**HALEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

A Meeting of the Town Council was held on Thursday 11th March 2021 (7.00 pm), the following Members were present:

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Cllr B Swann

(Chairman)

Cllr K Dalton Cllr Y Graves

Cllr F Martin Cllr B Dunn

Cllr D Samuels Cllr T Lucock

Cllr S Harvey

**Also in attendance:**

G Allen – Town Manager

Members of the public – 7.

**108. APOLOGIES**

Cllr C Rose

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

None.

**110. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was one question at Public Forum from local resident, Joanne Harvey. Joanne raised concerns about the pavement area in front of Aldi at the Shopping Area on Leathers Lane, and its dangers for the Halewood public.

In response, **Cllr Barbara Dunn** advised that she will pick up this matter with the relevant officers at Knowsley MBC and thanked Joanne for bringing it to the attention of Halewood Town Council.

**111. MINUTES**

Agreed

**It was RESOLVED** that,

1. The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 11th February 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.
2. The minutes of the Special Town Council Meeting held on 25th February 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

**112. TOWN MANAGERS INFORMATION UPDATE**

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

1. Covid-19
2. Staffing
3. Advance Planning and bookings
4. Arncliffe refurbishment
5. Insurance Claim
6. Memory Lane
7. Imminent meetings

The Town Manager provided further detail on the key dates from the Prime Minister’s ‘roadmap’ out of Covid-19 and the key dates for the Town Council. The Town Manager also noticed the damage and vandalism caused to the sensory garden facilitated by Memory Lane.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the report be noted.

**113. RENEWAL OF TOWN COUNCIL INSURANCES FOR 2021/22**

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

The Town Manager advised on the three quotations received for 2021/22 insurance and recommended acceptance of the cheapest of the quotations from ‘Came and Company’. The Town Manager further advised Councillors on the opportunity for a three-year fixed price quotation, but informed Councillors this was no longer a recommended option given ongoing challenges with an insurance claim for business interruption in 2020/21.

In supporting the option for a one-year rather than a three-year option, **Cllr Barbara Dunn** stated was not content that the Town Council would be ‘locked in’ to a three-year option with an insurance provider. This was also supported by Councillors **Graves, Samuels** and **Lucock**.

**It was moved by Cllr B Swann** and **seconded by Cllr S Harvey** and,

Unanimously **RESOLVED** that,

1. The report be noted
2. That the one-year insurance option with ‘Came and Company’ is approved.
3. The Town Manager to advise ‘Came and Company’ that resistance to the three-year option was due to challenges the council was facing with its 2020/21 claim for business interruption.

**114. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Members’ received a report from the Town Manager and considered recommendations. The Town Manager provided a comprehensive overview of progress with the Neighbourhood Plan. In addition, Councillors were asked to consider options to seek the permanent transfer of land presently leased to the Town Council by Knowsley MBC.

In responding to the issues of the transfer of leases, **Cllr K Dalton** raised concerns about the potential increased costs to the Town Council, particularly the capital costs associated with managing the spaces.

**Cllr B Swann** noted that, from the recent consultation meeting with Angela McIntyre of Maghull Town Council, the Steering Group for the Neighbourhood Plan would need greater autonomy – particularly for campaigning on a referendum to enact a plan.

**It was moved by Cllr B Swann** and **seconded by Cllr Y Graves** and,

Unanimously **RESOLVED** that,

1. The report be noted
2. Councillors approved the recommendation and were *supportive of the continuation of the Neighbourhood Plan project given it will be significant and time-consuming over the next 18-24 months.*
3. Approved the Thematic Working Groups
4. Supported the proposal to ‘ask the question’ of Knowsley MBC to seek the permanent transfer of the green spaces to Halewood Town Council.

**115. CO-OPTION**

Members’ received a report from the Town Manager and considered recommendations. The Town Manager advised that, as he has received the necessary votes, Andrew Hesford should be co-opted onto the Town Council into one of the vacancies for the Halewood North Ward

**Cllr S Harvey** commented that the process to co-opt Mr. Hesford onto the Town Council should not be conducted this evening given the Special Meeting is subject to an internal and external investigation. In responding, the Town Manager advised Cllr Harvey that whilst the investigations are ongoing, no objections had been raised concerning the co-option of Mr. Hesford.

**It was moved by Cllr B Swann** and **seconded by Cllr D Samuels** and,

**RESOLVED** that,

1. The report be noted
2. That Andrew Hesford be co-opted onto the Town Council
3. That Mr. Hesford be co-opted into one of the vacancies for the Halewood North Ward.
4. That the process for Co-option into the two remaining vacancies be revisited by the Town Council in approximately six months.

**116. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVE BODIES**

**Cllr K Dalton** update Councillors on feedback received regarding MALC.

**115. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Correspondence from Mr. Grant Roberts

Correspondence was received from Grant Roberts of Sudbury Close, Halewood. Mr. Roberts was requesting consideration of a transfer of land adjacent to his property from the Town Council to his household.

After discussion among Councillors a number of actions were agreed:

1. Mr. Roberts is advised that Town Council cannot agree to leasing land adjacent to his property.
2. The Tree Officer from Knowsley MBC to investigate the specific matter of the overhanging tree. **Cllr Barbara Dunn** will make contact with the Tree Officer on behalf of the council.
3. Correspondence from Wendy Hogg

Correspondence to the Town Council was received from Wendy Hogg. Wendy thanked the council and other persons for the support and kind wishes received after the passing of former Councillor and Mayor of Halewood, Norman Hogg.

After discussion among Councillors a number of actions were agreed:

1. **Cllr Tony Lucock** proposed that a special award is named for Cllr Norman Hogg and presented to the annual winners of Halewood’s Best kept gardens. The Town Manager will raise the matter with the Culturefest Committee on behalf of Cllr Lucock.
2. That Wendy Hogg and Norman’s family are consulted on the proposal to create an award in his name.
3. Planning Applications

The following Planning Applications were considered:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Application Number** | **Applicant** | **Location** | **Comments** |
| 21/00048/FUL | Miss Rosalind Dean | 19 Totnes Avenue Halewood L26 7AD | None |
| 20/00478/NMA | Mr D Raley | 1A Greensbridge Lane Halewood L26 6LE | None |
| 21/00028/FUL | Andrew Rebotis | 89 Abberley Road Halewood L25 9QY | None |

No comments were received.

**RESOLVED:** that,

1. That the planning applications be noted.
2. The actions following the other items of correspondence are taken forward.

***Exempt Items***

*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*

**1116. STAFFING REPORT**

Members’ received a report from the Town Manager and considered recommendations. The Town Manager presented a detailed staffing report requesting endorsement of several proposals.

Councillors discussed the content of the report and varying options available.

**It was moved by Cllr B Swann** and **seconded by Cllr B Dunn** and,

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-**

that,

1. The report be noted.
2. The three recommendations contained within the report from the Town Manager are approved.

Meeting closed at 8.53 p.m.

Signed ………………………. Date…………………….