**HALEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

A Meeting of the Town Council was held on Thursday 12th November 2020 (7.00 pm), the following Members were present:

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Cllr B Swann

(Chairman)

 Cllr K Dalton Cllr C Rose

 Cllr F Martin Cllr B Dunn

 Cllr Y Graves Cllr D Samuels

 Cllr A Lucock Cllr S Harvey (joined at 7.35pm)

**Also in attendance:**

G. Allen – Town Manager

Members of the public – 4.

**59. APOLOGIES**

None

**60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Cllr Harvey wished it to be noted that she had sought advice from the Town Manager for item #65 (Allan Harvey Christmas Grant). However, the Town manager confirmed a declaration of interest was not necessary given the decisions to be made were for specific grant requests.

**61. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no questions at Public Forum.

**62. MINUTES**

Agreed.

**It was unanimously RESOLVED:** That,

1. The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 15 October 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.
2. The minutes of the Policy & Finance Meeting held on 25 June 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the meeting Chair.

**52. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER**

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

1. Town Council response to the Covid-19 Crisis:
2. Staffing
3. Human Resources Support
4. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
5. Knowsley CCG
6. Co-option and Predetermination
7. Imminent Meetings

**Covid-19**

The Town Manager and Mayor advised that a decision has been taken to cease all activities at the two Town Council settings through to January 2021. Although the current government lockdown may end on December 3rd or 4th, it was agreed that certainty is needed for planning and staff deployment in December. In addition, the re-established ‘Community Hub’ at the Arncliffe Centre will continue to operate to serve the needs of the community and Hollies Hall on standby for further delivery of flu vaccinations.

The Town Manager advised that an arrangement has been agreed with local charity ‘Channel’ to promote a toy donation scheme for 2020. This will work in tandem with the Community Hub.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the report be noted.

**63. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP**

Members’ received a report from the Town Manager and considered recommendations.

The Town Manager outlined the three proposals for council spending to emerge from the recent meeting of the group and recommended their approval. The Town Manager also discussed his recommendation to put the Community Engagement Group on hold until May 2021 in light of capacity among staff members and duplication with Neighbourhood Plan activities.

Following a wide-ranging debate among Councillors, the three funding proposals were agreed with the specific details noted below.

Christmas Tree

**It was moved by Cllr C Rose** and **seconded by Cllr D Samuels** andit was agreed to,

1. Source the tree from Rapid Tree Care at a cost of £750 for a 20ft tree, this cost includes supply, fitting and removal of the tree. Hire lights from “the Festive Group” at a cost of £1776.00, this will include the company decorating the tree and removing the lights after the period ends. Total cost £2526
2. To request the Town Manager and staff seek to reduce the costs wherever possible.
3. To ensure that new options for Christmas decorations and the siting of a Christmas Tree are considered for 2021.

An amendment proposed by **Cllr B Dunn** and seconded by **Cllr T Lucock** for Option A on the Town Council papers (at a cost of £1,400 but with greater staff time/resource needed) was defeated by 5 votes to 4.

Santa Dash

After discussion it was moved by **Cllr C Rose** and **seconded by Cllr F Martin** and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that,

1. Accept the proposal to purchase medals for a schools-based ‘Santa Dash’ that would act as a fundraiser for local charity ‘Listening Ear’.
2. Schools are advised the activity should not involve the participation of parents given the current health crisis.

Hot Meals for Vulnerable Residents

**It was moved by Cllr K Dalton** and **seconded by Cllr F Martin** and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that,

1. The council approaches the local business ‘The Brunch Box’ to provide 50 meals in the run-up to Christmas at a cost of £240.00. Town Council staff will consult with the Brunch Box on the most effective way to plan the delivery of the meals.
2. To focus the distribution of the meals on the council’s Pensioner support groups in the first instance.
3. Staff ensure there is coordination with Halewood-based organisations to ensure a fair distribution of the meals.

The Community Engagement Working Group

After discussion and, following the recommendations of the Town Manager supported by the Mayor, Councillors were in agreement to ‘put the Community Engagement Working Group on hold’ until the Annual Meeting of the Town Council in May 2021.

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

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that,

1. To note the report.
2. To put the Community Engagement Working Group on hold until the Annual Meeting May 2021.

**66. HALEWOOD COMMUNITY GRANT FUND APPLICATIONS**

Members’ received a report from the Town Manager and considered recommendations. The Town Manager also advised that tonight’s applications were the first for the newly established ‘Allan Harvey Christmas Grant’ which had been approved by Councillors back in September. All five applications were made to the Allan Harvey Christmas Grant.

**Cllr B Swann** reminded the meeting that the ‘Allan Harvey Christmas Grant’ had been given a limit of £2,000 for the current year and this needed consideration if the grants were to be approved this evening. **Cllr C Rose** asked the Town Manager whether it was possible to find the extra funding from other areas of the budget – the Town manager confirmed this would be possible.

1. Application 20/21:1 – Halewood Youth in Community Centre

An application was made for financial support to purchase food and items for children/young people in the run-up to the Christmas holiday.

1. Application 20/21:5 – Halewood Community Spirit

An application was made for financial support to the annual Santa Crusade.

1. Application 20/21:5 – Newby House

An application was made for financial support to purchase food and items for the residents of Newby House who have had a difficult 2020 due to severe isolation as an outcome of the Covid-19 pandemic.

1. Application 20/21:5 – Paul Burke

An application was made for financial support to purchase food and items for vulnerable local residents, particularly older members of the community.

1. Application 20/21:5 – Parish of St. John Vianney

An application was made for financial support to purchase food and items for vulnerable local residents among their parish, particularly older members of the community.

After some debate among Councillors, it was resolved to proceed with the funding recommendations that emerged from the matrix scoring system for Community Grants.

**It was moved by Cllr C Rose** and **seconded by Cllr S Harvey** and,

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that,

1. The report be noted.
2. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, a Town Council a grant of £500 be awarded to Halewood Youth in Community Centre.
3. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, a Town Council a grant of £500 be awarded to Halewood Community Spirit.
4. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, a Town Council a grant of £500 be awarded to Newby House.
5. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, a Town Council a grant of £250 be awarded to Paul Burke.
6. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, a Town Council a grant of £500 be awarded to the Parish of St. John Vianney.
7. That the funding available for the Allan Harvey Christmas Grant is increased from £2,000 to £2,250 to cover all of the grant awards.
8. That the additional £250.00 is taken from the budget set aside for ‘Conferences and Outside Bodies’ which is unspent due to the Covid-19 crisis.

**67. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVE BODIES**

**Cllr K Dalton** and **Cllr B Dunn** will attend the AGM for LALC on Saturday November 14th.

**68. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. *Planning Applications*

The following Planning Applications were considered :-

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Application Number** | **Applicant** | **Location** | **Comments** |
| 20/00338/FUL | Miss Lesley Anne Millen | Land Adjacent To 69, Greensbridge Lane, Tarbock Green | None |
| 20/00446/FUL | SEA Recruitment | 27 Higher Road Halewood L25 0QG | None |
| 20/00574/FUL | Ms. Vicky Langton | 44 Lower Road Halewood Knowsley | None |

The Town Manager advised that 20/00446/SEA had been considered by the Town Council as a similar planning application in September 2018. At that time, residents had expressed some concerns about the scheme but there had been no options available to the council to formally object to the proposal (this remains the case today).

**It was moved by Cllr C Rose** and **seconded by Cllr B Swann** and,

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that,

1. That the planning applications be noted.

Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Signed ………………………. Date…………………….