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MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
VIRTUAL COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD 4th NOVEMBER 2020 BY ZOOM

PRESENT - Councillor Carragher (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs) Desmond, Doherty (until 18:50), Ferguson, T. Hughes and Y. Sayers.

ALSO PRESENT - P. Dillon (Community Services Manager) and S. Larking (Minutes)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including anyone viewing on livestreaming.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs Lloyd, Mullen and Sharp

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received. Meeting being recorded and will be available for viewing.

4. MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF 19th AUGUST 2020

RESOLVED THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on 19th August 2020 were approved as an accurate record. Note: minutes to be signed at next opportunity.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES WORK PROGRAMME

The Community Services Manager reported that the work programme had been decimated by the impact of Covid 19 and ongoing restrictions. This would impact on planned Christmas activities. He provided the following update:

- **Christmas Tree in Maghull Square:** London and Cambridge Properties (LCP) have advised that there will be Christmas lights but no Christmas tree at Maghull Square this year. This is due to ongoing works to improve the car park. They are looking at options for planting a living tree for future years.
- **Pensioners Lunch/Hampers:** Council will be unable to host a lunch this year due to restrictions on gatherings. Recommend that increase the number of hampers. In 2019 provided 55 hampers at a cost of £500. Recommend offer 100 hampers at a cost of up to £1,000. Will work with Morrisons Community Champion again as they offer a discount which allows more food items for the hampers. Will use Venue for packing hampers to allow for social distancing. Hampers to be delivered in the week of 14 December. Nominations for hampers and help in delivering very welcome.

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- Food Bank: Demand for support is increasing. They will need extra support for Christmas. Have requested selection boxes and pyjamas for Children. The Council has been supporting the Food Bank via Sefton Ward Funding secured by Cllr McKinley. There was less than £100 left. Recommend that funding vired from underspends to support the Food Bank
- Christmas Competition for Children. Competition open to different age groups. Prizes to be awarded. All entrants to receive a selection box

Key points made by Cllrs:

- Consider vulnerable families as well as older members of the community for hampers. Schools and Maghull Family Well Being Centre will be able to help
- Those on the vulnerable Persons list to be contacted to check if they would like a hamper
- Cllrs Carragher, Fergusson and Y. Sayers offered to volunteer at the Food Bank
- Other local stores to be contacted (Asda, Lidl, Aldi and Home Bargains) to see if they can provide support for Hampers.
- Consider a Christmas picture hunt/trail around Maghull

RESOLVED THAT:

1. Interim work programme for Christmas 2020 approved
 - a. Number of Christmas Hampers to be increased to up to 100 for pensioners and vulnerable families
 - b. Funding to be vired to support the Maghull Food Bank
 - c. Christmas Competition for Children to be launched
2. The report be noted.

6. COMMUNITY SERVICES BUDGET 2021/22

The Community Services Manager reported that the Committee needed to consider budget expenditure and priorities for 2021/22. The budget for 2020/21 had been affected by Covid. If council rental remains reduced the activities budget will stay at £16,467 broken down as follows:

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTIVITIES	2,500.00
EVENTS	2,917.00
CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES	2,550.00
YOUTH PROVISION	4,000.00
GRANTS	4,500.00
	16,467.00

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- **Events:** It was hoped that events could be hosted in 2021/22. The Town Clerk had suggested that the Committee may want to consider an increase in Precept to host a “celebration” event post pandemic as and when this becomes possible.
- **Civic Awards:** Would look to host in Spring 2021. Event would be bigger to recognise the contribution of volunteers supporting the community during the Pandemic. A paper would be presented with proposals for categories in response to comments that current categories may not best reflect contributions made. It was agreed to increase the budget from £1,800 to £3,000.
- **Income Generation:** Will look to maximise income through external grants and land hire charges. The Circus and Fair were keen to return which would generate income. It was noted that there is pressure on grant funding. Cllr Sharp may be able to advise as he has secured external funding for projects he is leading on.
- **“Friends Of “Groups:** Some funding will be required to support Friends of Groups. Groups developing in Bobby’s Wood, Dodds Park and Glen Park. Support received from group led by Cllrs K and T Hughes.

Note Cllr Doherty left the meeting at 18.50pm due to work commitments.

Key points made by Cllrs:

- Will host community events, when its safe to do so
- Noted that unlikely to be able to host events until Quarter 2 or 3 2021/22
- Cllr Carragher happy to support Cllr Sharp’s work in Bobby’s Wood

RESOLVED THAT:

1. **The events budget to be increased to include £3,000 for the Civic Awards**
2. **Funding for “Friends Of” Groups agreed**
3. **The report be noted**

7. COMMUNITY YOUTH SUPPORT NETWORK

Cllr Mullen was unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments. Cllr Fergusson is happy to help. It was noted that the Active Foundation Soccer league had been postponed until after the second lockdown. Deyes High and Maricourt had expressed interest. Expecting good uptake when the league can start

RESOLVED THAT: The report be noted.

8. CHAIRS REPORT

The Chair was pleased to report that Sefton Council had helped feed and support vulnerable children in need during half term. She noted that vulnerable children would be helped by decisions made at the meeting to support Maghull Food Bank. She asked Cllrs who wanted to support the Food Bank to contact the Community Services Manager.

She thanked everyone for attending. She reminded everyone to stay safe.

RESOLVED THAT: The report be noted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a solid horizontal line.

CHAIRMAN