**HALEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of the Town Council held on Thursday, 17th June 2021 (7.00 pm), at the Arncliffe Sports and Community Centre, the following Members were:-

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Cllr. K. Dalton (Mayor/Chairperson)

Cllr. B. Swann Cllr. B. Dunn

Cllr. C. Rose Cllr. T. Lucock

 Cllr. D. Samuels Cllr. Y. Graves

Cllr. A. Hesford Cllr. F. Martin

**Also in attendance:-**

G. Allen - Town Manager.

S Edwardson – Democratic Services and Administration Officer.

Members of the Public - 2

**11. APOLOGIES.**

Apologies for non-attendance were received and accepted for Cllr. S. Harvey.

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

Cllr. A Hesford - Agenda Item 21 – Planning Applications.

Note:- Cllr. A Hesford, having declared an interest in this item, took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

**13. PUBLIC FORUM.**

Mr. Gerry Tyrell. Mr Tyrell, complained about the appalling bus services in Halewood. He mentioned that this has been happening for years and asked Councillors for their help.

Standing Orders were suspended for this particular item.

There was a discussion between Councillors and Cllr. B. Dunn replied to Mr Tyrell, and agreed that the transportation in Halewood is insufficient and she would attend all Transport meetings in Knowsley Borough.

The Town Manager will discuss at the next MALC Meeting, this group are seeking the attendance of Metro Mayor, Steve Rotheram at its next meeting.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

**14. MINUTES.**

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

Unanimously agreed that, the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 13th May 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

**15. ANNOUNCMENTS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER.**

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

1. Covid-19
2. Staffing
3. Arncliffe Centre Refurbishment
4. Neighbourhood Plan – Refresh & Relaunch Event
5. The Annual Christmas Concert
6. Annual Town Meeting
7. Town Green Status
8. Town Council Insurance Claim
9. Best Kept Garden Competition 2021
10. Role of the ‘Leader’ of Halewood Town Council
11. Imminent Meetings

The Town Manager advised that, following discussions with the Mayor and Cllr Swann, the Annual Town Meeting will be deferred due to the continuation of lockdown restrictions.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**16. INTERNAL AUDITOR REPORT.**

The report of the Town Manager requested that Members note the completion of the Internal Audit Report for 2020-2021.

A discussion took place between Councillors and they were all in agreement that due to the Pandemic and the new staffing issues, some items in the report should improve in future years.

It was moved by Cllr. C. Rose and seconded by Cllr. D Samuels and

**RESOLVED**:- (i) That the report be noted.

 (ii) That the Internal Audit Report for 2020/2021 attached at appendix 1

 of the report be noted.

 (iii) That future reports have an action plan attached from next year.

**17. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & AUDIT REVIEW 2020/21.**

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

It was moved by Cllr. C. Rose and seconded by Cllr. A Hesford and,

Unanimously **RESOLVED** that,

1. The report be noted.
2. That next year’s AGAR has a report attached from the Town Manager.
3. The AGAR is to be signed by the Mayor.

**18. REGISTER OF ASSETS – WRITE OFF’S.**

The Town Manager sought authority under Financial Regulations to ‘Write Off’ the assets listed in appendix 1.

There was a discussion amongst the Councillors around donating tablets to schools.

It was moved by Cllr. C. Rose and seconded by Cllr. Y. Graves that,

**RESOLVED:-** a) That the report be noted.

 b) The assets which are listed in appendix 1, be ‘written off’.

**19. ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR 2021.**

The Town Manager presented a report that outlined the proposals and the plans underway for Town Council events and activities throughout 2021.

A discussion took place between Councillors around funding for schools, the car boot sale, Giants Project and the Community Recognition Awards.

It was moved by Cllr. B. Swann and seconded by Cllr. C. Rose and unanimously agreed that,

**RESOLVED:-**

1. The report be noted.
2. That approval is given to re-tender for Festive Lighting in 2021.Councillors approved the recommendation to hold a couple of ‘Community Recognition Events for Covid’ in September or October 2021, in lieu of the Annual Community Achievement Awards. Event to also consider the ‘Halewood Giants’ project as an aspect of the project.
3. Members agreed to the planned activities of the ‘Summer of Activity & Sport 2021 and the allocation of £1,500 of reserves for the project.
4. Councillors supported the Town Managers recommendation to discontinue the provision of ‘School Uniform Support’.

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

**Cllr. K. Dalton** advised that a meeting of MALC will take place on Thursday 8th July at 6.30pm (via zoom)

**21. CORRESPONDENCE.**

1. Report from ‘The Independent Remuneration Panel on Town/Parish Council Allowances – 2021’.

A discussion was held amongst Councillors about the report, with an emphasis on the recommendations by the authors that Town Councillors should not take a payment for their role. Councillors were supportive of this recommendation and, on a prompt from the Chairman, it was decided to suspend Standing Orders to enable Councillors to formally accept and agree this recommendation from the remuneration panel.

It was **moved** by Cllr. C. Rose and **seconded** by Cllr. D. Samuels and,

Unanimously **RESOLVED**:-

1. To suspend standing orders in order to discuss and vote on the recommendation concerning payment to Councillors.
2. For Halewood Town Councillors not to receive a payment in lieu of their role.

Standing Orders were immediately reinstated after this discussion and vote.

1. Planning Applications.

The following Planning Applications were considered.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Application No | Applicant | Location | Comments |
| 21/00301/FUL | Mr G McGrath | 98 Higher Road, Halewood L26 1TH | None |
| 21/00213/FUL | Mr A O’Rourke | 15 Padstow Close, Halewood L26 7YZ | None |
| 21/00201/FUL | Mr M Madigan | 7 Wren Grove, Halewood L26 7WU | None |
| 21/00246/CLD | L & DG Figueira | 4 Camborne Avenue, Halewood L25 9PQ | None |
| 21/00258/FUL | Mrs N Dickson | Valleyfield North End Lane, Halewood  | None |
| 21/00332/FUL | Ms R Hayde | 34 Trispen Close, Halewood  | None |
| 21/00306/FUL | Mr R Hulbert | 4 Cresswell Close, Halewood L26 6NB | None |
| 21/00375/FUL | Mr S Lomax | 10 Chartwell Grove, Halewood  | None |
| 20/00101/NMA | Mrs M Taylor | 66 Crantock Close, Halewood L26 0XQ | None |
| 21/00380/FUL | Miss L Li & Mr A Jiang | 2 Woodland Road, Halewood L26 1XF | None |
| 21/00420/FUL | Mr T King | 4 Willowherb Close, Halewood L26 7XR | None |
| 21/00358/FUL | Everton Football Club | Everton Football Academy, Finch Lane, Halewood | None |
| 21/00382/CLD | Mr C Fielding | 18 Higher Road, Halewood L25 0QQ | None |

**RESOLVED**:- (a) 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.*

**22. 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. Y. Graves and,

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-** that,

1. The report be noted.
2. The Town Manager to undertake work to create a new role related to oversight of Town Council Building subject to:-
* The working title for the new role should be ‘Safety Officer’ rather than Buildings Officer.
* The Town Manager to liaise with HR Law Easy Answers regarding the internal recruitment process for the new role.

 (c) The recommendation to retrospectively agree the creation of the ‘Hollies Playground

 Keyholder’ role is approved.

1. The moderate increase in cleaning hours at The Arncliffe Centre is agreed, but it is

 taken forward as a temporary rather than as a permanent measure to take account of the current increase in demand at The Arncliffe Centre.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed ....................................... Date ...............................................