

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2017 at 7.00pm at **Macclesfield Library**.

In attendance: Cllr Gareth Jones
Cllr Beverley Dooley
Cllr Adam Schofield
Cllr Aliff Harewood
Cllr Liz Durham

Also in attendance was Cllr Philip Bolton, Cllr Ainsley Arnold and Cllr Neil Puttick (joined the meeting during Item 8), Tim Shercliff (Enterprising Macclesfield), Ray Quigley (Enterprising Macclesfield), Rhiannon Rafferty (Make it Macclesfield) and the Town Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Chris Andrew
Cllr Martin Hardy

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Dooley expressed interests in Community Artspace as a member of the organisation and Citizens' Advice Bureau as a trustee of the organisation.

No public present

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON 7TH NOVEMBER 2016

Cllr Dooley sought that minutes show her declared interest in Item 4.1 as a member of Make it Macclesfield

Cllr Arnold sought that his attendance at the meeting was noted.

RESOLVED: That the minutes as amended to show the above two additions was confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

4. PRESENTATION FROM MAKE IT MACCLESFIELD

Tim Shercliff gave a detailed overview of the amended submission for funding, highlighting the alterations made following feedback from the previous Finance Committee meeting. Members sought clarification relating to the level of Make it Macclesfield reserves (approximately £25,000); age profiles of those accessing the service (clear mix of all adult ages); what funding sources are the service users accessing (business angels); location of clients (SK10 SK11 postcodes).

The Make it Macclesfield delegates left the meeting.

Members discussed at length the submission and the service provided through Enterprising Macclesfield. It was identified that the measurable outcomes would be monitored from April 2017 and members sought that Make it Macclesfield accesses its reserves to support the project for 2017/18, after which the benefits of the project might more readily be identified and the town council will be able to revisit the situation.

RESOLVED:

- i. That Make it Macclesfield is thanked for their submission and work on the Enterprising Macclesfield service.
- ii. That Enterprising Macclesfield is budgeted £7,600 from the 2017/18 Macclesfield Town Council budget.
- iii. That Make it Macclesfield's community engagement public meetings are funded to the requested £2,400 from the 2017/18 Macclesfield Town Council budget.

5. GRANT APPLICATIONS

5.1 Artspace – Equipment (stage) - £1,600

RESOLVED: That the grant is awarded

5.2 Byrons lane Allotment Association – Site repairs - £680

RESOLVED: That the grant is awarded

5.3 Civic Society – Civic Awards - £300

RESOLVED: That the grant is awarded

5.4 Just Drop-in – Refurbishment works - £1,096.34

Members identified that the application showed the charity has significant reserves.

RESOLVED: That a grant of £550 is awarded

5.5 Eye Society – Support group - £2,000

RESOLVED: That the grant is awarded

5.6 Literary & Philosophical Society – admin costs - £172.54

RESOLVED: That the grant is awarded

6. GRANT FEEBACK

6.1 Parkside Bowling Club (£3,000)

It was noted that the applicant has not yet been able to access the grant due to project complications. Members expressed support for the application in principle, but directed the Town Clerk to seek completion of the project and access to the grant by the end of this financial year. If this is not practicable for the applicant, the grant will be not be awarded, but a future application for the project would be favourably received, subject to appropriate details and management information.

6.2 Time Out Group (£500)

Noted

6.3 Macclesfield Youth Brass Band (£462)

Noted

7. SPEND TO DATE

The circulated financial information was noted.

8. CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU (CAB)

Members discussed the funding submission from CAB at length. Concerns were raised regarding a perceived lack of progress in seeking efficiencies and modified operational and business practices. Members identified the value of the service to the town, but contrasted this against the need for review and refinement of operation and business practices. Members specifically sought that CAB seeks means of closer working ties and arrangements with similar organisations and service delivery agencies in Macclesfield as well as accessing appropriate peer and professional advice.

RESOLVED:

- i. That £20,000 is allocated to CAB for 2017/18 within the draft budget.
- ii. That this funding is subject to a Service Level Agreement (SLA)
- iii. That funding is released in two parts, £10,000 at the start of April 2017 and £10,000 after 6 months.
- iv. That the SLA includes the requirement for evidence of effective business and operational review, receipt of peer and professional advice on business operation and detailed geographical distribution of service users (eg post codes).

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 North West Air Ambulance

Members unanimously identified the value and professionalism of this region charity.

RESOLVED: That the council makes a donation of £2,000 to the North West Air Ambulance.

10. BUDGET SETTING 2017/18

RESOLVED: That the draft budget for 2017/18, as amended at this meeting (Version 10), is recommended to Full Council for adoption.

11. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Finance Committee is 7pm, 6th March 2017 at **Macclesfield Library**.

Meeting closed 9.05pm

Chair Cllr Adam Schofield
Clerk Pete Turner