

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 9th February 2016 at 5.30pm at Macclesfield Town Hall.

In Attendance: Cllr Martin Hardy
Cllr Gareth Jones
Cllr Philip Bolton
Cllr Janet Jackson
Cllr Neil Puttick
Cllr Beverley Dooley
Cllr Liz Durham

Also in attendance: Cllr Adam Schofield and the Town Clerk, Pete Turner

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Ainsley Arnold, who was attending a Cheshire East Council (CEC) meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr G Jones – Declared a non-pecuniary interest in items associated with allotments as an allotment holder at Birtles Road site.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to invite questions from members of the public. There were none.

3. MINUTES OF THE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20TH OCTOBER 2015

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

4. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

The Town Clerk gave a brief verbal update on the progress with regard to planning of 2016 switch on event and progressing possible further provision with available budgets. The Christmas lights panel are to meet contractors and return to committee or council with recommendations.

5. ALLOTMENTS

The Town Clerk gave an overview of the circulated report and updated members on the recent receipt of Heads of Terms for transfer of allotments from CEC to Macclesfield Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk continues to negotiate with Cheshire East Council on the transfer of allotments until such a point as there are material options to be considered. At which point the Town Clerk will return with a report to this committee with the associated information for consideration.

6. BUDGET SETTING

The Town Clerk was asked to highlight the budget lines that this committee are responsible for in future reports. The 2016/17 approved budget was noted.

7. WEBSITE & COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY WORKING GROUP (WCSWG)

7.1 WCSWG Update

Cllrs Puttick and Schofield updated the committee with regard to the launch of the new website and requested that members feed in to the updating and maintenance process.

With regard to town entry signs, the committee was informed that locations for 9 out of 10 sites for signs had been identified and agreed with CEC Highways. The designs for the signs with the specifications as informed by CEC Highways will be used to request quotes for the provision of the signs, which will be installed by CEC Highways. A report will be taken to full council with costs and designs for consideration so that the project can be implemented.

7.2 Councillor Surgeries

Cllr Puttick gave an overview of an initial “surgery” which he and Cllr Jackson delivered at the Treacle Market in November 2015. Members commended Cllr Puttick on the engagement and suggested that such events might be known as something other than surgeries. Members broadly supported the principle of having a Macclesfield Town Council presence at public events to raise the profile of the council whilst also taking the opportunity to engage with the community and understand their priorities and ambitions for the town. It was noted that engagement should include retailers and businesses. Members were asked to consider what engagement events they would like to see taking place and how they might be resourced. It was noted that WCSWG will take a formal

report to Full Council to consider a formal communication and engagement strategy and its resourcing.

8. ASSET & SERVICE PROVISION

8.1 Street Furniture

Members discussed the provision and ownership of public furniture, including identifying that this includes all areas of the town, not just the Town Centre. Cllr Hardy is to return to this committee with proposals associated with the development and implementation of an appropriate provision strategy.

8.2 The Brick Project

Cllr Puttick gave an overview on the proposed project for the town and clarified that the project would have an appropriate structure, communication strategy and procurement process.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the project is approved by this committee (subject to gaining property owner's permission) and that Finance Committee is asked to confirm the funding.
- ii. That the theme for the project is "Macclesfield".

8.3 Floral Displays

Members discussed the opportunity to increase provision of the displays through the approved budget. It was clarified that opportunities to display around the town as well as the town centre should be explored. Members will return to council with proposals following a site visit with ANSA.

8.4 Queen's 90th Birthday permanent provision

Members were encouraged to consider a permanent commemoration of the Queen's 90th Birthday.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Town Council provides 90 trees in the town to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday to be planted by the community in visible locations.
- ii. That the Finance Committee is asked to confirm the funding.

8.5 Queen's 90th Birthday Beacons

Cllr Puttick recommended to the committee that a visible and memorable way of marking the Queen's 90th Birthday would be to join in the beacon lighting scheme.

RESOLVED: That Cllrs Puttick and Hardy work together to arrange the lighting of a beacon to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday.

8.6 Queen's 90th Birthday Clean for the Queen

RESOLVED: That Cllr Hardy leads the delivery of this project.

9. CCTV

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Town Clerk is authorised to sign the SLA for 2015/16 and 2016/17
- ii. That the strategy for CCTV provision 2017/18 is discussed at the next Services Committee meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Due to the confidential nature of business, public and press will be excluded from the meetings under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

10. ASSET AND SERVICE DEVOLUTION FROM CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Town Clerk, with the support of Cllr Dooley, commences work on a Comfort Scheme in the Town Centre
- ii. That the Town Clerk continues to press for transfer of Weston Community Centre, keeping East Cheshire Housing Consortium up to date at all relevant opportunities.
- iii. That, in relation to the transfer of Public Conveniences, the Town Clerk awaits further communication from CEC, takes the appropriate action and updates this committee at its next meeting.
- iv. That, in relation to Town Centre Management, the Town Clerk awaits formal communication from CEC, takes the appropriate action, including informing the associated councillor panel (Cllrs Dooley, Jackson and Durham) and updates this committee at its next meeting.

11. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Services Committee will be held on 12th April 2016 at Macclesfield Town Hall.

Meeting Closed at 7.21pm

Chairman – Cllr Martin Hardy

Clerk – Pete Turner