**HALEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Thursday 20th February 2020 (7.00pm) at the Arncliffe Sports and Community Centre.

**PRESENT**

Councillors

 Cllr B Swann (Chair)

 Cllr S Harvey Cllr. K Dalton

 Cllr Y Graves Cllr. T Lucock

 Cllr. F Martin Cllr. B Dunn

Members of the public. 11

**Also in attendance:-**

G Allen - Town Manager

K Newton - Senior Administrator

J Ferry – Support Officer

As the Mayor was not present and there is presently no Deputy Mayor, the Town Manager requested Councillors elect a Chair for this evening’s meeting.

**It was moved by Cllr. B Dunn and seconded by Cllr. T Lucock**

**RESOLVED:** That,

1. Cllr B Swann act as Chair of this evening’s meeting.

Cllr Swann accepted the nomination and took over as Chair of the meeting.

**114. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance were received and accepted from Cllr. D Samuels and Cllr C Rose.

**115. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr S Harvey – Agenda item 9 (Park Bench).

**116. PUBLIC FORUM**

*In accordance with Standing Order 1.8 – 1.17, members of the public, having made prior arrangements with the Town Manager, may be invited to speak to the meeting of the Town Council on a matter concerning the Township of Halewood.*

Two persons had registered their intention to speak prior to the meeting.

1. **Mr E Mackintosh –** Asked a question of the Town council regarding the process for the Co-option to be used for filling the vacancies for the Halewood North and South wards. The Co-option policy and agreement on publishing the advertisements is on the agenda for the meeting tonight.

There were other comments from members of the public about the co-option policy which emerged from confusion caused by the sharing of an incorrect paper version of the agenda with the public. This agenda did not have the co-option policy down for discussion. The ‘correct’ version of the agenda, and that published on the council website and shared with Councillors in compliance with legislation, did have co-option as agenda item 8 (at minute 121).

1. **Ms J Harvey** – Ms. Harvey shared a letter written by Mrs. Sandra Harvey, wife of the late Cllr Allan Harvey. The letter thanked the public, the Town Council staff and Councillors for the support during their recent bereavement

**117. MINUTES**

Agreed

**It was moved by Cllr. B Swann and seconded by Cllr. T Lucock**

**RESOLVED:** That,

1. The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 16th January 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

**118. TOWN MANAGERS INFORMATION UPDATE**

The Town Manager gave a written update on the following items:-

1. Community Engagement Working Group.

2. Staffing.

3. Councillors Strategy Day

4. Neighbourhood Plan

5. Weekly Decision List on Planning Applications

6. Key Dates.

The Town Manager advised that the Community Networking Event noted in item #1 will take place at Hollies Hall on March 17th.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the report be noted.

**119. COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SUPPORT TO CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

The report of the Town Manager was considered. Councillors were requested to consider and give guidance on funding proposals for ‘Community Grants’ and to allocate reserves for ‘Support to Children and Families’.

Cllr S Harvey queried the proposal to not automatically provide a grant to Halewood Academy. She requested more information is provided before this decision is made. The Town Manager advised Cllr Harvey that a ‘contingency’ is in the budget if Councillors are minded to continue the support in 2020.

Cllr B. Dunn, Cllr. T Lucock, Cllr K. Dalton and Cllr. B Swann queried the continuation of a grant to the Knowsley Flower Show. Ideas for a Halewood ‘garden of the year’ were proposed as a better use of the funding. Cllr Y Graves did note she is aware of residents who do use the funded free transport to go to the Flower Show each year.

Cllr Y Graves was very supportive of the proposals for the School Uniform project and the funding for ‘holiday hunger’ in the summer of 2020.

**It was moved by Cllr. S Harvey and seconded by Cllr. K Dalton**

**RESOLVED:** That,

1. The report be noted.
2. The proposed list of funding allocations in the ‘community grants’ section of the report is delegated for further discussion and recommendations to the Community Engagement Working group.
3. The funding allocations into specific reserves for the school uniform and holiday hunger projects are approved.

**120. SECTION 33 DISPENSATION**

The report of the Town Manager was considered, this is to ensure that Councillors roles in signing a Section 33 Dispensation Letter with the Town Manager is formally entered into the minutes of the meeting prior to approval of the budget and precept for 2020/21.

**It was moved by Cllr K. Dalton and seconded by Cllr T. Lucock**

**RESOLVED:** That,

1. The report be noted.
2. The ‘Town Manager has received letters from each individual Councillor giving them dispensation to formally agree the precept for 2020/21

**121. CO-OPTION INTO COUNCILLOR VACANCIES**

The report of the Town Manager was considered, this requested Councillors provide guidance to the Town Manager for posting the ‘advertisement’ to local residents for the vacant positions in Halewood North and Halewood South Wards.

**It was moved by Cllr B. Dunn and seconded by Cllr K. Dalton**

**RESOLVED**: That,

1. The report be noted.
2. The advertisement for the vacancies is posted on Monday February 24th by the Town Manager. It will be in place for 4 weeks.
3. The Town Manager to liaise with the Mayor and Cllr Swann in the first instance about the date for a Co-option meeting once the application deadline expires.

**122. REQUEST FOR A COMMEMORATIVE PARK BENCH ON WOOD ROAD FIELD**

The report of the Town Manager was considered, this advised Councillors of the request from a local resident (Michelle McEwan) for the installation of a bench on Wood Road field in commemoration of the late Cllr Allan Harvey.

In supporting the proposal for the bench, Cllr B. Dunn stated she has already liaised with the Knowsley MBC Green Spaces team and it’s ‘Tree Liaison Officer’. Cllr Swann advised the planning issues would need to be considered. Cllr Lucock, in also supporting the proposal, noted that an awareness of precedent is also a factor Councillors must consider.

**It was moved by Cllr B. Dunn and seconded by Cllr K. Dalton**

**RESOLVED:** That,

1. The report be noted.
2. The Town Council supports the proposal and will assist the public and Ms. McEwan with the request for the commemorative bench.

**123. REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES/REPRESENTATIVE BODIES**

The following reports were received

1. Liverpool Airport Consultative Committee – Cllr B Swann advised there is meeting on Friday February 21st and a Town Council representative is required. After some debate, it was proposed that Cllr S Harvey attend on behalf of the Town Council.
2. St. Mary’s Day Centre – The Town Manager advised that St. Mary’s have requested a hold is put on Town Councillor representation at their meetings until they resolve the issue at their AGM in June.
3. MALC – The meeting of February 5th resolved to improve the attendance at MALC. A new Social Media profile has been created. It is hoped to hold a conference in June or July.
4. LALC – No updates. However, Cllr Rose and Cllr Harvey will consider attending the LALC conference in June.
5. Culturefest – Cllr Lucock attended the meeting earlier today. Plans are on track for 2020.
6. Co-operative Councils – Cllr K Dalton reported on this two conference visits in January. A quarterly gathering in Stevenage and a conference on the ‘Policy Labs’ initiative in Plymouth.

**It was moved by Cllr Y Graves and seconded by Cllr T Lucock**

**RESOLVED:** That,

1. The reports and updates from Councillors and the Town Manager be noted.
2. The Cllr S Harvey to attend the Airports meeting on behalf of the Town Council.

**124. CORRESPONDENCE**

Planning Applications

The following Planning Applications were considered:-

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Application Number** | **Applicant** | **Location** | **Details** |
| 20/00004/FUL | Mr Chris Mak | Mole End 1 Greensbridge Lane Tarbock Green | ERECTION OF FIRST FLOOR SIDE AND REAR EXTENSION AND FRONT PORCH, ROOF LANTERN, ALTERATIONS TO WINDOWS AND RELOCATION OF FRONT ENTRANCE DOOR |
| 20/00006/FUL | Mr J Milligan | 43 Wood Road Halewood L26 1UY | ERECTION OF OUTBUILDING FOR WORKSHOP / GYM |
| 20/00008/FUL | Mr K G Loh | 2 The Almonds Halewood L26 1XJ | ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY SIDE AND REAR EXTENSION |
| 20/00002/FUL  | Mr Dave Evans  | 6 Rutland Avenue Halewood L26 0TP  | ERECTION OF TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION  |
| 19/00668/FUL  | Mr Richard Shacklady  | Dale Farm Greensbridge Lane Tarbock Green  | DEMOLITION OF FARMHOUSE AND 2NO. OUTBUILDINGS TOGETHER WITH THE ERECTION OF 1NO. TWO STOREY DETACHED DWELLING AND THE RESITING OF CARAVAN STORAGE AREA  |

Cllr B Swann and Cllr K Dalton also noted the receipt of the ‘decisions’ list for January from the Town Manager. They consider this very useful and would like to see it continue in future meetings.

**RESOLVED:-**

1. That the planning applications be noted.
2. That the weekly ‘decisions’ list is also shared for the attention of Councillors.

**125. EXEMPT ITEMS**

RESOLVED:- That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

**126. BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2020/21**

The Town Manager presented a report which outlined the proposed budget for 2020/21 and the requirements for the setting a precept for 2020/21. (This would require a precept increase of standstill + 6.9%).

**It was moved by Cllr B Swann and seconded by Cllr T Lucock**

**RESOLVED:-**

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** that,

1. That report be noted.
2. A 6.9% increase in the annual precept equating to £5.44 per Band D property and £3.62 (7p per week) per Band A property.
3. The precept demand for the financial year 2020/21 is set at £441,266 or £84.19 per Band D equivalent property, and the Town Clerk notifies Knowsley MBC accordingly.

Meeting closed at 8.38 pm

Signed ………………………. Date…………………….