

Present: Cllrs: McGill (in the Chair), Beardwood, Hawkins, Fonseca and Struth
In Attendance: V Swift (Clerk & RFO), 3 Members of the Public

2786: Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bundred and Dale.

2787: Members declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2788: Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an ordinary meeting held on Wednesday, 4 June 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2789: Public forum

The meeting was adjourned for this item.

2789.1 Resident queried why Thornton Fryer operates with restricted hours, unlike the neighbouring retail shop selling vapes and general goods. Cllr Hawkins explained that the chip shop's hours were set under Sefton Council's planning and licensing policies, which Thornton Fryer accepted as part of its approval.

2789.2 Resident reported that Tesco Express continues to leave uncovered waste cages with cardboard boxes outside, resulting in loose litter scattered around the area. Cllr Beardwood confirmed he has visited the store several times but has yet to speak directly with the store manager.

2789.3 Resident reiterated concerns about traffic and public safety on Hartdale Road, which is increasingly used as a cut-through during peak times due to congestion on Moor Lane into Crosby.

2789.4 Resident raised public safety concerns with children using both sides of Rakes Brook Culvert, behind the cemetery, as a makeshift den.

The meeting was reconvened.

RESOLVED: The clerk to follow up on residents' concerns with the relevant team at Sefton Council.

2790: Keeping Thornton Tidy

RESOLVED:

2790.1 That an update by Cllr McGill on community litter pick initiatives be noted.

2790.2 Members noted the date of the next community litter pick, 5 July 2025.

2790.3 That Cllr Beardwood to share the litter picking date with Crosby Wombles and the clerk to file a risk assessment with Sefton Council.

2790.4 Members thanked Cllr McGill for taking over the care of the planters following Irene White's retirement.

2790.5 That a report by Cllr Bundred and the Clerk on their meeting with the North West in Bloom judges at The Crescent on 24 June at 15:30 be noted.

2790.6 That Cllr McGill to contact the Headmaster of St William of York Primary School to involve pupils in decorating the planters, planting herbs, and creating labels as part of next year's North West in Bloom entry.

2790.7 Members thanked Angela Griffiths of Green Sefton for her generous donation of bedding plants to enhance the planters in Thornton.

2791: Traffic and public safety

RESOLVED: Cllr Hawkins updated members on her emails to Peter Hillsdon and Andrew Dunsmore of Sefton Highways regarding “additional traffic calming measures” for The Crescent mentioned in Peter’s 7 May email. She also requested an update on the traffic modelling underway for the wider “Thornton Corridor,” including The Crescent, Hartdale and adjacent routes.

2792: Friends of Thornton CIC

RESOLVED: Cllr Beardwood confirmed that the Co-Op Bank account has now been opened and is operational.

2793: Thornton Community Fayre – 25 August 2025

RESOLVED:

2793.1 Members noted an update provided by the working group following its first meeting, held at the Nag’s Head Pub on 21 June.

2793.2 Members agreed that stallholder data must be handled in line with GDPR requirements. All stallholders will be asked to provide sight of a valid Public Liability Insurance certificate before the event.

2793.3 That Cllr Fonseca agreed to draft and circulate a GDPR-compliant stallholder application form for use by Cllr Struth.

2793.4 That the Clerk to write to a selection of community-minded organisations to seek their support for the fayre, either through sponsorship, donation, or in-kind contribution.

2793.5 That Cllr Struth agreed to contact prospective stallholders and coordinate their participation in the fayre. She will also explore entertainment options to enhance the event’s programme.

2793.6 That Cllr Hawkins agreed to organise a tombola. Contributions of suitable prizes will be welcomed from members, local businesses and residents.

2793.7 That Cllr McGill agreed to carry out the event risk assessment.

2793.8 That Cllr Beardwood agreed to produce promotional materials.

2793.9 It was proposed that a budget of £300 be allocated to support the planning and delivery of the event, including electricity usage, a contribution to venue costs, and the production of promotional materials.

Proposed: Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Fonseca. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

2794: Community Governance Review

RESOLVED: Members noted an update by Cllr Hawkins, that a report will go to Council on 10 July 2025 to approve the CGR. The CGR will run from 1 October 2025 to 15 January 2026, beginning with an initial consultation. A Member Working Party will oversee the process, including requests from Thornton, Formby, and Little Altcar Parish Councils, and changes affecting Maghull Town Hall.

2795: National Trust – Township chest and sampler on permanent loan

RESOLVED:

2795.1 Members proposed that a letter before action be sent to The National Trust following their recent correspondence confirming the historic sampler, loaned and receipted on 31 July 1948, remains missing. The letter will seek resolution regarding the item’s whereabouts and appropriate next steps.

Proposed: Cllr McGill. **Seconded:** Cllr Fonseca. **Agreed:** Unanimously.

2795.2 That the Clerk to send the letter before action to The National Trust regarding the missing historic sampler.

2796: Planning Applications

RESOLVED: Members considered the planning applications set out in the schedule circulated and also available on Sefton MBC website.

2797: Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED: That the payments set out in the schedule of payments circulated be agreed.

2798: Correspondence

- 2798.1** Cllr Hawkins reported receiving regular spam emails which are not being filtered out.
- 2798.2** Cllr McGill reported receiving regular spam emails from website companies.
- 2798.3** Aintree Parish Council, invitation to Civic and Local Business Awards Event, 26 October.
- 2798.4** James Leary, CEO Marine FC, invitation to meet over the next few weeks to learn more about his current plans and forthcoming developments.
- 2798.5** Green Sefton acknowledged resident report regarding the traffic lights at Virgins Lane, which appear unable to detect bicycles. The matter has been noted and will be referred to the relevant highways team for further investigation.
- 2798.6** Green Sefton acknowledged resident report that Hartdale Road is increasingly being used as a rat run during peak hours, attributed to congestion along Moor Lane. The concern has been noted and will be shared with the appropriate transport and highways team for consideration.
- 2798.7** Green Sefton acknowledged resident report regarding safety concerns at the Brooms Cross Road attenuation ponds, specifically the steep embankments and longstanding disrepair of perimeter fencing. The matter has been noted and will be referred to the appropriate teams for assessment and follow-up.
- 2798.8** Armadillo Self Storage reported a change in room (FF002) and a rental increase (£17.50 per week).
- 2798.9** Green Sefton acknowledged the concerns raised by Homer Green residents regarding increased visitor numbers to Lunt Meadows and the nearby National Trust reserves. The potential introduction of car park charges by Lancashire Wildlife Trust has also been noted, with residents highlighting the risk of further parking congestion along Broad Lane and the exacerbation of longstanding traffic issues in the area. These matters will be shared with the relevant partners for consideration.
- 2798.10** PC24 has been sent an invitation to attend an upcoming Council meeting.
- 2798.11** Castle Green has been requested to replace the existing dog waste bin with a new traditional-style bin.
- 2798.12** Castle Green has been asked to install an additional barrier near the sub-station off Holgate to safeguard the newly planted blackthorn bushes from vehicle-related damage.

2799: Date of next meeting

RESOLVED: Wednesday, 3 September 2025 at 7:00PM.

2800: Deadline for agenda items

RESOLVED: Tuesday, 26 August 2025.

Signed


(Vice-Chairman)

Date 3 September 2025