

MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL
HELD 23rd January 2019

PRESENT - Councillor Carragher (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs): Josh Burns, Byrne, Carlson, Desmond, Esterson, 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), K. Spofforth (minutes), Ian Loughlin, Sam Dimba (both of Sefton Council), Dave Hughes

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies received from Cllr. June Burns
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – None received.
3. **MASTERPLAN FOR LAND EAST OF MAGHULL**

Councillors discussed the Masterplan for the development of Land East of Maghull, the following points were raised:

- After a developer has submitted their plans, or further data/information comes to light (e.g. flood risks) can plans be changed or updated.
- Concerns that at Poppy Fields it already floods, what guarantees are in place to make sure same thing doesn't happen at new development.
- Council would like to know who the Building Control for the site is, as this can now be contracted to private companies.
- Concerns about the methodology used for the flood mitigation. Have Environment Agency's concerns been addressed (widening Whinneybrook and also the inclusion of a 200ft channel through the site)? Will this reflect new climate change statistics?
- Have Council's previously raised concerns been shared with developers yet.
- Who is responsible for the future maintenance of the flood defences.
- What measures are there to ensure existing properties don't incur an increased risk of flooding?
- Will infrastructure be delivered at right place, at right time.
- Concerns over construction traffic coming through Maghull, especially at busy times for schools or Sundays.
- Will trigger points of Masterplan be met.
- Concerns over air quality, are there any plans to monitor this.

Ian Loughlin and Sam Dimba informed council of current position of Masterplan. There are several parties involved in the development, and the Masterplan can be updated when queries have been raised and dealt with. All objections to Masterplan would be scrutinised and assessed (flooding issues etc.) to see if risks could be reduced taking into account latest forecast models.

Planning Enforcement Officers make ongoing visits to sites to check and ensure all works are proceeding correctly and have the power to enforce contractors adhere to all legislation (the current Poppy Fields development flooding issues were highlighted where there had been damage to pipework) although no notices have currently been issued.



Climate change models were being constantly monitored and data used to ensure that methods put in place to deal with dispersal of water were more than adequate. Some open space could flood in emergencies but this was designed specifically so that there would be minimal prospect of damage to property. If new legislation or data comes to light, any part of the development not built at that point will have to adhere to the new data.

As the development was a Section 106 project this had lent more protection to it as a whole, ensuring a greater sense of security for the project.

It was reported that there should be no increase in flood risk to existing areas or property from the new development as new forecast models were checked regularly.

The trigger points of the Masterplan would all have to be adhered to, the school expansion had to happen at the commencement of the project, the spine road must be in place when 250 houses were built on both sides of the development, J1 of M58 must be upgraded in the specific time scale etc.

A Traffic Management Plan would be in place which will not only look at the development of the site and associated traffic, but also of Maghull as a whole.

Affordable housing would be an on-going part of the project.

Provision for air quality monitoring would be checked to see if this would need to be put in place for the commencement of the project.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

4. DAVE HUGHES – HILLSBOROUGH COMMEMORATIONS UPDATE

Dave gave his thanks for all the previous support he has received in this matter. 15th April 2019 is the 30th anniversary of the disaster and his original idea was to present an art sculpture to Mrs Aspinwall. However, this might not now be appropriate.

Members considered the request carefully but on balance thought that it would be better to allow the events in Preston to take their course before embarking on any permanent memorial. The Peace Garden project could contain elements which reflected on the tragedy.

RESOLVED that the discussion be noted.

5. BUDGET 2019/20

Council were informed that the tax base was set at 6640.4 which will give an extra £9000 in the budget. The budget set has to be balanced (no paying of expenses from reserves), and this is what has been presented.

The demolition of Moorhey Scout Hut is now at an advanced stage where utilities are being readied for disconnection in preparation for the work to commence.

A meeting would be held with the Licensee from The Venue to discuss the lease. All aspects of the lease will be discussed including G4S charges.

Ballswood pavilion lease had now been signed and was due for delivery to Sefton. The Cricket Club were due a rent review shortly; new lease with them was working well.

The budget identified the post of the events co-ordinator as a saving if the filling of the post was postponed for a year. The budget was so restricted that there were no funds

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for events if the post was filled. However, the post of Community Support Manager would be filled as this would generate funds for events, which could then in turn lead to the requirement of an events co-ordinator. The fireworks event was currently not under consideration for 2019 due to budget restraints.

Due to numerous factors there is currently an underspend for 2018-19, this will be refocussed into essential asset maintenance (roofing repairs, electrical works etc.) at Council properties rather than being put back into reserves.

Training is now underway for two members of the facilities team to undertake chainsaw work which will end the need to pay for this externally in the future.

Council agreed recommendations 1,2,4 & 5 of budget report but felt item 3 concerning staffing hours should be dealt with at a different time after consultation with Personnel Committee and relevant staff. An informal meeting with The Chairs was suggested.

RESOLVED

1. **That Council set the precept level at £652,286 (Band D equivalent of £98.23) and that this be notified to Sefton MBC;**
2. **That Council approved the budgets as detailed in the report;**
3. **That Council refer the number of hours the Counter is open to the Public to Personnel Committee for consideration;**
4. **That Council approved essential works as identified in the report to be completed within the current financial year;**
5. **That Council approved the schedule of charges for 2019-20;**
6. **That Council refer the reduction in admin hours to Personnel Committee for their consideration;**
7. **The report be noted.**

6. REPORT ON SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

The Neighbourhood Plan is scheduled to be made on Thursday 25th January.

RESOLVED that the report was noted

7. REPORT ON SEFTON AREA PARTNERSHIP OF LOCAL COUNCILS

This has now been dissolved and M.T.C. has received a payment of £290.00. It was noted that nobody from S.M.B.C. had been in contact regarding this matter.

RESOLVED that the report was noted



CHAIRMAN

