

MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD 9th SEPTEMBER 2020

PRESENT - Councillor J Sayers (In the Chair) and Councillors (Cllrs): K & T Hughes, D Mullen and S Doherty.

ALSO PRESENT – A McIntyre (Town Clerk) D. Healey (Finance Officer) and S. Lawrence (Minutes). Public viewing via YouTube.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr C Carlsen, T Carr & P Mckinley.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – None notified.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – due to the Covid 19 pandemic public participation is submission of comments or questions to the Council prior to the meeting commencing. None received.
4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2020 for Finance & General Purposes Committee were approved as a correct record.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 31st JULY 2020**

The Finance Officer reported that all budgets are currently showing an under spend. This is mostly due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Town Hall budget has completed payments on two PWLB loans; however there is an outstanding amount £302,242.48 on other loans. The Local Government Association has agreed a 2.75% pay award for staff on Green Book Terms and Conditions. The pay award is for one year and has been backdated to April 2020 for all Maghull Town Council Staff. Facilities have received there ROSPA reports and shows a lot of work needs completing to the park equipment, therefore there will be a rise in spending from there budget.

RESOLVED that The Financial Statements as of 31st July 2020 be noted.

6. **AGREEMENT WITH KNOWSLEY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE PROCUREMENT SUPPORT**

The Town Clerk gave a brief overview of the report, explaining the importance of procurement. Members requested as the Finance & General Purposes Committee held in February 2020 that Sefton MBC and Liverpool City Region Authorities be approached to see if they would be willing to provide support for procurement purposes to the Council. LCR stated that they would not be willing to enter into such agreement with the Council. Sefton MBC stated that they were not in a position to assist the Council at this time. Therefore Knowsley is our best option at this time. Also the re-wire on the Town Hall is on hold due to MTC needing a full specification to



provide to a contractor. Procurement training would be provided to MTC Staff and Cllrs.

RESOLVED that:-

- 1. Maghull Town Council enters into a Service Level Agreement with Knowsley Council Procurement Team for a period of 1 year;**
- 2. Agreed that the cost of the SLA is to be met from savings within the procurement function;**
- 3. The report be noted.**

7. CHAIRS REPORT – None Given.

8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

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

9. DEBTORS TO THE COUNCIL

The Finance officer provided members with a brief update of the debtors report. Prior to lockdown a number of invoices were issued to users of the Town Hall and other buildings. A recommendation to write to debtors to ensure debt is paid before access is granted to the Town Hall.

RESOLVED that:-

- 1. All members agreed to follow the debtors policy;**
- 2. Agreed the Finance Officer to write to bad debtors informing them access will be restricted until all outstanding debt is paid;**
- 3. The report be noted.**

10. MAGHULL TENNIS CLUB

The Town Clerk provided overview of the report. The Tennis club has met with officers and councillors in the past to discuss their difficulties in paying their rent. Before lockdown officers of the Club met with representatives of the Council to discuss a way forward for the club. To date the Council has not received any communication from the Club despite several promptings. Maghull Town Council officers have issued invoices according to the debtors' policy and are at stage 2.

If members decide to give the Club notice to quit, an asset would come back into the Council's use. It is proposed to refit the pavilion to enable the Grounds Maintenance Team to have wet/dry rest facilities i.e. sufficient space to dry their wet gear. The portakabin is classed as a temporary structure and as such has lasted well as the GMT's rest room. However, it is not particularly suitable for their needs and it would be an opportunity to improve their working environment. Quotes are currently being

obtained for the work to facilitate this change. The Tennis club would still be able to use the courts free of charge and use the Town Hall for players meetings going forward.

RESOLVED that:-

- 1. Agreed to give Maghull Tennis Club notice to quit;**
- 2. Transfer the GM team to the pavilion;**
- 3. The report be noted.**

J.A. S. 

CHAIRMAN

