

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Macclesfield Town Council held 3rd June 2019 at
7pm at Macclesfield Town Hall.

In attendance: Cllr Janet Jackson MBE
Cllr Sarah Bennett-Wake
Cllr Alift Harewood MBE
Cllr David Edwardes
Cllr Lloyd Roberts
Cllr Fiona Wilson
Cllr Neil Puttick
Cllr Mick Warren
Cllr Liz Braithwaite
Cllr Chris Wilcock

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Dom Sexton

Cllr Fin Shenton

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Wilson – Item 16 – non-pecuniary - as a member of Macclesfield Harriers

Cllr Braithwaite – Item 12 – non-pecuniary – the correspondent is known to the councillor

Cllr Puttick – Item 7 – non-pecuniary – as the item relates to the Barnaby Festival.

Cllr Warren – Item 15 – pecuniary – as cabinet member and portfolio holder for Communities within Cheshire East Council

The meeting was adjourned for public comments and questions.

i. Regarding The Macc Pub, London Road

A member of the public spoke to commend to council the community value of the Macc Pub, which is subject to a planning application to convert it to residential dwellings. The resident highlighted the community involvement with the pub through events, music, charitable engagement and accessibility. It was also commented that the pub had been present since the 19th Century

and contained heritage features. Concern was expressed at the impact of the pub being closed on match days, concentrating fans in one area and that the planning application associated with the pub proposes inadequate parking provision.

- ii. Cllr Laura Jeuda, Cheshire East Council (CEC) ward member for Macclesfield South.

Relating to the proposed development of the Macc Pub.

Cllr Jeuda commented that the pub is hub for community spirit, supports local charity events, including SUSO and that the site is now subject to an Asset of Community Value (ACV) application.

- iii. Cllr Brian Puddicombe, Cheshire East Council (CEC) ward member for Macclesfield South.

Relating to the proposed development of the Macc Pub.

Cllr Puddicombe echoed the previous comments relating to this proposed development.

Relating to Item 6.2.vi on the agenda

Cllr Puddicombe informed the council that CEC has recently passed a similar resolution and that councils owe it to young people to address issues relating to environmental sustainability.

- iv. Regarding Agenda Item 8

A resident of the town informed the council of their support for the opportunity to accept a statue relating to the heritage of the Silk Road trade route. The member of the public also commented on the opportunities for cultural exchange with leaders of arts and music projects from China.

Following which, the meeting was reconvened.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL 13TH MAY 2019

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

4. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

4.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee 22/3/19

4.2 Minutes of the Planning Committee 12/4/19

4.3 Minutes of the Planning Committee 26/4/19

4.4 Draft minutes of the Planning Committee 24/6/19

The minutes were noted

Relating to item 4.1 and public comments on the proposed development of the Macc pub and the ACV, supported by 77 community members:

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee is directed to re-consider planning application 19/1140M at its next meeting (7/6/19), noting that this forgoes the required 3 clear days of notice for agenda items

5. COMMUNITY SERVICE DELIVERY

5.1 Macclesfield Local Policing Unit (LPU)

Sgt Simpson provided a verbal update to members relating to the Local Policing Unit (LPU) and the assets the council has previously funded.

TruCam – This device has been used almost daily around the town by PCSOs and has caught hundreds of speeding motorists, helping to deter speeding and increase road safety.

Police Bikes – continue to be an effective engagement and targeted crime prevention tool

Electric Bikes – Awaiting training, but expected to be a positive asset in the east of the town where the topography is more challenging for bikes

Schools Engagement – The drugs awareness kits funded by council are in constant use with the schools liaison officers and helps with awareness of the risks of the current County Lines operations.

County Lines – The LPU took part in a nation week of Action (led by the National Crime Agency), focussing on the trains station. Also working on “Cuckooing” – the action of criminals to take over the residence of a vulnerable individuals for the purposes of drug dealing. There has been some success, and the LPU continues to work with local housing associations.

ASB – The LPU has been working with 35 young people and seen great success in terms of low numbers of return visits to the police station by these young people.

Roof top garden – the police station has introduced a sustainable roof top garden

It was noted that PCSO community engagement may be improved if “surgeries” were held at busier locations and times, eg at the supermarket on a Saturday.

5.2 Disability Information Bureau (DIB)

The Chief Officer of DIB updated the council on the work of the fundraising officer, funded for 1 year by the council.

In the first year, the fundraising officer has raised close to £50,000 (more than the £17,500 target to match the employment costs). This demonstrates a good level of sustainability for the role and the future of DIB. DIB has also developed corporate fundraising assets and has launched Community Cars, a community transport scheme, and is now progressing with the induction and training of 10 new volunteers.

DIB would like to return with other 3rd sector partners to update council on their joint work

6. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 20/5/19

6.1 Minutes

Noted

6.2 Proposals

- i. That MTC begin the process of application for a Neighbourhood Development Plan, involving a *Designated Area* encompassing Macclesfield's whole parish

RESOLVED: That the consideration and decision is deferred until councillors have had the opportunity to digest all available information relevant to the decision as it relates to Macclesfield.

- ii. That Macclesfield Town Council resolves to encourage CEC to publish a new Air Quality Action Plan as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: That the proposal is passed, such that Macclesfield Town Council will write to CEC seeking that they publish a new Air Quality Action Plan as soon as possible.

- iii. That MTC resolves to ask CEC to halt all planning applications within 500m of an Air Quality Management Area until a new AQAP is published.

RESOLVED: That the proposal is passed, such that Macclesfield Town Council writes to CEC seeking that the new AQAP is published and implemented urgently.

- iv. That MTC resolves to ask CEC to follow own guidelines in relation to spatial planning and transport laid out in Local Air Quality strategy for Cheshire East Council October 2018

RESOLVED: That the proposal is passed, such that Macclesfield Town Council writes to CEC urging it to follow its own guidelines in relation to spatial planning and transport laid out in Local Air Quality strategy for Cheshire East Council October 2018

- v. That Macclesfield Town Council should investigate why an Air Quality Monitoring device (CE91) was removed from its location in Broken Cross/Chester Road.

RESOLVED: That the proposal is passed, such that Macclesfield Town Council will write to CEC seeking a detailed understanding as to why an Air Quality Monitoring device (CE91) was removed from its location in Broken Cross/Chester Road.

- vi. That Macclesfield Town Council declares a Climate Emergency and that this affects all future decision making of the council.

RESOLVED: That the proposal is passed such that Macclesfield Town Council declares a Climate Emergency and that this affects all future decision making of the council.

7. LIT

RESOLVED: That the funding request of £5,000 is approved subject to the following conditions:

- i. Evidence that match funding has been secured
- ii. That detailed evaluation and feedback is provided to council following the event
- iii. Evidence of the outreach to schools and others is evidenced
- iv. That the event demonstrates how it meets the council's sustainability aims

(Note: a standard condition of funding is that the activity clearly recognises the Council's financial support in all of its promotional and related media)

8. CHINA & SILK ROAD HERITAGE

8.1 Correspondence relating to a potential statue

RESOLVED:

That the offer of a statue to mark the western end of the traditional Silk Road Trade Route is accepted (*subject to statutory and land owner consents*) and:

- i. That the statue should be located in a town park (*not Christchurch Gardens, as referred to in the correspondence*)
- ii. That the council consults with the community, with specific reference to the Chinese community in Macclesfield
- iii. That the installation of the statue seeks to build cultural engagement with young people and the town's silk heritage.

8.2 Silk Friendship Working Group

RESOLVED: That the past work of this group is passed to Services as a standing agenda item

9. COMMUNICATIONS

RESOLVED: That the past work of this group is passed to Services as a standing agenda item

10. PARKS & PLAY AREAS

RESOLVED: That the project goes ahead (subject to detailed proposals) and that Cllr Warren acts as Lead Member on this item.

11. GARDEN FESTIVAL

RESOLVED: That the Garden Festival is awarded up to £1,700 based on the submitted figures for equipment hire and musicians' expenses, plus an allowance for the provision of composting/sustainable toilet hire.

12. CHURCHILL WAY MURAL IMPROVEMENT

RESOLVED: That this item is considered by the Services Committee

13. CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The report was noted

14. MACCLESFIELD CYCLE STRATEGY

RESOLVED: That this item is considered by the Services Committee

15. PLAYING OUT

RESOLVED: That Macclesfield Town Council seeks that CEC progresses an amended or new policy to facilitate the scheme in Macclesfield

16. MACCLESFIELD HALF MARATHON

RESOLVED: That Macclesfield Town Council approves the funding request of £4,000

17. MIDDLEWOOD WAY LIGHTING

It was noted that CEC cabinet will be discussing items relating to this proposal and members expressed a clear expectation that this proposal was in the first instance a CEC responsibility for funding. The CEC cabinet will be requested to fund this lighting project and council updated at its next meeting.

RESOLVED: That this item is deferred to the next meeting of Council

18. MACCLESFIELD YOUTH SUMMIT

RESOLVED: That this item is considered by the Services Committee

19. THE CHRISTIE

RESOLVED: That this item is considered by the Finance Committee

20. SPEND TO DATE

RESOLVED: That the spend and bank reconciliation is approved.

21. GOVERNANCE REVIEW

21.1 Transparency Policy

21.2 Grants Policy

21.3 Equality Policy

21.4 Quality Policy

21.5 Procurement Policy

RESOLVED: That these items are deferred to the next meeting of Council

22. MEMBER ITEMS

22.1 Cllr Aliff Harewood

That Macclesfield Town Council should seek to generate a list of properties that have been empty for 5 years or more and investigate what can be done to bring them back in to use.

RESOLVED: That Macclesfield Town Council should seek to generate a list of properties that have been empty for 5 years or more and investigate what can be done to bring them back in to use.

22.2 Cllr Mick Warren

That Macclesfield Town Councillors can identify locations for the provision of community noticeboards, with consideration for permissions and also ongoing responsibility for keeping them up to date.

It was clarified that ward members, having identified a location and means of maintaining the contents, can seek a notice board for their ward in discussion with the Town Clerk. This does not require council or committee approval. Approval of the land owner will be required.

22.3 Cllr Liz Braithwaite

That Macclesfield Town Council delivers 4 open forum public town meetings per year.

RESOLVED:

- i. That Macclesfield Town Council provides for two scheduled public meetings (one in September and one in January) in addition to the Annual Parish Meeting.
- ii. That Macclesfield Town Council provides for an additional public meeting of flexible date to accommodate issues of interest to residents should they arise during the year.

23. CORRESPONDENCE

None

24. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of Macclesfield Town Council is at 7pm, 15th July 2019, at Macclesfield Town Hall.

Meeting Closed 9.12pm

Chair Cllr Janet Jackson MBE
Clerk Pete Turner