

Minutes of Community Services Committee Held Wednesday 19th October 2022 at 6:30 PM

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr Y Sayers

Councillors : Cllr Ju Burns, Cllr P Darlington, Cllr R Ferguson, Cllr P Mc Kinley, Cllr F Sharp

In attendance : Mr D Murphy, Mrs B Murphy, Mr B Keal

Officers : P Dillon, S Larking

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr Jo Burns, Cllr A Carr, Cllr B Nixon

2 Declarations of Interest

None received.

3 Public Participation.

Members of Maghull and District Lions attended to present their grant application for the Message in a Bottle scheme. Funding is to raise awareness of this life saving scheme and provide bottles, free of charge, for Maghull residents. Letters will sent to GPs to promote the scheme. The Lions thanked Councillors for free room hire (The Venue) for monthly meetings.

Key points raised by Cllrs

- Can see benefits but keen to understand the evidence base for the effectiveness of the scheme given digital health records
- Concerns that information not kept up to date. Noted that spare sheets are provided and photos advised if more than one person in the household
- Noted that bottles cost £2.50 and that Lions accounts show that funds available to use for scheme

The Chair thanked the Lions for attending; that the application would be considered later in the meeting and they would be informed of the outcome.

4 To Confirm the Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting on 13th July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

5 Christmas Activities

The Community Services Manager set out proposals for Christmas and winter activities. The aim is to support residents during this difficult time. Will be working with local groups and partner agencies. Meeting booked with new Sefton CVS Community Connector.

- Hampers: Costs have increased by 20% from 2021. Will work with foodbank, health centres, Sefton CVS and Hudson Children's Centre to identify recipients. Aiming to issue 100 but could increase if need identified.

- Christmas Lunch for older members of the community: Based on feedback there is less support for a Christmas lunch - due to transport/confidence/frailty. Propose to scale back lunch - for up to 60 (3 sessions for 20 people) rather than 100. Will

need to arrange transport to bring people to the Town Hall.

- Warm Hub: Grant submitted, by Friends of Maghull and District, for a grant to run a warm hub. Maghull Town Council not eligible to apply. Funding is to provide a warm and safe environment, once a week, for 16 weeks over the winter months. Warm food and hot drinks to be provided with some activities e.g. bingo. Venue have offered to help with food. Volunteers needed to help run events. Want to ensure isolated residents have the opportunity to attend. Will need to coordinate day offered as Roy Evans Foundation (REF) host a community cooking event on Monday mornings.

- Christmas Fayre: Betty's Coffee shop hosting a Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 30th November in The Venue. 25 local business interested. Will link this to Christmas light switch on in KGV Park. TK Entertainments may be able to provide some entertainment.

- Christmas Tree at KGV Park: Tree ordered. Switch on, by Mayor, on 30th November to coincide with Christmas Fayre

Key points from Cllrs:

- Contact local taxi firms about bring people to events. Cllr Ferguson can drive a mini bus and Cllr Carr may be able to help
- Get banner to promote Christmas event on 30th November. Shame about loss of Champion Newspaper. Will need to promote on social media
- Proposed a Christmas Nativity Scene competition for local schools. Cllr Sharp to lead
- Would like to run the Christmas Window competition again. Mayor of Maghull to judge.

RESOLVED that

1. Christmas and winter activities agreed:

- Hampers (up to 100)
- Christmas lunch (up to 60, 3 sessions for 20 people)
- Christmas fayre and light switch on 30th November
- Warm hubs
- Christmas Window Competition
- Christmas Nativity competition for schools

2. The report be noted

6

Civic Awards

Members received a report on proposals for Civic Awards. Awards last held in 2019 due to Covid. Proposal is to invite nominations from early December. Views invited on categories used in previous years - Civic Award, Environment, Good Neighbour, Local Business and Youth Award. Nominations to be considered at Full Council on 25th January 2023. Awards Ceremony to be held in week of 20th February 2022. Propose a working group of 2/3 Cllrs and members of the community to develop award categories and help with publicising the awards to encourage good quality nominations. Group to meet in December and early January. Will promote awards via social media. Noted that Cllrs Ferguson, Darlington and Sharp offered to be on panel.



Comments from Cllrs

- Get a banner to promote awards
- See if Meadows Leisure Centre will allow posters to be put in notice boards by vending machine in reception as there is good footfall
- Would like a category to recognise contribution to community during Covid
- Check awards categories used for recent BBC Awards. Cllr Sharp was congratulated for award received by Friends of Maghull and District,
- Mayoral Awards to be hosted as 2 nominations received and 1 proposed.

RESOLVED That

- 1. Preparations for Civic Awards to begin supported by a Working Group including Cllrs Darlington, Ferguson and Sharp**
- 2. An award to recognise a contribution during Covid to be included**
- 3. Civic Awards to be held in February 2023**
- 4. Mayoral Awards event to be hosted**
- 5. The report be noted**

7

Maghull Advice Centre

Members received an update on Maghull Advice Centre/Hub from Cllr McKinley:

- Project moving forward, about to close on contract for Hub at Square
- Unfortunately, the bid to Awards For All was unsuccessful
- There is a demand for the service but more feedback is needed on what services to offer. Survey posted on Council's website and social media. Cllr Ferguson to post link to survey on Maghull Community Page. Cllr Darlington to put copies in his shop
- Feedback from a community group using the Council Chamber supported Hub, wanted benefits advice but preference for location was split between Town Hall and The Square
- Plan to recruit an admin office for the Advice Centre/Hub
- Meetings held with Citizens Advice Sefton and Vauxhall Law Centre about providing advice
- 9 Volunteers offered to help

It was noted that rumours were circulating about a 11 storey apartment block on Land East of Maghull with commercial units at base

RESOLVED that the report be noted

8

Youth Activity

Members received an update from the Community Services Manager and Cllr Darlington on plans to coordinate youth activities and develop a network:

- Gap in co-ordination of services for young people in Maghull; Council to act as a co-ordinator and promoter for events and activities across the town
- Network to be launched in Spring 2023
- Understand need to keep costs down for parents/young people
- Longer term aim is for a self funding youth club

- Get organisations/groups together to showcases what is on offer with a view to hosting activities one day a week during holidays
- Had positive responses from a number of local organisations who are keen to be involved
- Would like to post proposals on Maghull Community Page to get feedback

Comments from Cllrs:

- Great idea but important to get feedback from young people about what they want
- Ensure opportunities for young people with learning difficulties or who are isolated/excluded
- Check if information can be posted on notice boards at McDonalds

RESOLVED that

- 1. Youth network be developed**
- 2. The report be noted**

9

Grant Applications

Members carefully considered 3 applications. They reflected on the grant scheme criteria - to support voluntary organisations based in Maghull.

- Maghull and District Lions grant for £350 for the Message in a Bottle scheme. Members noted that a previous request had been declined and that the Lions choose to use their own funds for other projects not the Message in a Bottle scheme. While it was agreed that some funding be offered the majority felt that the council should not meet the full request. A grant of £250.00 to be offered.
- Liverpool CHICS (Children's Cancer Support) grant for free room hire once a month for committee meetings. Request declined. Members note that accounts show that funding available to pay for monthly room hire
- My Care Choice Ltd (Right at Home Sefton) grant for free room hire to run cabaret style events across generations. Attendees to contribute up to £5. Request declined. Members noted that organisation is not a charity, it has sufficient funds to pay for room hire and that events would not be free.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. Maghull Lions: Funding agreed for £250 for message in a bottle scheme**
- 2. Liverpool CHICS: Free room hire declined**
- 3. My Care Choice Ltd: Free room hire declined**
- 4. The report be noted**

10

Chair's Report

The Chair thanked Members for a good meeting.

CHAIR

