**

Please email your responses to this consultation to policycomms@nalc.gov.uk by 17.00 on 4 December 2020. County associations are asked to forward this briefing onto all member local (parish and town) councils in their area.

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# The Nolan Principles -The Seven Principles of Public Life

#### Selflessness

Holders of public office should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

#### Integrity

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their official duties.

#### Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

#### Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

#### **Openness**

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

#### Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

#### Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

# Municipal Calendar 2020-2021

Date	2021	20 anuary Personnel Sub Committee	<b>L</b>	1	Comr		15th – 19th February Half Term	17th March & Finance & General Purposes (Budget)	26 March – 12th April Easter Holidays	14th April Full Council	21st April Town Assembly	19th May Full Council (Annual Council)		
Meeting		Half Term	Personnel Sub Committee	Community Services	Amenities	Full Council		 Finance & General Purposes (Budget)	Public Inquiry (LEM)	Christmas Holidays				
Date	2020	26th Oct – 30th Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	4 <sup>th</sup> November	18 <sup>th</sup> November	25 <sup>th</sup> November		 9 <sup>m</sup> December	15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> December	18th December – 4th January				

Please note: All meetings will take place on a Wednesday and start at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber at Maghull Town Hall. All meetings of the Council will take place virtually until further notice. Members of the public can watch all meetings (except for Personnel Sub Committee) via live streaming on the Council's YouTube channel.