

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Held Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 6:30 PM

Those present :

Mayor : Cllr Jo Burns

Councillors : Cllr P Darlington, Cllr R Ferguson, Cllr K Hughes, Cllr M Lock, Cllr P Mc Kinley, Cllr J McCall, Cllr B Nixon, Cllr Y Sayers, Cllr J Sayers, Cllr F Sharp

Officers : P Dillon, S Larking, A Mc Intyre

11 Minutes Silence

The meeting started with a minutes silence in memory of former Councillor and Mayor of Maghull Mrs Anne Harrison

1 Apologies For Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr A Carr, Cllr J Desmond, Cllr C Carlsen

2 Declarations of Interest

None.

3 Public Participation.

None. A resident observed the meeting.

4 To Confirm the Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 25th January 2023 were approved as a correct record.

5 Maghull Hub

Members noted the following update from the Town Clerk and Leader of the Council:

- Phone lined and LAN installed. Phones to arrive on Friday (28th April). Number to be added to notice board on the front of building and promoted after the local elections on 4th May.
- 170 attended since the Advice Centre opened in February. There's a clear need for the service. Advice sought on benefits e.g. credits, PIP and attendance allowance. Over £10,000 claimed. Big Help prevented Bailiffs going into 2 properties including the home of a vulnerable woman
- Good system in place to deal with service users. Appointments made after an initial visit
- 1/5th of service users are from Lydiate. Reviewing financing and may look to increase contribution from Lydiate Parish Council
- Carpets replaced in back rooms following a drain issue
- Solar film added to front door to increase privacy. Noted that this has raised concerns about whether the Advice Centre is open. Open/closed sign to be added to the front door and opening times/services to be added to notice board
- Digital Connectivity Grant from Liverpool City Region (LCR) received. Application submitted by Friends of Maghull and District. Laptops due for collection on Friday (28th April)
- Volunteers are superb. Advice Centre would not work without them. 6 have received digital champion training from Sefton CVS
- Will be submitting a bid to Big Help for digital support. This will link to Maghull Radio
- Review of lease in November 2023; Agreement with Vauxhall Law Centre until

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January 2024.

- Looking to secure future of Advice Centre and other social enterprises by reformatting Maghull Community Enterprise (MCE) as a Community Interest Company (CIC). This will be Arms Length to Maghull Town Council and will allow funding to be sought which the Town Council, as a precept raiser, is not eligible to apply for

Comments made in response to update:

- Emerging issues raised by people accessing the Advice Centre include school admissions, Trading Standards and access to health services (GPs). Noted that it may take time to get Maghull pupils into Maghull schools due to sibling priority
- Request for an email address as not everyone wants to use phone or have a face to face interview. To be considered taking into account cyber security
- Congratulations to all involved in developing Advice Centre including Cllrs McKinley and Sharp. Noted that it has been a collective effort including services, volunteers and officers
- Advice Centre open on Saturday mornings between 10am - 12pm. Volunteers needed as Cllr holding surgery is currently lone working
- Review opening hours so those working can access support in the evening/over weekends
- MCE aims to improve the lives of Maghull residents. Maghull Youth Network will be able to link to MCE as well as Maghull Radio and Maghull Press.

Other comments:

- Thanks to Phil Dillon for support on Digital Grant application and work on Cosy Club. Cosy club is one of the most successful in Sefton. Moved from offering a Warm Space to reducing social isolation and providing advice. Some volunteers work at Cosy Club and Advice Centre. Cosy Club is working well and users don't want it to stop.
- Thanks to Phil and Stef Lawrence for work on Maghull Press. Maghull Press helps those who are not on line

RESOLVED that the report be noted

7

Update on Leases

Members noted that the Lease for The Venue has been signed. Arrangements are working well. The Venue is popular and has a good reputation. In response to a question about ASB and security, the Town Clerk reported that security is a requirement under the lease (The Venue risk assess if security is required) and that CCTV is reviewed if issues are reported. There are a few things to tighten up. No complaints from neighbours.

RESOLVED that the report be noted

6

Planning Applications.

No major/change of use applications received. Application from Persimmon and Countryside for southern site not yet gone to Sefton's Planning Committee. June at the earliest. MTC letter did result in re-consultation.

It was requested that MTC approach LCR about improving cycle tracks to Switch Island following proposed work on the Cheshire Lines between Formby and Lydiate.

8

EV Charging Points

It was noted that it may be time consuming for The Amenities Manager to investigate and apply for grants for EV charging points. This is not planned work so needs agreement to take forward. Members agreed that proposals could be worked up.

RESOLVED that

- 1. Options for EC charging points to be investigated**
- 2. MTC to approach LCR about improving cycle tracks to Switch Island**
- 3. The report be noted**

9 Report on Sefton Borough Council Matters

No report given.

10 Chairman's Closing Comments

Cllr Sharp, in his last meeting as a Cllr, reported that FOMD have been nominated for a Coronation Champion Award. He wished everyone well for the future.

The Town Clerk noted that this would be the last meeting of this group and hoped those not standing/returning as Cllrs would continue to volunteer in Maghull.

RESOLVED that the reports be noted.

CHAIR

K.M. 

17/05/2023

