

MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD 24TH OCTOBER 2018

PRESENT

Councillor Carragher (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs) Byrne, Carlsen, Esterson (substitute for Cllr Shaw) and Mullen.

ALSO PRESENT

A. Spencer (Business Development and Contracts Manager) and S. Larking (Minutes)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Cllr Carragher was unamioulsy elected as Chair.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Josh Burns and Shaw.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Carragher and Byrne declared personal interest in agenda item 8, request for free room hire from Kadampa Meditation Centre.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None notified.

5. MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF 20TH JUNE 2018

RESOLVED THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2018 were approved as a correct record.

6. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

Note: Cllr Carlsen left the meeting at 7:30pm

The Business Development and Contracts Manager reported changes to the work programme had been discussed at an informal meeting of the Committee on 17th September 2018 which Cllrs Carragher and Josh Burns attended. He said that a revised work programme had been circulated which incorporated up to date expenditure and a new budget summary table. The Committee now had an opportunity to review the revised work programme. He noted that a number of issues beyond the control of the Council had impacted on the programme. For example, GDPR had far reaching impacts on engaging with the community. Lists held with contact details for residents who had previously attended the Christmas lunch or received a hamper could not be used as the Council did

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not have approval to keep the information. He said that engagement with the community was an issue and he was keen to improve it. The Council was not engaging with partners. He is keen to develop an effective community engagement model.

Key points made by Cllrs

- Amendments to work programme had been discussed at a meeting that was not quorate; it was for the Committee to consider and agree the work programme
- Reservations about replacing Christmas lunch with an extended coffee morning
- Christmas events popular and want to keep Christmas lunch and hampers in the work programme
- Concerns about officers interpretation of GDPR on use of records held by Council for last year's Christmas events – Cllrs gave examples of being contacted to confirm consent to receive emails/information
- Unclear if Officers unable to deliver Christmas events because team are short staffed or are anxious about GDPR risks
- Officers to reflect and seek advice about using existing information to check if residents want to attend the Christmas lunch or receive a hamper
- Officers need to think outside the box

After a full discussion about GDPR and the impact on Christmas events it was agreed that Officers will seek advice on how best to move forward to host Christmas events for older members of the community.

Cllrs considered the other proposed amendments to the Work Programme:

Neighbourhood Activities:

- Maghull Press: Proposal to cease work area. Rejected. Cllrs would like a regular on-line newsletter based on the Lydiate Parish Council model.

Events:

- Merry Merry Maghull: Proposal to cease event. Agreed. The Business Development and Contracts Manager reported that a Christmas tree will be planted by the pedestrian crossing near the square; this is in response to feedback from residents that they want a tree at the square. Lights switch on planned for 7th December. A living tree, paid for by Sefton Council, will be planted on land by Maghull Health Centre. Town Hall may be decorated.
- Older Persons Christmas Lunch: Proposal to cease work area. Rejected.
- Christmas Hampers: Proposal to cease work area. Rejected

Community Grants:

- Maghull in Bloom (MIB): Proposal to cease work area. The Business Development and Contracts Manager provided context to this recommendation. Concerns raised that grant of £2,000 exceeds the limit as set out in the grant criteria (£500) and that

watering planters is time consuming for MTC staff. Aim is to raise awareness of grants to wider community.

In response Cllrs made the following points:

- MIB run by volunteers and well regarded
- Concerns about volume of water used for planters; need a more sustainable approach
- MIB could apply for a grant for sustainable planters
- Some planters do not show that MIB receive support from the Town Council, as previously requested
- Agreed to cease work area as currently funded

RESOLVED THAT:

1. Produce an on-line newsletter rather than Maghull Press
2. Officers to seek advice about GDPR
3. Continue Christmas activities (Older Persons Christmas lunch and hampers)
4. Cease work as currently funded to Maghull in Bloom
5. The report be noted.

7. PINDER'S CIRCUS

The Business Development and Contracts Manager reported that Pinder's Circus would like to return to Maghull in March 2019. The Circus was popular. However, 5 complaints were received about performers living on site and the suitability of a circus for the Town.

Cllrs noted the complaints. On balance they agreed that Pinder's Circus could return on the same terms as 2018.

RESOLVED THAT:

1. Approval for Pinders Circus to return to KGV Playing Field in 2019
2. Land charges of £400 approved
3. The report be noted.

8. REQUEST FOR FREE ROOM HIRE – KADAMPA MEDITATION CENTRE AND SEFTON CVS

The Business Development and Contracts Manager reported that applications had been received from Kadampa Meditation Centre (KMC) and Sefton CVS for free room hire. Both are registered charities. KMC run weekly meditation classes. There is a charge. Sefton CVS host weekly coffee mornings. The Chief Executive would normally grant free room hire under delegated authority. However, both organisations have health balance sheets and felt it was for Members to consider.

Cllrs noted the benefits of services provided by both groups and agreed to free room hire.

RESOLVED THAT:

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1. Applications from KMC and Sefton CVS for free room hire at Maghull Town Hall be approved;
2. The report be noted.

9. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that she is seeking support for her charity Sefton Childrens Trust as follows:

- Raffle prizes for the Civic Awards on 8th November.
- Funding to host a Christmas event for children and their families. Cllrs to send details of who may be able to provide support
- Christmas presents. Hosting a Christmas present drive. There's a shortage of presents for teenagers.

RESOLVED THAT: The report be noted.



CHAIRMAN

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