

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd May 2016 at 7.00pm at Macclesfield Town Hall.

In attendance: Cllr Alift Harewood
 Cllr Matthew Sharrocks
 Cllr Janet Jackson
 Cllr Neil Puttick
 Cllr Philip Bolton
 Cllr Martin Hardy
 Cllr Adam Schofield
 Cllr Gareth Jones
 Cllr Chris Andrew

Also in attendance was the Civic Officer, Harriet Worrell and the Town Clerk, Pete Turner.

The meeting was opened in prayer by the Mayor's Chaplain, Revd Helen Byrne

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Beverley Dooley
Cllr Liz Durham
Cllr Ainsley Arnold

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Gareth Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 12.1 as an allotment holder in Macclesfield.

There were no members of the public present

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL AGM 17TH MAY 2016

RESOLVED: That the minutes are accepted as true record of the meeting

4. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- 4.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee 14/3/16**
- 4.2 Minutes of the Planning Committee 4/4/16**
- 4.3 Minutes of the Planning Committee 28/4/16**

The minutes were noted

5. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

5.1 Draft minutes of the Finance Committee 3/5/16

The minutes were noted

6. MINUTES OF THE SERVICES COMMITTEE

6.1 Draft minutes of the Services Committee 12/4/16

The minutes were noted

7. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS (SLA)

7.1 Cheshire East CAB North

Members discussed the draft SLA and identified an error relating to payment dates which will be amended to show that the second payment is payable from 1/10/16 (not 1/7/16 as displayed in the draft circulated).

RESOLVED: That the Service Level Agreement is approved as amended for the payment schedule.

8. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

The Town Clerk introduced the item to clarify that, working in partnership with the Cheshire East (CEC) Regeneration of Macclesfield town centre, CEC had provided a quote for town centre lighting works, which they hoped Macclesfield Town Council might support.

Members discussed at length the opportunities for lighting improvements to the town centre, welcoming the proposals, but identifying other areas more associated with the night time economy, such as Chestergate and Park Green, although there was the point raised that the investment in areas not currently used in the evening could promote night time businesses starting up ("chicken and egg").

Members sought some proposals with mock up images to have a clearer understanding of what is to be considered. Members also sought clarification on ownership of the infrastructure to be installed and therefore maintenance.

Members identified the importance of ensuring that any contribution from the Town Council was properly recognised and promoted.

RESOLVED: That the proposal for Macclesfield Town Council to financially support town centre lighting projects in principle is recognised and that more detail is requested from CEC which can be considered by the Services Committee and recommendations brought to Full Council in due course.

9. CORPORATE STRATEGY

The Town Clerk introduced the draft Corporate Strategy as a living document that can be revisited and informed as the town council develops and its service delivery is defined. Members were asked to consider the means of defining strategy for the council and direction for officers.

Members discussed the draft document and clarified that it was important to be able to revisit the strategy and update it as required.

RESOLVED: That the Corporate Strategy is adopted with the opportunity to revise it as required and agreed by Full Council.

10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Town Clerk gave an update on the provision of Christmas Lights for 2016, identifying that the Services Committee had resolved to progress a hire contract so that a new scheme of lighting could be introduced in line with last year's costs.

Members noted the minutes of the Services Committee and the comments of Town Clerk.

11. END OF YEAR AUDIT

11.1 Macclesfield Town Council

RESOLVED: That the Audit submission is approved

11.2 Macclesfield Charter Trustees

RESOLVED: That the Audit submission is approved

12. ASSET TRANSFERS

12.1 Allotments

RESOLVED: That the Heads of Terms are approved and that approval of the completed contract is delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Services Committee.

12.2 Weston Community Centre

RESOLVED: That the Heads of Terms are approved and that approval of the completed contract is delegated to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Services Committee.

13. COUNCIL STAFFING STRUCTURE AND RECRUITMENT

RESOLVED:

- i. That the report is received
- ii. That the amended structure, including new post is approved as recommended to Full Council
- iii. That the resolutions of the Personnel Committee as listed in the report are noted

14. SPEND TO DATE

Members sought that regular direct debits might be paid in advance annually to avoid bank charges and potentially negotiate cost reductions.

It was clarified that 6 cigarette bins were bought to be supplied to town centre businesses to help address some of the litter problems in the town.

Members sought an update on the Town Entry Signage and were told that the town council was awaiting a quote for installation works from Cheshire East Highways.

RESOLVED: That the spend is approved.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None

16. MEMBER ATTENDANCE 2015/16

The attendance register was noted.

17. ITEMS ARRISING FROM THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (17/5/16)

Item 3.2 within the Annual Town Meeting minutes identified that the following was resolved:

The Town Council to arrange a Public Meeting as soon as practicable where CEC and Ask Real Estate will repeat the presentation that they are to give to the Make it Macclesfield group on May 20th on their proposed development. This meeting is to be held at a time and location that is accessible to most people e.g. a weekday evening at the Town Hall or St. Michael's church.

It was clarified by the Town Clerk that the Town Council has an obligation to consider and discuss any resolution passed at the Annual Town Meeting, but does not have an obligation to agree with or deliver the resolution.

Members discussed the resolution at length, commenting on the importance of clear representation of the community and recognising their request for a public meeting. It was highlighted that the Town Council did not have the power to insist on CEC or ASK attending and presenting to a public meeting.

It was also identified that the pre-application process will include public meetings and the Town Council should take an active part in this process.

Members agreed that it was important to hold public meetings at times and places accessible to all, highlighting recent Macclesfield Town Council

consultation events which were repeated during the day and in the evening to enable as many as possible to attend.

It was also agreed that Macclesfield Town Council has a key role in publicising any meetings and consultation activity associated with the regeneration projects taking place in the town and members and officers will play a proactive part in doing this.

The Town Clerk sought clarification that no further specific action was resolved within the discussion and this was confirmed by the members present.

18. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of Macclesfield Town Council is 7pm, 11th July 2016, at Macclesfield Town Hall.