

Minutes of Community Services Committee Held Tuesday 3rd October 2023 at 6:30 PM

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr R Ferguson

Councillors : Cllr P Brougham, Cllr K Hughes, Cllr D Leatherbarrow, Cllr C Parker

Officers : P Dillon, S Larking

1 Minutes Silence

A minutes silence was held to commemorate the sad passing of Cllr Matthew Lock.

2 Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr P Mc Kinley, Cllr P Darlington, Cllr G Birchall, Cllr L Birchall, Cllr S May

4 Declarations of Interest

None received.

5 Public Participation.

None notified.

6 To Confirm the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Amendment requested to pages 5 and 6 that Cllrs Parker and Leatherbarrow to act as Safeguarding Officers for MYAN. Cllrs offered *support* on Safeguarding, if needed. Providers should have DBS clearance.

RESOLVED that minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2023 to be revised and presented to the next meeting.

7 Maghull Radio

Ian Porter, Maghull Radio, sent apologies as he was on air. The Community Services Manager reported that Maghull Radio is an internet based radio service broadcasting from a studio at Maghull Town Hall. A grant (from Mary Portas Fund) to support the radio ran out in 2021. Running costs (Broadband, streaming, insurance and license) paid by MTC and recharged to the radio) are approximately £1,800 a year. This excludes utilities which MTC pay. While some donations have been received they do not cover the annual recharge costs. 11 volunteer presenters of which 2 have offered to assist with admin/fund raising. A new volunteer helped with a funding application to the PCC's Youth Diversionary Fund. Unfortunately, it was unsuccessful. Programmes receive between 11 and 15 listeners per show with a maximum of 57. Regular listeners include ex-pats. Proposals to develop the radio station include working with Maghull High and offering dementia friendly programmes. Fresh promotional work has not started yet.

Key points from Cllrs:

- Technology moved forward; radio outdated, very few listeners
- Podcasts are low cost and don't require a radio studio; can use phones or iPads to produce
- Schools/students will use radio station while it serves a purpose
- Will be looking at budget setting soon and how precept is spent , every penny



counts; radio station feels like Council is funding a hobby for a small group of people

- Difficult to justify spend given financial pressures; will give Radio Station a period of time to wind down - by 31 January 2024.
- If Maghull Radio come up with proposals for a more sustainable model Council would consider e.g. could offer a start up fund for podcasts
- Community Services Manager to write to Radio station with the Committee's decision and to emphasise the importance of demonstrating sustainable support and funding

RESOLVED that

- 1. MTC financial support for Radio Station to stop by 31 January 2024**
- 2. Community Services Manager to write to Radio Station setting out decision and deadline**
- 3. Report be noted**

8

Maghullfest 2023

The Community Services Manager reported that Maghullfest 2023 was cancelled due to the extreme weather forecast for the days leading up to/ on the day of the event. The decision to cancel was based on health and safety grounds. The Council had taken out cancellation insurance so was able to recoup some of the expenses incurred. Biggest cost was for marquee. Have agreed with Children's Entertainer and Merseycats that they will perform in lieu of advance payments made for Maghullfest. Need to weather proof future events e.g. hold indoors in Venue (Council has up to 3 community days) and Activity room. Lessons learnt e.g. Check/clarify cancellation policies

Key points from Cllrs:

- Not had to cancel an event before, events historically been for community and not about income generation
- Costs noted; other events e.g. school fetes, usually make money.
- Need to review events and costs and consider how to bring in revenue as pressures on other budgets e.g. Play equipment for parks
- Look at when hold events as weather in June has been better in recent years
- Consider how to improve access to field as difficult for vehicles to get onto field due to mound.
- Review future of events. Paper to be presented to February meeting.

RESOLVED that

- 1. Review of future events to be presented to Community Services Committee at meeting on 21st February 2024**
- 2. The report be noted**

9

Christmas Activities

The Community Services Manager ran through activities in the build up to Christmas:

Christmas Tree: Residents preference is for a Christmas tree in/around Maghull Square. Cllr Lock had discussed a Christmas Tree in the Square with Evolve. Quote received for a 20ft tree. Decision need soon to order tree.



Christmas Fayre: Last year's event was organised by Betty's Coffee Shop. Not sure there is time to arrange a Christmas Fayre this year as no one to organise it

Christmas Hampers: Proposing that offer 100 hampers again. In contact with the Community Champion at Morrisons. Will liaise with Sefton CVS, Hudson Family Centre, GP Practices, Food Bank and Churches for nominations

Cosy Club: Warm Spaces funding via FOMD, received to run an enhance Warm Hub (hot food and entertainment) from 30 October to end of March 2024. Working with volunteers to better target those in need of warm hub

Christmas Shop Window Competition: Propose that run the popular competition again

Points raised by Cllrs:

- Community Service Manager to follow up discussion about Christmas Tree with Evolve
- Noted that sponsorship of Christmas Tree difficult due to pressures on local businesses
- Officers to liaise with Chair of Community Services Committee about a decision on Christmas tree
- Agreed that MTC would not host a Christmas Fayre in 2023
- To contact all schools for nominations for hampers
- Maghull High students have offered to perform in lead up to Christmas
- Agreed to Christmas Shop Window Competition. Panel to include Mayor of Maghull, Cllr Parker and Frank Sharp chair of FOMD

It was noted that Mr and Mrs Lock would like to include a thank you to the community in the next edition of Your MAGhull

RESOLVED that

- 1. Community Services to contact Evolve about Christmas Tree at the Square and liaise with Chair of Community Services Committee about a decision**
- 2. MTC would not host a Christmas Fayre in 2023**
- 3. Funding for 100 hamper agreed. Community Services Manager to liaise with all Maghull Schools for nominations**
- 4. Community Services Manager to contact Maghull High about pupils performing for Cosy Club in lead up to Christmas**
- 5. Christmas Shop Window Competition to go ahead**
- 6. The report be noted**

10 Maghull Youth Activity Network

Members received an update on Maghull Youth Activity Network (MYAN) activities over the Summer holidays led by Cllr Darlington. Art and Astronomy popular. Earlier (morning) sessions more popular. Issues about activities for older age groups. Eventbrite helped control bookings and manage sessions i.e. merge/cancel bookings if low uptake. Some bookings cancelled, often at short notice, as no penalty charge. Would review managing bookings going forward.

Looking at activities over the October half term. Mini fun day booked for Tuesday 24th October in the Activity Room. This includes Mr Stix, Ibox and Face Painting. Capacity for 80 including parents/carers. Committee approval sought to run



activities including boxing, astronomy, art and American football which would be free or charge. There would be a charge to offer yoga.

Points raised by Cllrs:

- Cllr Hughes would like to offer stone carving, over a weekend
- Feedback received about Astronomy event. Astronomy Society would like to be involved and host outdoor sessions to complement indoor activities. Sessions could be better planned and organised going forward if more lead in time
- Mini fun day on 24th October agreed
- Paper going to Full Council on 18th October about a Youth Council as funding received from PCC
- Want to tap into ideas from young people about activities before going ahead with any further holiday activities
- Noted plans for tuck shop didn't go ahead
- In future, events to be hosted on consecutive days to minimise officer time

Note: Cllr Hughes left the meeting at 7.30pm

RESOLVED that

- 1. Mini fun day on 24th October agreed**
- 2. Other activities on hold pending decision about Youth Council and consultation with young people**
- 3. Future events to be held on consecutive days**
- 4. Officers to liaise with Cllr Hughes about a stone carving event**
- 5. The report be noted**

11 Civic Awards

The Community Services Manager reported that the Council has traditionally held annual awards to recognise contribution to Maghull. Views sought on award categories and timescales.

Before he left the meeting Cllr Hughes has asked for Members to consider re naming an award to recognise the contribution of Cllr Matthew Lock to Maghull. Members agreed that there should be a special award to recognise Cllr Lock's work in the community e.g. Matthew Lock Youth Award. Cllr Hughes to check with Mr and Mrs Lock that they are happy to have an award renamed in his honour. Cllrs agreed other award categories and timescale as proposed

RESOLVED that

- 1. Cllr Hughes to contact Mr and Mrs Lock about renaming the youth award in Cllr Lock's honour**
- 2. Other Civic Award categories and timescales agreed**
- 3. The report be noted**

12 Chair's Report

No report given.

CHAIR

