

MAGHULL TOWN COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD 20TH JULY 2011

78. PRESENT – Councillor (Ms) S. Williams (In The Chair) and Councillors : C. Traynor, P. McKinley, I. Moncur, (Mrs) J. Day, A. Robertson, A. Blackburn, P. Dowd, C. Esterson, R. Knight, M. Byrne, S. J. Kermode. Mr. M. Julius (Town Clerk & Treasurer), Mrs. P. M. Annal (Minutes).

79. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – The Meeting was attended by Mrs. Doreen Shotton, member of Maghull Wind Orchestra (formerly Maghull Town Band). Mrs. Shotton highlighted the history of the Wind Orchestra and its membership, and informed Members that the Wind Orchestra practiced at the Town Hall for many years, until some 18 months – 2 years ago when the membership expanded and an alternative venue was found.

Mrs. Shotton stated that the Wind Orchestra would very much like to return to the Town Hall for their practice sessions, and would ask the Town Council for its' support.

The Chairman Councillor (Ms) Sandra Williams thanked Mrs. Shotton for attending and invited Mrs. Shotton to stay for the remainder of the meeting if she so wished.

Before the Meeting continued, the Chairman asked Members' permission to move Agenda Item 7 'Car Parking facilities at Meadows Leisure Centre', to Agenda Item 2. This was granted.

Mr. G. Sands, Operational Manager at Meadows Leisure Centre addressed the Council with his concerns, relative to recent problems with car parking facilities at the Meadows Leisure Centre. Mr. Sands stated that the membership of the Leisure Centre is being affected by the limited number of car parking spaces. He further informed Members that a planning application had previously been submitted to Sefton Council for an additional 18 spaces, but this has subsequently been refused by Sefton MBC. A large amount of capital from Sefton Council had been set aside for this and Mr. Sands is concerned that if this is not utilised, it will be set against another project.

The Town Clerk responded that he is putting proposals together that will help reduce the number of staff using the car park.

The Chairman noted Mr. Sands' concerns and thanked him for attending the Meeting.

80. PRESENTATION BY MERSEYTRAVEL – TRAVEL PLAN FOR MAGHULL STATION – Two representatives from Merseytravel were in attendance : Mr. David Jones, Integrated Transport Network Development Manager, and Mr. Phil Halewood, Head of Integrated Transport.

A presentation by Merseytravel followed in which information appertaining to Merseytravel's role within the community, Station Travel Plans, Aims and Outcomes, Action Plan and the upgrade of Maghull Station was circulated for Members' information.

It was stated that Merseytravel are working towards increasing the use of sustainable modes of travel to Maghull Station i.e. Walking, Cycling etc.

A question and answer session followed in which Members enquired if Maghull Station car park is to be expanded. In response, Mr. Halewood (Merseytravel) confirmed that there are no plans to expand the car park at the moment.

Other concerns were raised with regard to the bus interchange, local taxi firm taking up car parking spaces, and the frequency of the circular bus routes around Maghull.

The representatives from Merseytravel noted the Council's concerns which assist in improving customer satisfaction. The Chairman thanked Merseytravel for their presentation and extended an invitation to a future meeting of the Council.

81. WELCOME BY THE MAYOR OF MAGHULL CLLR. (MS) S. WILLIAMS – The Mayor welcomed colleagues and members of the Public to the meeting.

82. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – *RECEIVED* from Councillors : M. Jones, K. Brown, P. Tweed, Adam Lewis

83. MINUTES – *RESOLVED* that the Minutes of an **Ordinary Meeting of Council, held 8th June 2011** – copies of which have been printed and circulated – be taken as read and signed by the Chairman – *PROPOSED* by Councillor S. Kermodé, *SECONDED* by Councillor P. Dowd – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

84. MATTERS ARISING –

a) Councillor (Ms) S. Williams referred to the **Report on Annual Assembly Meeting held on 4th May 2011** : Primary Care Trust (Deficit) – Councillor Williams asked if clarification of this deficit had been sought from the PCT. It was confirmed that correspondence had been received from the Chairman of the PCT relative to this issue, which had been previously circulated to all Elected Members.

b) **Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 25th May 2011** – (Min. No. 24 refers) : Reformation of Sub-committees – Councillor M. Byrne again confirmed that a decision to reform the Business Review and Publicity Sub-Committees, would be *DEFERRED* and reformed, if required, at a later date.

c) **Ordinary Meeting of Council held 8th June 2011** – (Min. No. 41 refers) – Councillor M. Byrne enquired if Maghull Town Council's website is being developed and asked members for suggestions that could be incorporated into the website. The Town Clerk confirmed that website training has been arranged for the Administration Staff and it is envisaged that the website will be up and running soon.

d) **Ordinary Meeting of Council held 8th June 2011** – (Min. No. 41 refers) – Presentation by the Town Mayor to Maghull Football Club – the Chairman enquired if arrangements for this have been put in place. Councillor P. McKinley responded that this will be done after the summer recess.

85. CORE STRATEGY – GREEN BELT ISSUES – Following a discussion on the Core Strategy and Green Belt issues, it was *RESOLVED* that the position of Maghull Town Council is to **protect Green Belt land** and calls upon Sefton Council to ensure that the Town Council's concerns are taken into account relative to this volatile topic. This was *PROPOSED* by Councillor (Mrs) C. Esterson, *SECONDED* by Councillor (Mrs) R. Knight – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

86. ACADEMY SCHOOLS – A wide variety of individual opinions were expressed. However, it was recognised by the Chairman that events had overtaken the general discussion and felt it appropriate to discuss this issue further at a future meeting of the Council. Members *NOTED* the Chairman's comments.

87. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES –

Audit & Governance Committee Meeting, held 9th June 2011 (Public session)
PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE by Councillor S. Kermode, *SECONDED* by Councillor (Mrs) C. Esterson – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting, held 22nd June 2011 (Public session) – *PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE* by Councillor A. Robertson, *SECONDED* by Councillor S. Kermode – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

88. MATTERS ARISING –

- a) **Audit & Governance Committee Meeting, held 9th June 2011 (Public session)** - No issues raised.
- b) **Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting, held 22nd June 2011 (Public session)** – No issues raised.

89. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – None.

90. DELEGATED AUTHORITY – It was *PROPOSED* by Councillor I. Moncur, *SECONDED* by Councillor (Mrs) R. Knight that Delegated Authority be granted to the Town Clerk to make appropriate decisions on any Planning Applications, if required (following due consultation with the Chairpersons of the Finance & General Purposes Committee and Full Council), and for the payment of accounts during the summer recess – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

91. REPORT ON SEFTON AREA PARTNERSHIP OF LOCAL COUNCILS – Councillor M. Byrne highlighted the following :-

- a) Presentation from Sefton MBC relative to the Core Strategy
- b) Discussion regarding flood plains and referred to major refurbishment works at the Altmouth Pumping Station. This vital work will alleviate the pressure on flood plains over future months.
- c) Discussion on neighbourhood and localisation changes.

92. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – The Chairman highlighted the following :

Review on the progress of building works during the summer recess

An extensive review of the Council's finances will be carried out during the summer recess

93. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - The following issues were highlighted by Members :-

Councillor M. Byrne : referred to a recent meeting with a representative of the Maghull & District Youth Council, Sefton Youth Workers and Councillor P. McKinley. Concerns were expressed with regard to young people climbing on the scaffolding which has been erected around the Town Hall. Additional security personnel have been engaged from G4S, and in order to alleviate the potential dangers of climbing on the scaffolding, it was agreed to close the Youth Coffee Bar nights at the Town Hall for a period of time. Miss N. Smith (Maghull & District Youth Council) confirmed that the Youth Coffee Bar nights would now take place temporarily at Stafford Moreton Youth Centre on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The Town Clerk, Mr. Mark Julius highlighted that some criminal damage had been done to the Meadows Leisure Centre. He confirmed that the extra security will operate within the grounds of the Town Hall Building between the hours of 6.00pm and midnight. The payment for the extra security will be at the usual hourly rate. Varla UK Limited will be paying for their own extra security personnel.

At this point, **Councillor A. Robertson** declared an interest in Smyth and Associates and refrained from any further discussion. He did point out, however, that the issues with the Youth Club need to be resolved as soon as possible.

A further meeting took place with Seamus Smyth (Smyth & Associates) – Maghull Town Council's Client Consultant – and Varla UK Limited, and a discussion took place regarding the health and safety aspect of the scaffolding.

A verbal report was given by the Town Clerk appertaining to the end date of the refurbishment work. He also confirmed that the next progress meeting with the contractors would take place on 22nd August at the Town Hall.

Councillor M. Byrne – referred to the proposed additional 18 car parking spaces on KGV playing field. Following a brief discussion Members felt it appropriate to *DEFER* a decision until further proposals that will help reduce the number of staff using the car park have been investigated. *PROPOSED* by Councillor M. Byrne, *SECONDED* by Councillor P. McKinley – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

94. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – It was *PROPOSED* by Councillor M. Byrne, *SECONDED* by Councillor P. McKinley that members of the Press and Public be *EXCLUDED* for the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

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95. PRESENT – Councillor (Ms) S. Williams (In The Chair) and Councillors : C. Traynor, P. McKinley, I. Moncur, (Mrs) J. Day, A. Robertson, A. Blackburn, P. Dowd, C. Esterson, R. Knight, M. Byrne, S. J. Kermode. Mr. M. Julius (Town Clerk & Treasurer), Mrs. P. M. Annal (Minutes).

96. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – *RECEIVED* from Councillors : M. Jones, K. Brown, P. Tweed, Adam Lewis

The following issues were discussed 'In committee' at an Ordinary Meeting of Council, held 20th July 2011

97. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES –

Audit & Governance Committee Meeting, held 9th June 2011 *PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE* by Councillor (Ms) S. Williams, *SECONDED* by Councillor M. Byrne – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*

Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting, held 22nd June 2011 *PROPOSED ACCEPTANCE* by Councillor M. Byrne, *SECONDED* by Councillor P. McKinley – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*

98. MATTERS ARISING

a) **Audit & Governance Committee Meeting, held 9th June 2011 – Photocopying Charges**

It was agreed that the photocopier would not be used for party political purposes, and a charge of 5p per copy for black and white and 20p per copy per colour, would be charged to other users. *PROPOSED* by Councillor (Mrs) C. Esterson, *SECONDED* by Councillor A. Robertson – *AGREED UNIMOUSLY*.

b) **Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting, held 22nd June 2011**

Councillor M. Byrne tabled a report on proposed changes of the leasing agreement for The Venue function room. As this item had not been included in the Agenda for this evenings' meeting, it was decided, following a very brief discussion, that this should be *DEFERRED* to a future meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee – *PROPOSED* by Councillor (Ms) S. Williams, *SECONDED* by Councillor (Mrs) C. Esterson – *AGREED UNANIMOUSLY*.

CHAIRMAN

