

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 20th June 2016 at 7pm at **Macclesfield Library**.

In attendance: Cllr Martin hardy
Cllr Beverley Dooley
Cllr Gareth Jones
Cllr Neil Puttick

Also in attendance was the Town Clerk, Pete Turner

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Philip Bolton
Cllr Ainsley Arnold
Cllr Janet Jackson
Cllr Alift Harewood (Mayor)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in discussions relating to allotments (item 7) as an allotment holder in Macclesfield.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no members of the public present

3. MINUTES OF THE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12TH APRIL 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes are approved as a true record of the meeting

4. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

Cllr Dooley updated the committee on progress with regard to the provision of Christmas lights in Macclesfield Town Centre.

A small market is being arranged as well as a parallel craft market in the town hall; On stage entertainment to commence at 2pm (organised in partnership with Silk FM) with switch on at 4.30pm with entertainment in market place to 6pm. Date of Switch on is Saturday 26/11/16; It is hoped a schools/children's nativity will be staged in St Michael's; Up to 4 small fairground attractions (roundabout, hook a duck and small ride on) will be in Market place.

With regard to Christmas Lights provision, it has been confirmed at previous meetings that the town centre provision will be renewed on a three year contract with LITE, this to include some additional tree light provision at Park Green and Waters Green.

The update was received.

5. WEBSITE & COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY WORKING GROUP (WCSWG)

Cllr Puttick updated the committee on the work of the WCSWG.

Social media continue to be used and grow and it is believed to be an effective communication tool; the working group will look to generate an email contacts list for direct mailing; All members are offered one-to-one digital media/social media training; The group looked at means of making the most of the Tour of Britain visit in September (to be discussed under Item 8.2).

The update was received.

6. ASSET & SERVICE PROVISION

6.1 Street Furniture

Cllr Martin identified that the council has an ambitious budget, which could achieve measurable benefits. Members discussed town centre signage, notice boards, car park signage and the principle of a legible town.

To support the development of a delivery strategy, it was agreed that the Town Clerk would provide Cllr Hardy with information on:

Costs of providing fingerpost signage

Improved car park signage

Costs of providing a digital notice board

6.2 The Brick Project

Cllr Puttick updated the committee on the progress of the Brick Project at Churchill Way / Park lane underpass. The project was delivered with excellent community engagement and positive feedback.

It was clarified that the project was over-subscribed in terms of members of the community wishing to paint a brick and as such it was felt that the project could be repeated to improve the other wall in the underpass.

RESOLVED:

- i. That Cllr Puttick is formally thanked for his hard work and congratulated on the successful delivery of the project.
- ii. That £2,000 is budgeted for Brick Project 2, for Cllr Puttick to deliver the scheme on the opposite wall of the Churchill Way / Park Lane underpass.

6.3 Floral Displays

The Town Clerk updated the committee on progress in delivering the floral displays in Macclesfield. As well as the usual annual provision, the town council increased the displays with the installation of 22 new barrier planters; 12 new town centre post displays and permanent planting displays at Park Green.

There remains around £8,000 in the budget for additional provision and the Town Clerk is seeking suggestions from members and the grounds and planting team in Macclesfield.

It was commented that very positive feedback had been received from the public with regard to the floral displays and it is hoped that annual provision can be built upon in coming years.

It was agreed that Cllr Dooley and Durham would informally champion the floral displays in Macclesfield and the town council.

6.4 Town Centre Decorative Lighting

The Town Clerk updated members with regard to council decision to consider the provision of additional decorative tree lighting in the town centre. Contractors are being asked to quote for various sites around the town centre and more detailed information will be provided to this committee when it is available.

7. ASSET AND SERVICE DEVOLUTION – ALLOTMENTS & WESTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Town Clerk updated the committee with regard to progress relating to asset transfers. It was noted that Cheshire East (CEC) were awaiting internal confirmation to progress the process and that both Macclesfield Town Council members and officers were seeking clarity from CEC.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk informs CEC Assets that all issues relating to Park Grove Allotments must be resolved prior to transfer of that site.

8. MEMBER ITEMS

8.1 Town Centre Bunting

RESOLVED: That the committee approves the provision of town centre street decorations in principle, but seeks a more detailed proposal for formal consideration, to include costs, delivery and permissions.

8.2 Tour of Britain

Councillors discussed at length the opportunities to draw people in to Macclesfield and advertise Macclesfield to visitors, commenting on the limited expected footfall due the event taking place on a week day. It was also noted that the tour would pass through Macclesfield very quickly and away from the town centre.

Suggestions included advertising the town and its location (edge of Peak District) through banners, provision of support events, provision of event-specific leaflet/flyer, display in Victoria park visible from the air (helicopter camera coverage of the race).

It was agreed that Cllrs Dooley and Puttick (and possibly Cllr Schofield subject to his agreement) would look to engage schools and/or community groups to create a living display in Victoria park which would be visible and of interest to the helicopter camera. No leaflets or banners were to be produced and there will be no support event delivered by the Town Council. The Town Clerk is to seek to provide temporary signage to encourage visitors in to the town centre,

8.3 Macc's Plaques

Cllr Puttick gave an overview of his idea for a community engagement and heritage project for the town.

RESOLVED: That the committee approves the development of the proposed project in principle, but seeks a more detailed proposal for formal consideration, to include costs, delivery and permissions.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

The email from Lancashire university relating to research in to the social changes in Macclesfield was considered by the committee.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk formally confirms that the town council is happy to be included in the research project application.

10. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Services Committee will be held on 26th September 2016 at **Macclesfield Library**.

Meeting closed at 8.21pm

Chairman: Cllr Martin Hardy

Clerk: Pete Turner