

# Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Held Wednesday 25th January 2023 at 6:30 PM

Those present :

Mayor : Cllr Jo Burns

Councillors : Cllr Ju Burns, Cllr A Carr, Cllr P Darlington, Cllr R Ferguson, Cllr K Hughes,  
Cllr M Lock, Cllr P Mc Kinley, Cllr J Mccall, Cllr B Nixon, Cllr F Sharp

In attendance : Mr E Landor, Ms P Landor

Officers : P Dillon, D Healey, S Lawrence, A Mc Intyre

## 1 Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Desmond, J Sayers and Y Sayers.

## 2 Declarations of Interest

All Cllrs except Cllr Carr and Cllr Nixon declared a disclosable prejudicial interest in Item 5 Budget 2023/24 by virtue of their being residents of Maghull. Dispensation granted.

## 3 Public Participation.

None.

## 4 To Confirm the Minutes of the Last Meeting

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 2nd November 2022 were approved as a correct record.

## 8 Planning Applications.

Members were informed that the latest planning application relating to the Land East of Maghull had been received. This was a full application by Persimmon/Countryside Homes to increase the number of houses to be built to 498 on the South side of the site before the requirement of the distributor road was invoked.

Landor Planning Consultants attended the meeting to discuss the implications of the planning application.

Members considered the following points:

- The distributor road was a key policy requirement
- The application for the south part of the site had been to appeal and the conditions were put in place by the Planning Inspectorate
- MTC had been a Rule 6 Participant to the proceedings and had been represented by Counsel
- The traffic assessment was unsatisfactory in that it had been undertaken a long time ago
- The policy had been put in place to ensure that the site came together as a cohesive whole rather than disjointed elements.

Members considered the proposed response drafted by the consultants. However, it was felt that it was appropriate for Counsel to be consulted again to ensure that both planning and legal constraints and considerations were given appropriate weight.

**RESOLVED that:**

- 1. Counsel, Peter Dixon, be consulted over the response to the planning application;**
- 2. The Town Clerk be authorised to progress the consultation with Counsel;**
- 3. The Town clerk to submit the response to Sefton LPA once the response had been cleared by Counsel;**
- 4. The report be noted.**

Edward and Philippa Landor left the meeting.

**5 Budget Report 2023/24**

Members were informed that Full Council was required to set a balanced budget for the forthcoming financial year and to notify Sefton MBC of the precept requirement for Maghull Town Council area so that this could be added to the Council Tax demand. This must be done by the beginning of March 2022. The Finance & General Purposes Committee recommendation was a 0% increase to the precept and it was necessary to agree the budgets for the forthcoming year.

Members discussed the pressures on the budget for the forthcoming financial year and emphasised the need for prudent management of the Council's finances. It would be difficult to accurately predict the inflation increases which were expected but the Council had budgeted for an overall increase of 5%.

**RESOLVED that:-**

- 1. The precept to be requested for the financial year 2023-24 would be £830,916;**
- 2. The proposed budget for the forthcoming financial year 2023-24 be approved;**
- 3. The proposed charging schedule and the fees/rent included in the budget for the financial year 2023-24 be approved;**
- 4. The report be noted.**

**6 Sefton Legal Services SLA**

Members were informed that MTC had entered into an Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Sefton Legal Services (SLS) in 2015 and had been using the service ever since. The costs involved so far had been minimal and there had not been a big rise in the costs requested.

**RESOLVED that:-**

- 1. The Council would renew the Legal Services SLA with Sefton MBC for the forthcoming financial year;**
- 2. The report be noted.**

Cllr June Burns entered the meeting.

**7 Billboard Advertising**

Members were informed that, further to Council requesting officers to investigate

the potential for installation of a digital billboard within the curtilage of Maghull Town Hall, a proposal had been received from Wildstone Media Infrastructure. They were the only firm to respond to the Council's enquiry from the three firms who were contacted.

Wildstone had checked the site (where the totem sign was previously erected), and had subsequently produced a definite proposal including exact location, term of lease and a price for the rent they would be willing to pay MTC.

Members discussed the proposal including the possibility of using the billboard to advertise Council events, projects and consultations. This would be further explored with Wildstone Media.

**RESOLVED that:-**

- 1. The proposal of the installation of a digital billboard at the junction of the A59 and Hall Lane from Wildstone Media be approved.**
- 2. The report be noted.**

**9 Motion for Debate**

Cllr P McKinley and seconded by Cllr A Carr proposed:

"That this Council calls on all parties involved in the Land East of Maghull development to plan together to ensure that the distributor road is completed in a timely manner (no later than the date when 250 houses have been completed on the southern end of the site). There should be no variation to the conditions outlined in the appeal decision dated 22nd February 2021. We urge Sefton Council to be proactive and use all means at their disposal, including compulsory purchase orders, to ensure that the 250 properties is not exceeded prior to the completion of the distributor road."

Members debated the motion.

**RESOLVED that**

- 1. The motion was passed;**
- 2. The Town Clerk to write to Sefton Council to seek a response.**

**10 Report on Sefton Borough Council Matters**

Nothing to report.

**11 Chair's Report**

Nothing to report.

**12 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.**

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### Civic Awards

Cllr June Burns proposed all nominees for the Beacon award be awarded, as nominees went above and beyond during the pandemic. All Cllrs agreed. Cllrs had a discussion and a vote for each category for the winners of the Civic awards 2023:

<u>Award</u>	<u>Winners</u>
Beacon award	= Christine Menzies, Maghull High School DT department, Maghull Community Association, Parkhaven Trust, Scrummies Catering
Good Neighbour	= John Lewis
Local Business	= Home from Home - Michelle Rossiter
Youth	= Hudson School

Cllr F Sharp left the meeting.

Civic	= Maghull Foodbank
Environment	= Friends of Maghull and District

#### **RESOLVED that:**

- 1. The Civic award winners be approved;**
- 2. The report be noted**

Cllr F Sharp returned to the meeting.

 Chair  
26/4/23