**HALEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

A Meeting of the Town Council was held on Thursday 22nd April 2021 (7.00 pm), the following Members were present:

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Cllr B Swann

(Chairman)

 Cllr K Dalton Cllr A Hesford

 Cllr F Martin Cllr B Dunn

 Cllr D Samuels Cllr T Lucock

 Cllr S Harvey Cllr C Rose

**Also in attendance:**

G Allen – Town Manager

Members of the public – 4.

**117. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Y Graves.

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

None.

**119. PUBLIC FORUM**

A question at Public Forum was registered by local resident, Liam Mitchell. However, he was not present at the meeting despite the Mayor deferring the Public Forum item until later in the meeting in case Mr. Mitchell arrived).

**120. MINUTES**

Agreed.

**Cllr T Lucock** provided an update to Councillors on a discussion held with Wendy Hogg regarding the ‘Best-Kept Garden of the Year’ competition.

**It was RESOLVED** that,

1. The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 11th March 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor subject to the minor clarifications noted by Councillors.
2. The minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Meeting held on 25th March 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor subject to the clarifications noted by Councillors.

**121. TOWN MANAGERS INFORMATION UPDATE**

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

1. Covid-19
2. Staffing
3. Future of remote meetings
4. Annual Meeting of Halewood Town Council
5. The Annual Town Meeting
6. Town Green Status
7. Autonomy of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
8. Newsletter and Annual Report
9. Mental Health Awareness Week (w/c 10th May)
10. Imminent Meetings

The Town Manager provided further details on several announcements:

At present, the proposal is still to pursue the Annual Meeting of the Town council via Zoom on 13th May. This may change as information is shared by government.

The Annual Town Meeting to be deferred until it can be held physically. This will be soon after 21st June.

Knowsley MBC have been contacted regarding ‘Town Green Status’ and this will form part of a meeting with the borough to update on the Town Council’s progress with its Neighbourhood Plan.

Newsletter will be published next Tuesday (27th April).

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the report be noted.

**122. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2021/22**

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

The Town Manager advised council on the requirement to appoint an Internal Auditor as part of the process to complete the ‘Annual Governance and Audit Return’ (AGAR). The recommendation is to appoint Mr. David Blanchflower who completed the exercise for Halewood Town Council in 2020 despite the complications of Covid-19.

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

Unanimously **RESOLVED** that,

1. The report be noted
2. That David Blanchflower is appointed as Internal Auditor for 2021.

**123. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVE BODIES**

No reports were presented.

**124. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Planning Applications

The following Planning Applications were considered:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Application Number** | **Applicant** | **Location** | **Comments** |
| 21/00134/FUL | Mr Leigh Highton | Lancing Close Halewood  | None |
| 21/00223/PDE | Mr J Monaghan | Oxford Drive Halewood Knowsley | None |
| 21/00150/FUL | Mrs Debbie Lowe | Clough Road Halewood L26 6BE | None |
| 21/00177/TCA | New Start Ltd | Netherley Road Tarbock Green Knowsley | None |
| 21/00092/FUL | Miss Steffi Jacobsen | Warton Close Halewood L25 9SF | None |
| 21/00155/FUL | Mr Keith Pennant | Winterley Drive Halewood L26 9YH | None |
| 21/00139/FUL | Mr Ste Kelly | Hertford Close Halewood L26 1XY | None |
| 21/00229/FUL | Mr Gregory Lee | Trispen Close Halewood Knowsley | None |
| 21/00268/FUL | Mrs Sue Gosney | Calveley Grove Halewood Knowsley | None |

**RESOLVED:** that,

1. That the planning applications be noted.

***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*

**125. 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 C Rose** and **seconded by Cllr S Harvey** and,

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-**

that,

1. The report be noted subject to the minor clarifications shared be several Councillors.
2. The three recommendations contained within the report from the Town Manager are approved.

**126. GAS CONTRACT – ARNCLIFFE CENTRE**

Members received a report from the Town Manager and considered recommendations concerning the status of the contract for the supply of Gas to the Arncliffe Centre.

Councillors discussed the content of the report and approved the recommendation to retain the council’s Gas contract with SSE.

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

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-**

that,

1. The report be noted.
2. The recommendation from the Town Manager to retain the Gas Contract with SSE is approved.

Meeting closed at 8.06 p.m.

Signed ………………………. Date…………………….