

MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
HELD 12th DECEMBER 2018

PRESENT - Councillor Carragher (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs): Josh Burns, June Burns, Byrne, Desmond, Hart, McKinley, Mullen, J. Sayers and Y. Sayers

ALSO PRESENT – A. McIntyre (Chief Executive), A Spencer (Business Development and Contracts Manager), D. Healey (Finance Officer), S. Larking (minutes), 3 Members of Maghull in Bloom and J. Egan (Outlier Strategy).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies received from Cllrs Carlsen, J. Deegan, R. Deegan, Esterson and Shaw. It was noted that Cllr Shaw had not attended a meeting since June 2018. Therefore, his seat was now vacant. This would be filled at the forthcoming elections in May 2019.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None received.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Representatives from Maghull in Bloom (MiB) spoke in support of their grant application for funding.

Key points

- MIB dependent upon support from Maghull Town Council in respect of grant for plants and watering planters around Maghull Square
- Requested continued financial support and watering
- MiB will provide plants and arrange planting; plants ordered February 2019 for planting in Spring 2019
- Concerned about lack of consistency if London and Cambridge Properties (LCP) or shop keepers take on watering
- Approached all shops in the Square about watering over the Summer in response to potential watering restrictions due to lack of rain. There was no evidence of any watering and cannot expect shop keepers to water planters as they don't have the resources for watering
- Recognise that delivery of water is slow from standpipe to bowsers; if could improve quality of equipment the quality of watering would improve
- Gel used in planters to retain moisture
- Barrier baskets on Sefton's land and large planters on LCP land
- Looking at more drought resistant plants to help reduce watering demands
- MiB did not receive a gold medal from Britain in Bloom due to concerns about large planters
- MiB have one year of reserves and will continue to seek other funding
- MiB happy to pay for coffee at Costa for officers doing the watering so they can have break on site

In response Officers/Councillors made the following points:

- Council will always support MiB; recognise the social value

5B

- Standpipe hired from United Utilities
- Matthew Pegg from LCP gave a cast iron guarantee about watering. Noted that Matthew Pegg leaving. Email to be sent to LCP to confirm commitment to watering

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of Full Council held on 17th October 2018 were approved as a correct record.

5. MINUTES OF OTHER COMMITTEES

RESOLVED that the minutes of Audit and Governance held on 18th July 2018, Finance and Amenities held on 12th September 2018 and Community Support and Engagement Full Council held on 17th October 2018 were noted.

6. PLANNING CONSULTATION – DC/2018/01681 LAND OFF DAMFIELD LANE, MAGHULL

There had been a presentation at the last Council meeting (on 17th October) about the planning application for houses on Damfield Lane. The application was refused as it did not meet proposals in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan for a community orchard or allotments on the site. The Chief Executive reported that a slightly amended application has been submitted. The application will be considered at Sefton's Planning Committee on 12th December. Revised application included a community orchard. Discussions ongoing about provision of a new scout hut/heritage centre. A meeting had been held with the Parochial Church Council and Scouts. Key concerns raised about the development:

- Access
- Parking
- Drainage
- Anti-social behaviour

Key points raised by Cllrs:

- At the time Maghull Town Council considered the original application they were not aware of the details of other objections
- The report to Planning Committee did not reflect the emerging Neighbourhood Plan
- Land overgrown, if nothing happens on the site there will be no gain for the community
- Important to have open, inclusive, transparent discussion with other interested partners

The Chief Executive reported that Cllrs had the opportunity to approve, refuse or defer the application. It was proposed that the application be refused as it did not comply with the Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED that:

SB

1. The Town Council recommended REFUSAL of the application as it is contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan;
2. That the report be noted.

7. WORLD WAR 1 PROJECT

The Leader of the Council reported that the statue had been unveiled on 7th December and the ceremony had been featured on local news reports. The statue was garnering many positive comments and the Council was pleased that it had been well received.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

8. REPORT ON SEFTON COUNCIL MATTERS

The Leader of the Council reported that if the Neighbourhood Plan gets through the referendum, on 18th December 2018, it will go to Sefton's Full Council for approval on 24th January 2019.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

9. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on her work representing the Council at various events and updated the meeting on the work of her nominated charity. She also reported that Sefton Council had lost a judicial review of Highways England proposals for a dual carriage way through Rimrose Valley.

RESOLVED that the report be noted

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

11. STAFFING REVIEW

Members considered the report provided by the consultant who conducted the staffing review and considered the recommendations by the Personnel Committee. The Chief Executive confirmed that no staff would be financially disadvantaged by the recommendations.

RESOLVED that

1. The recommendations of the Personnel Committee as detailed in the report be approved;
2. The title Town Clerk to be used rather than Chief Executive
3. The external grounds maintenance contracts cease from 1st April 2019 except for St Thomas's School which would cease end of July 2019;
4. That the report be noted.

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CHAIRMAN

09/01/19