

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

SILK FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION WORKING GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 30th October 2018** at **10am** in **Macclesfield Town Hall**.

In attendance: Cllr Gareth Jones
Cllr Beverley Dooley
Cllr Janet Jackson MBE
Mike Rance
Helena Gowler
Pete Turner
Harriet Worrell

Apologies: Graham Barrow, Cllr Ainsley Arnold, Emma Anderson

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING 14TH SEPTEMBER 2018

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.

2. VISITS TO AND FROM XI'AN

2.1 Invitation to visit Xi'an

The invitation remains open and will be given further consideration under the new Town Council.

2.2 Visitors from Xi'an

A delegation from Shandan County Government are expected to visit the UK in late November (visa dependent) with a visit to Macclesfield scheduled for 26th November.

A programme will be drafted for the delegation to showcase the silk heritage of Macclesfield with a potential visit to a local silk printing business.

3. SCHOOLS LIAISON

The group was advised that the Mandarin teacher at local high schools, has provided some guidance on the approach for the Chinese New Year event in 2019.

Further school engagement is expected with the artwork projects.

4. BUSINESS LIAISON

Opportunities for liaison will be sought with Astra Zeneca and RA Smart. MR to provide introduction to appropriate contact in Astra Zeneca.

5. PROJECT OPTIONS

5.1 Silk/Chinese artwork exhibition

Helena provided the group with an update on potential artwork exhibitions run by ArtSpace, and engaging schools, to be displayed in the town centre for the Chinese New Year event on 5th February.

5.2 Chinese New Year Celebration 5th February 2019

Helena provided an update to the group outlining a Chinese New Year event that would take the form of a dragon parade, Chinese food and artwork display.

Sponsorship. HG is to explore possible sponsorship from RA Smart. MR to provide contact for AZ for potential request for sponsorship. MR to raise a request within Make it Macclesfield for a donation towards the event.

HG to discuss costs with Art Space and to consider other venues to address concerns regarding costs.

5.3 Sculpture/public installation

The group was informed that there are no further updates on an installation.

5.4 Resource package discussion

Marketing Cheshire will be contacted for initial discussions on promoting Macclesfield as a tourist destination.

6. TASKS & PRIORITIES

RESOLVED: That a letter will be written to the director of the Silk Heritage Museum to formally invite the Silk Heritage Trust to participate in the Silk Friendship Association Working Group.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 SACU & Manchester China Forum

As per 2.2.

8. DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 11th December, 10am.

Meeting closed 11am.