**HALEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Thursday 27th June 2019 (7.00pm) at the Arncliffe Sports and Community Centre.

**PRESENT**

Cllr. C Rose – Chair

Cllr. T Powell

Cllr. S Powell

Cllr. K Dalton

Cllr. F Martin

Cllr. D Samuels

Cllr. B Swann

Cllr. B Dunn

Cllr. S Harvey

Cllr. A Harvey

Cllr. T Lucock

Cllr. Y Graves

Members of the public. 13

**Also in attendance:-**

G Allen - Town Manager

K Newton - Senior Administrator

S Edwardson -Admin. & Comm. Officer

**Ahead of the meeting’s commencement:**

New Town Manager for Halewood Gerry Allen made a statement to councilors and the attending public:

“I wish to introduce myself to the public and town councillors as the new Town Manager for Halewood Town Council. You will be aware that my predecessor George Mackenzie officially left his post as of yesterday – Wednesday June 26th – and I will be the proper officer presiding over today’s meeting. In advance of the meeting, I have held several discussions with the leaders of the Labour Group and the Halewood Independent Group on the Town Council. I can state that all have the best interests of Halewood but a potential legal challenge has been raised as to the status of the Annual Meeting held on May 16th meaning there is presently no Chair to run this evening’s meeting. As per prior discussions, I now call upon councillors to nominate a Chair for the meeting who will take over at this point”.

Cllr. C. Rose was proposed as Chair for this meeting.

**It was moved by Cllr K Dalton** **and seconded by Cllr. D Samuels**

This was agreed.

**It was moved by Cllr. B Swann and seconded by Cllr. A Harvey**

**Cllr. C Rose** - accepted the nomination and took over the Chair role for the meeting.

**32. APOLOGIES**

None received

**19. Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda**

**Cllr. A Harvey**

**Cllr. B Swann**

**Cllr. S Powell**

**33. PUBLIC FORUM**

Members of the public who had registered that they would like to ask a question were invited to speak. An explanation was given to Public about asking questions at future meetings. If members of the Public wish to ask a question at the meetings, they will need to register their name with the Town Manager before the meeting.

**Dawn Corrie –** Allegationswere made on the 16/05/2019regarding hate crime, this is a serious crime so when will you be letting the person, persons know who it is that did this as they are all unaware of who it is. Is there a crime reference?

**Cllr. C Rose** – Replied to say she is unable to comment as this may compromise the investigation.

**Cllr. B Swann** – Commented to get the Crime Number from the Police.

**Eric Macintosh –** He has now received an email from Cllr. C Rose regarding his question asked at a previous meeting. He asked when a crime is committed there will be a crime reference and a police log of who the perpetrator is. He would like to know is his name on this and who the accuser is. He has said he wants to take litigation against the accuser if it’s him.

**Cllr. C Rose** – Repeated what she had already said which was that she is unable to comment as this may compromise the investigation.

**Gerry Tyrell** – Passed a letter to the chair that was from Liverpool city Region’s Metro Mayor Steve Rotherham about supporting training with employment and the devolved Adult education Budget (AEB) in the Liverpool City Region. Gerry Allen read out the letter.

**34. MINUTES**

Approved

**It was moved by Cllr. B Swann and seconded by Cllr. A Harvey**

**35. Town Managers Information Update**

This report was to progress on issues appertaining to the Town Council which are not covered elsewhere in this agenda this was noted and agreed. Cllr. B Swann thanked George Mackenzie for his service for the past 6 years and wished him well in his Retirement.

**Cllr. A Harvey** – commented on the lack of celebration for Lynn Joyner after 40 years’ service for the council. Cllr. C Rose will look at this with Gerry Allan.

**It was moved by Cllr. S Harvey and seconded by Cllr. A Harvey**

**35. ANNUAL TOWN (PARISH) MEETING 2019**

The Report was received by the Town Council and recommendations considered.

**Cllr. B Swann –** Commented the report was incomplete. He mentioned that Cllr T Powell has a pecuniary interest and has not declared this; there is a conflict of interest and a points of order on item 3 page 10 this breaches the code of conduct. Cllr. T Powell and Cllr. S Powell have a wide range of interest including a special responsibility which covers open spaces and activities.

**Cllr. T Powell** – Commented he has asked Yvonne Ledgerton for advice.

**Item 2 – Page 5**. The Town Manager has written twice to Steve Rotherham and has no reply. Gerry Tyrell passed the Town Manager a letter from Steve Rotherham for his consideration.

**Item 4a – Page 5.** Cllr. B Swann commented to ask and follow up. Cllr. C Rose commented she has already had contact with the resident.

**Item 4b – Page 6.** Cllr. B Swann, there is a conflict of interest on this item that hasn’t been declared and that person is breaking the law. The public need to be responded to within 7 days.

**Item 4d – Page 6.** Section 106 money, Cllr. B Swann commented that the ward councillor consulted was not a ward member and the money was not spent in this area.

**Cllr. B Swann** Proposed that the public should be named in the reports.

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

**36. TOWN COUNCIL FUN DAY**

Cllr. B. Swann raised a point of order in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) and argued that Cllrs. T and S. Powell should leave the meeting for this item on the agenda. The Chair advised that this was dealt with at the outset of the meeting. There followed debate referencing the standing orders for the meeting and the Arnold-Baker book on local government administration. At the end of this discussion all Councillors remained in the meeting.

Members’ then received the report from the Town Manager and were requested to provide direction on the plans for the day.

The proposals for the Fun Day received a significant level of feedback from councillors with a number of items scrutinised for their cost. Comments included:

* The proposals for the Fun Day are presented too late in the year. They need to be presented earlier to allow members to request changes or provide alternative ideas in a timely manner.
* Concerns about the cost for a number of the items. Items that were deemed too costly were – The bouncy castle, contribution to the ESDC dance school and particularly the climbing wall.
* Town Council staff was requested to look at alternative even at this late stage for the climbing wall and councillors suggested contacting the army or fire service.
* One councillor asked if a policy of requesting a minimum of three quotes for the services had been used for the Fun Day.

After further discussion it was agreed to allow work to continue with the planning for the Fun Day but further work is required to bring down the cost for 2019.

Cllr C Rose Proposed to delegate a process of endorsement to the revised plans via a sub-group of one Labour member, one Independent member and the Town Manager was agreed.

**It was moved by Cllr. A Harvey and seconded by Cllr. Y Graves**

**37. SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Members’ received the report from the Town Manager and were requested to note the report and endorse the main proposals.

**Cllr. A. Harvey** noted that the proposals to deliver a range of projects aimed at addressing ‘Holiday Hunger’ was highly important and should be supported. He reminded the meeting that Halewood has a long track record of supporting this initiative.

**Cllr. B. Swann** raised a number of issues related to Torrington Drive Community Association and was concerned that the association was to receive funding for delivering summer activities when they are essentially a business rival to the Town Council.

**Town Manager, G. Allen,** assured Cllr. Swann that TDCA were not in receipt of funding for 2019. The aim of highlighting their activities alongside other groups and organisations in Halewood was simply to provide a useful programme for families to know where and when they could access support.

In supporting the proposals, Cllr. K Dalton noted the possibility of funding for similar work next year through the ‘Co-operative Councils Innovation Network’ (CCIN).

Cllr C Rose proposed to accept the report with Cllr. B Swann’s amendments

**It was moved by Cllr. A Harvey and seconded by Cllr. S Harvey**

**38. END OF YEAR BAR STOCKS AND CENTRE OCCUPANCY**

The report outlining the end of year bar stocks and center occupancy was approved.

However, Cllr. B. Swann noted concern about the high level of out of date stocks, Cllr. S. Harvey questioned why there is a payment for ‘staff drinks’ and Cllr. A. Harvey stated that occupancy levels were not good and that opportunities are being missed to open the Hollies and Arncliffe Centers to generate income.

Cllr B Swann, Cllr T Powell and Cllr S Powell made a declaration of interest.

Town Manager Gerry Allen proposed to review the service and set priorities for a better way to run the functions.

**It was moved by Cllr. B Swann and seconded by Cllr. A Harvey**

**39. HALEWOOD COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND - APPLICATIONS**

The Town Manager presented the report on current grant fund applications and recommended their approval to councillors. All applications were fully approved.

Some concerns were expressed about the bid from Imaginarium Theatre as it is now based in Prescott. Cllr. B. Swann provided some insight about the group, however, in support of the application noting they had over 35 Halewood residents as members.

Cllr. A. Harvey proposed that the grant intended to the Grenadier Rangers FC group should be increased to £500. This was supported by councillors. Cllr. T. Powell supported the proposal from Cllr. A. Harvey but asked that the Town Council ensures any groups requesting funds meet compliance with regard to safeguarding etc.

**It was moved by Cllr. A Harvey and seconded by Cllr. T Powell**

**40. APPLICATIONS FOR FREE OR CONCESSIONARY USE OF FACILITIES**

Members’ then received the report from the Town Manager and were requested to provide direction on requests for free use by local groups.

All applications were free or concessionary uses were approved. A short discussion ensued on a booking made for Halloween and following this debate Cllr. T. Lucock proposed that the actual day of Halloween (Oct. 31st) is freed up in the Arncliffe Centre diary and the Town Council looks to run a community event from the site. This was supported and approved by councillors.

The proposals for free and concessionary use

**It was moved by Cllr. B Swann and seconded by Cllr. A Harvey**

**41. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The schedule of payments and addendum presented for consideration were approved.

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| **PAYEE** | **AMOUNT** |  |
| Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley | **£724.00** |  |
| Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley | **£601.00** |  |
| Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley | **£2,931.60** |  |
| Combined Catering Services Ltd | **£239.47** |  |
| Heritage Building Solutions Limited | **£924.00** |  |
| Heritage Building Solutions Limited | **£437.69** |  |
| Celtic Fire Security Limited | **£285.60** |  |
| Celtic Fire Security Limited | **£261.60** |  |
| Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley | **£2,279.29** |  |
| Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley | **£2,279.29** |  |
| Vivark Limited | **£3,012.70** |  |
| Wirral Borough Council | **£268.25** |  |
| Metropolitan Borough of Knowsley | **£46.00** |  |
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|  | **£14,290.49** |  |

**It was moved by Cllr. B Swann and seconded by Cllr. A Harvey**

**42. REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES AND REPRESENTATIVE BODIES**

**Cllr. C. Rose** updated on her attendance at the recent Merseyside Association of Local Councils (MALC) annual general meeting. A range of appointments were made.

**Cllr. C. Rose** updated on her attendance at a conference for the Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC) annual general meeting. She attended this conference alongside the Town Manager and noted she was particularly impressed by a presentation from the RNIB.

**Cllr. D. Samuels** updated on Culture fest 2019. He reported a busy and successful programme of activities with higher attendances than previous years. The weather had caused the cancellation of some activities.

**Cllr. K. Dalton** updated on his attended at the recent CCIN network and reiterated his point about possible funding support for Holiday Hunger activities.

**G. Allen** updated on the Children’s Centers Advisory Board. Main issue is the likely merger of the Children’s Centre service and Knowsley Early Years.

**43. CORRESPONDENCE**

Councillors considered a range of planning applications for the Halewood area. At this point the following councillors left the meeting Cllr. A. Harvey, Cllr. B. Dunn, Cllr. B. Swann and Cllr. S. Powell.

**Cllr. K. Dalton** raised some queries regarding planning application 18/00522.

**Cllr. C. Rose** asked the Town Manager to advise on the details and cost of attendance at the NALC Annual Conference in October. Following the short discussion it was agreed to book two places for Halewood Town Council with one place allocated to G. Allen and the other place initially for Cllr. T. Powell.

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

Meeting closed at 20.53

The Chairperson thanked residents for their attendance at the meeting

Meeting Closed at 20:53 p.m.

Signed……………………………. Date………………………