

**MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**HELD 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2011**

334. PRESENT – Councillor G. G. Howe (In The Chair) and Councillors : (Miss) N. Smith, C. R. Walker, (Mrs) J. Day, A. Robertson, (Ms) V. Jay, B. L. Hubbard, (Mrs) J. Blackburn, C. Mainey, (Mrs) S. Mainey, (Mrs) S. Nelson, A. Blackburn, J. W. Byrne. Miss E. Skelly (Finance & Projects Officer), Mrs. P. M. Annal (Minutes).

335. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – The following issues of concern were raised :-

**Installation of new Play Equipment at Dodds Park** – Mrs. Wilkinson, a resident of Maghull attended the meeting to express her concern regarding the installation of this new play equipment, as it was felt the ‘siting’ of one piece of equipment is very close to resident’s fencing which would impinge on their privacy. Another concern is a bench seat and it was felt that this would attract anti social behaviour from youths congregating in the vicinity, in the summer months.

Mrs. Wilkinson was also dismayed that the residents in the vicinity had not been consulted in this matter.

In response, Councillor A. Blackburn informed Mrs. Wilkinson that the Council had applied to Sefton Council for funding under the Play Builder Scheme, in order that the play equipment could be installed. This was put on hold in light of governmental cut backs. However, Sefton Council then decided to partially fund some of the Play Builder money, but there was a deadline for the submission of the plans. He further stated that originally, the Town Council had planned to carry out a consultation exercise with the local residents, but this was put on hold when the Play Builder grant was withdrawn.

A short discussion followed in which Councillor A. Blackburn explained that there is always a “bedding in” period with new equipment and asked for patience from the residents during this period, and that Maghull Town Council are not unwilling to deal with residents’ concerns, but requested that they allow a number of months to pass by before considering a review, so that an accurate picture can be established. Mrs. Wilkinson thanked the Council for listening and then left the meeting.

**Clean-up of Canal Towpath** – Mr. Dwyer, a resident of Maghull, attended the meeting and referred to the clean-up of the Canal Towpath by volunteers. He advised that there is an arrangement with Sefton Council cleansing department to collect the refuse bags which are left by the litter bin at Green Lane, Maghull. He had been informed that this arrangement will cease on 1<sup>st</sup>. April, and asked that the Town Council put pressure on Sefton Council to continue with this process.

Councillor A. Robertson stated that this issue was raised at a recent meeting of the Britain in Bloom steering committee. He further stated that he will discuss this issue with Sefton Council Cleansing Department in order that a solution can be found. The Chairman thanked Mr. Dwyer for attending the meeting.

*Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Council, held 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 ..... cont'd*

336. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – *RECEIVED* from Councillor (Mrs) W. Maher

337. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (MEMBERS & OFFICERS) – Councillor J. W. Byrne declared an interest in Planning Matters

338. MINUTES – *RESOLVED* that the Minutes of an **Ordinary Meeting of Council, held 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011** – copies of which have been printed and circulated – be taken as read and signed by the Chairman. This was *PROPOSED* by Councillor B. L. Hubbard, *SECONDED* by Councillor A. Robertson – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

339. QUESTIONS – No questions raised.

340. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES –

- **Business Review Sub-Committee Meeting, held 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011** – *PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE* by Councillor A. Blackburn, *SECONDED* by Councillor (Mrs) S. Nelson – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*
- **Personnel Committee Meeting, held 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011** – *PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE* by Councillor A. Robertson, *SECONDED* by Councillor (Ms) V. Jay – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*
- **Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting, held 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011** – *PROPOSED* by Councillor C. R. Walker, *SECONDED* by Councillor (Mrs) S. Nelson – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*
- **Audit & Governance Committee Meeting, held 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011** – *PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE* by Councillor (Mrs) S. Nelson, *SECONDED* by Councillor A. Robertson – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

341. OPPOSED ITEMS – No items opposed

342. QUESTIONS – No questions raised

343. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – No Planning Applications referred for Members consideration. However, Councillor A. Robertson referred to an email received from Mr. Steve Lloyd, Director of Estates Strategy at Mersey Care NHS Trust. Councillor A. Robertson informed Members that Mersey Care are wishing to submit a planning application relative to a proposed housing development at Ashworth Hospital land. A public consultation is being considered to inform local residents of this proposal.

Councillor A. Robertson suggested inviting Mr. Lloyd to address Elected Members of the Council prior to the consultation, in order that the Town Council is fully informed of all aspects of this planning application. This was *AGREED* and *NOTED* by Members.

344. REPORT ON SEFTON AREA PARTNERSHIP OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Councillor J. W. Byrne addressed this issue and referred to the last meeting of the Parish Councils, in which the guest speaker was Mr. J. McConkey, Sefton Council Network Manager. Mr. McConkey addressed the 'severe weather conditions' experienced locally and nationally last winter.

Councillor J. W. Byrne asked that the minutes of that meeting be circulated for Elected Members consideration.

345. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – No specific to report.

346. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Councillor J. W. Byrne queried where the Deputy Town Mayor should sit during Full Council meetings. The Mayor stated that he had told the Deputy Mayor that he did not need him to sit next to him. Councillor J. W. Byrne accepted the explanation.

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**CHAIRMAN**

