

Report Statement

Report Purpose:

To update committee on progress and work associated with local service delivery.

Author:

Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Town Centre Manager and Events Officer.

6.1 Events update

Park Fit

We are delighted to say that Park Fit has now returned to its original home – South Park. The first session was well attended with 21 participants and the second session had 31 people take part.

Eco update - 14th May

This session was held at the town hall with 28 people coming along to hear about the progress made since the last eco-summit in May 2021. Attendees were also given the opportunity to suggest what the next eco summit in October should focus on.

Bikeathon - 14th May

This community event was supported by the events team and delivered in partnership with Just Drop In and Allgood Cycling.

Report from Allgood Cycling:

We were lucky with the weather which along with the deck chairs, tables, ice cream and other stalls led to a proper event atmosphere which we have never quite created before. We had lots of on the day sign-up's plus a few generous donations. Over £6,000 was raised for Just Drop In.

Queen's Jubilee celebrations

For the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations on the weekend of 4th June 2022, nationally, communities were encouraged to share a picnic lunch with their neighbours. The events team worked with a key location in each ward to try and bring a party to each area. St Michael's church are held an additional party for the town centre. We also supported an additional 2 parties through the community grant scheme. One at Rossendale Trust and one at the veteran's breakfast club.

The weekend went well. The weather on the Saturday was beautiful with the parties at CORE, St Michael's, the community allotment and Calvary Church all benefitting from the sunshine. In complete opposition, the weather on the Sunday was very

heavy rain and wind. Despite this, every single event went ahead. Some were adapted and maximised the use of indoor space but attendance was good and community spirit very high.

Below are brief reports from the jubilee party hosts that we worked with to deliver the jubilee celebrations.

Macclesfield Veterans Breakfast Club

The event was a roaring success and everyone who attended had a brilliant time, it was fantastic. There were 40 people in attendance. We are so grateful to the town council for the grant, it was a huge help.



East ward, St Paul's Church

See attached report

West and Ivy ward - Calvary Church



On reflection and after talking to many who attended the event, including Mike Wein from Cheshire Silk Radio station. we would estimate around 750 plus people who attended the event within the four hours, we dished out over 300 afternoon cream teas. (It took 9 minutes to give out 300 cream teas, not sure if that's a world record!). All the self employed and local business people who attended were amazed at the amount of people, and all of them benefited from the day and enjoyed it immensely. I do feel sorry for the face painter though who did not stop for a solid 4 hours with children queuing and going away with smiles on their faces.

Everybody who I have spoken to, said it was great to be with friends, listening to music and sitting outside in the sun. Neighbours and friends from the local area were able to chat and they have not seen throughout the covid period. We had people attending from all backgrounds and ethnic groups all enjoying the relaxing atmosphere and many making new friends. I was speaking to an Indian couple who have just moved into the area 12 months ago and have not really been out due to covid, They were really blessed by the interaction of everybody around and started to make new friends. the children from the estate absolutely loved playing on the

bouncy castle playing table tennis and doing the children's activities. they were all pleased that it was a free event and thanks both to the town council and other volunteers who helped put it together.

Tytherington ward – Tytherington Family Worship

Soaked to the skin, but we did it !!!

Our team of volunteers all turned out.

Track races were great fun for adults and children.

We had 4 face painters who worked non stop under cover.

Cosy story tent for the little one which the parents were eager to come into out of the rain.

Chatting gazebo where lots of conversation were happening.

Traditional table top games - tin can alley, roller ball etc continued to the end of the event

St John's ambulance crew of 4 people!!! turned up and help out with tasks and walked around the park interacting with folk.

Inflatables were continually being dried of and used much to the delight of the children and would you believe some adults.

Continual tea and coffee served to keep everyone snug.

We sang together as a community. Lots of swaying hips and waving hands.

Cllr David Edwardes arrived and looked amazing in his Henry the Eighth costume.

Due to the weather, people had dressed in rainwear so our fancy dress plans were scuppered, but one little boy had his royal palace guard costume on regardless of the weather.

We closed the event to the sound of all of our voices singing Jerusalem and God save the queen.

Hurdsfield Ward – Green in the Corner

The Hurdsfield event was held on the green in the centre of the estate. Despite the very wet weather quite a lot of people came along and joined in. We had a few organisations involved providing activities and information – 1st Hurdsfield Scouts, Holy Trinity Church, Macclesfield Seals, and Macclesfield Pride. They all enjoyed the opportunity to speak to members of the community and let them know what their group does.

We had a barbeque serving free food, and the Green in the Corner served free drinks and cakes. (We served at over 150 people.) We had booked some inflatables, but have postponed these due to the weather. We plan to book these for a morning in the summer holidays and have Fun Morning for local children.

The event was a fabulous opportunity for people to share things they enjoy – from the vintage vehicles which attended to many varieties of cake!



South Ward – Cre8

Although the rain came down in buckets on the day, our Neighbourhood celebration event at St Barnabas on the Moss was a huge success. With over 450 people in attendance, from all over the community of the Moss Estate, local people put on an event to remember. In the weeks preceding people from all generations and backgrounds were involved with preparations such as getting the gardens looking wonderful, constructing a giant throne, baking cakes, making robes, putting together an activity booklet and working out craft activities.

Town Council funding enabled us to provide a free BBQ to everyone who came as well as a bouncy castle for the kids. Our partners at Peaks & Plains helped us put together souvenir goodie bags for those attending and those who couldn't make it down on the day.

Local people made cakes, ran craft stalls, raffles, a giant 'Jubilee Throne' photo station, kids games, knitting sessions – all ideas and suggestions that came from Open Community Meetings where anyone could come along with ideas and wanting to help out. Having the combined resources of Cre8, through National Lottery Funding, and St Barnabas, enabled these activities to take place and encourage people from our Community to get involved.

Funding secured from Arts Council England – 'Let's Create Jubilee' enabled Cre8 to provide a programme of workshops and sessions in the months leading up to the event. Young people were heavily involved in arranging songs from each decade of the Queen's reign, alongside our partners at Apple Dance, who choreographed performances to each piece. The performances were a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all involved as well as those who attended on the day.

A huge thankyou to everyone involved, especially those who came down to celebrate on the day - the rain won't stop the Moss from having a good time!



Upton Ward – CORE

We had an amazing afternoon of fun here in Upton Priory celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. Thankfully the sun was out and so were at least 200 friends, neighbours and local residents who joined us throughout the celebration where they enjoyed bouncy castles, ice creams, giant gardens games, face painting and refreshments. The Queen herself (local resident and co-organiser Angela Turner) joined us, as well as several movie characters, including Snow White, Captain Jack Sparrow and a number of dinosaurs!

We were also joined all day by local Macclesfield Town Councillor Ruth Thompson who not only welcomed everyone to our celebration but also helped out setting up the stage, gazebos, stalls and bunting. Special thanks also to the volunteers from the Church of the Resurrection who made sure the tea and coffee flowed and the strawberries and cream were always fresh.

Huge thanks also to Macclesfield Town Council for their financial support in creating this event. Comments from local residents included....

“It's been such a long time since we've had a community party...this is great!”

“What an amazing day!”

“Absolutely brilliant day...well played everyone”

“Thank you to everyone who helped organise yesterday. Really great fun. Well done all!”

“Fabulous event with so much effort from all involved x such fun n friendly folk x thank you so much”

Central ward - Christchurch

Donna did a fantastic job of pulling together a load of cost-effective activities for the whole family to enjoy, her staff are incredibly talented singers and musicians and helped out elsewhere brilliantly! The second-hand books went well too, as did the tombola. And all in spite of the dreadful weather!! We now have a few legacy items such as the tables and the trees which we hope to use to good effect to promote more events within the church.

Of course we had a busy period with Party in the Pews then Atomic Kitten all in the weeks running up to Jubilee. We also snook in an evening of music to make the most of the toilet costs which also went well. Time for a bit of a break now for all our volunteers we feel, although gardening will continue on Saturdays of course.

Many thanks for your support.

Party for the town – St Michael's Church

We were blessed by wonderful weather and the help of many wonderful volunteers. We think about 40 members of the congregation plus 15 family and friends were involved in putting together this amazing event. Plus another 15 or so from Macclesfield Music centre who provided the entertainment in church. We estimate around 350 people including lots of children attended; based in part on the staggering amount of food served.

We distributed about 150 books about the Queen's 60 year reign and the importance of her Christian faith.

The children were well entertained with Jubilee themed crafts and parachute games, so the parents were happy.

We were also visited by some VIPs, including the Deputy Mayor, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. And our smart brand new benches in the churchyard, generously funded by the Town Council, were well and truly "launched" and much appreciated. We were delighted to have this opportunity to engage with our neighbours in the town centre community, but we couldn't have done it without the support of the Town Council; it's generous grant and loan of gazebos, bunting, deck chairs and patio sets; and it's assistance with publicity.



And the afternoon was appropriately brought to a rousing conclusion by a 20 minute peal on our wonderful bells by our equally wonderful ringers.

This all helped to keep our costs down; as did the contributions of many church members in providing bunting, BBQ, games and craft materials; our access to free, surplus food from Fareshare and Project Grow; the musicians from MMC and the services of our office staff and cafe manager offered free of charge for this event.

Upcoming event dates

Macc-POW! Comic art festival – 2nd and 3rd July

The events team are working with local artist Marc Jackson to deliver this event which attracts people from all across the country to Macclesfield.

Macclesfield Pride - 9th July

Plans are underway for a pride parade and town centre event on this date. There will be a stage in Market Place which has been programmed by Pride to include solo performers, singers, and groups. Pride have also worked to involve the whole of the town, by running two different trails, plus additional events such as a film night at Cinemac. They are also once again running their hub which has been supported with the use of a unit by the Grosvenor Centre.

South Park Centenary community picnic – Mayoral Civic event – Saturday 13th August

Plans are being finalised for the Mayor's first civic event – a community picnic to celebrate one hundred years of South Park. Afternoon Tea For Two boxes are being prepared by a local vendor and will be handed out on a first come first served basis as well as vouchers for free ice creams and coffee's. There will also be live local music in the bandstand, face painting, craft tables from ArtSpace and Flower-crown making from Grow Macclesfield.

Older persons Day - 1st October

This year, we plan to hold a face to face party to celebrate National Older Persons Day. Meetings will be held shortly to establish the format.

Nature Needs You Eco Summit - 8th October

The annual Welly Walk event will have a new twist this year as due to synergy with the eco-summit, the two events are being combined. Macctastic will lead on town centre educational talks in St Michael's church while the town council events officers (working with local groups) will lead on the family aspect of the eco summit in West Park.

Tree of Light - 8th December 2022

Preparations are underway for this year's Tree of Light ceremony. The programme will remain broadly the same as previous years, providing a space for remembrance and reflection in the busy Christmas period.

Late night shopping – 15th December 2022

This will be the date of the event this year. Quotes have already been received for the marquee and the event is planned to follow a similar format to last year, with a more structured format so that people know what is on and when things finish.

Chinese New Year - 21st January 2023

The first meeting to plan this event will be held in July.

6.2 Christmas Lights switch on event

Decision required - please see attached report.

6.3 Floral displays

Ansa have completed their part of the floral displays and will also be watering them this year. The Town Rangers are also responsible for certain baskets and planters which they will maintain and water.

Castle Street has benefited from new planters and plants from the welcome back fund, which the Town Rangers will maintain and look after.

The Britain in Bloom committee moves forwards with the plans for Macclesfield's entry and have set a route. The portfolio has been submitted and will be made public as soon as the judges have been it includes the involvement of community groups and allotments, businesses, town rangers or parks and green spaces, sustainability and future plans.

6.4 Public toilets

Update from last services continues to apply. We are pleased that a bid to the national government submitted by CEC and match funded by MTC for a changing places toilet in the town centre has been successful. These facilities will be situated at the back of the indoor market, and we await a feasibility report from CEC to see if this is viable.

6.5 Festoons

No issues to report

6.6 Jordangate tree lights

Highways have provided us with a tree report and confirmed that the lights are safe to be put back on the trees as soon as they have been pruned by the ranger team.

6.7 Tunnickliffe Trail

Still awaiting clarity on whether planning permission is required. This is being chased regularly.