

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2016 at 7.00pm at Macclesfield Town Hall.

In attendance: Cllr Alift Harewood (Mayor)
Cllr Beverley Dooley (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Chris Andrew
Cllr Liz Durham
Cllr Adam Schofield
Cllr Gareth Jones
Cllr Philip Bolton
Cllr Neil Puttick
Cllr Janet Jackson
Cllr Matt Sharrocks

Also in attendance was the Town Clerk, Pete Turner, The Civic Officer, Harriet Worrell, and Laura Smith of the Disability Information Bureau.

The meeting was opened in prayer by the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev Helen Byrne, and a minute's silence was held in remembrance of Jo Cox MP.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a short address identifying the voluntary sector as a key contributor to the community of Macclesfield and described being elected mayor of Macclesfield as a blessing and an honour. The Mayor thanked all those at the meeting for taking the time to attend.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Martin Hardy
Cllr Ainsley Arnold

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare pecuniary & non-pecuniary interests in relation to any item on the agenda.

There were none.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting to invite questions and comments from members of the public.

Liz Braithwaite addressed the meeting expressing her acceptance of the council's decision not to support her suggestions from the Annual Town Meeting, but also her disappointment that the council had not contacted her following it's meeting on 23/5/16, where this was considered. Ms Braithwaite asked the council to consider how it should communicate its decisions in future.

The meeting was then be re-convened.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL AGM 23RD MAY 2016

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

4. DISABILITY INFORMATION BUREAU (DIB)

Laura Smith, Chief Officer of DIB, gave a brief overview of the circulated information, identifying the need for additional capacity and resource to develop the service's accessibility strategy. Members sought clarification from Laura with regard to the benefits of additional resources; the availability and need for changing spaces for people with special needs; representation for better access on to coaches; details of the fundraising strategy and business plan; what events and fund-raising activities are carried out at DIB; how the work and successes of Dib might be communicated; and the opportunity for a third sector service hub.

In response Laura clarified the added value of additional capacity and resources; the opportunity for additional fund-raising; the ability to publish and up to date accessibility guide for Macclesfield; and the further work of DIB with regard to supporting people with needs and promoting accessibility in Macclesfield.

RESOLVED: That consideration of funding the accessibility project is deferred to the next full council meeting, with members specifying in advance what additional information they would like to see supporting the funding request.

5. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

5.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee 16/05/16

5.2 Minutes of the Planning Committee 03/06/16

5.3 Draft minutes of the Planning Committee 24/06/16

The minutes and draft minutes were noted.

6. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

6.1 Draft minutes of the Finance Committee 4/07/16 [to follow]

The draft minutes were noted.

7. MINUTES OF THE SERVICES COMMITTEE

7.1 Draft minutes of the Services Committee 20/06/16

Cllr Jackson requested that she is included within the informal bloom champions group as referred to at agenda item 6.3 of the above minutes.

The draft minutes were noted.

8. CHALC MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED: To approve membership of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils - £1,429.31

9. CIVIC AWARD SCHEME

The Civic Officer, Harriet Worrell, was thanked for the work of updating the policy and application process.

RESOLVED:

- i. That all of the new Civic Award categories are approved and implemented.
- ii. That the Mayor of Macclesfield's Civic Award scheme is implemented on an annual basis.

10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Cllr Dooley gave a verbal update with regard to the Christmas Lights provision and the Switch On Event, identifying that the budget is expected to be met, but it will be close. Cllr Dooley also identified that the infrastructure testing and reinstatement costs were high due having not been previously tested (or no record of). Entertainment is being booked for the switch on event, including stage and on street entertainment.

11. CCTV CONTRIBUTIONS

Members discussed the review of the provision of CCTV and identified additional provision at Sparrow Park as well as the work of the Services Committee to review overall provision and value for money.

The Town Clerk was asked to arrange a visit to the CCTV control room in September for members.

RESOLVED: The CCTV Service Level Agreement with Cheshire East Council is approved- £31,450

12. SPEND TO DATE

RESOLVED: The Council's spend to date is approved as shown in the submitted financial reports: May £7,799.21; June £31,376.16

13. CORRESPONDENCE

None

14. MEMBER ITEMS

14.1 Mayoral Honour

Cllr Schofield led members in formally congratulating Cllr Aliff Harewood on the recent announcement in the Queen's 90th Birthday Honours List of her award of MBE in recognition of her work for the community of Macclesfield.

14.2 Town Crier

Cllr Jackson introduced the item and clarified that the report was seeking an in principle decision with further detail to be brought to a future meeting. Members expressed clear support for the idea and welcomed the added value such an initiative would bring.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the principle of the creation of the post of Town Crier for Macclesfield is supported.
- ii. That Cllr Jackson, supported by the Town Clerk, returns to Full Council in November with a detailed proposal, to include costs and details of promotion, the post description and the launch event.

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.

15. COUNCIL STAFFING STRUCTURE AND RECRUITMENT

The Town Clerk introduced the item, detailing the process followed, risks and response to the recruitment process.

Cllr Durham expressed her clear disappointment at not being included in the recruitment panel, requesting that this be noted.

The confirmation and continuation of the recruitment process, risks and response to the recruitment process was noted.

16. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of Macclesfield Town Council is 7pm, 12th September 2016, at Macclesfield Town Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.13pm

Chair	Cllr Aliff Harewood
Clerk	Pete Turner

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