

MACCLESFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

Full Council

Minutes for the meeting held on Thursday, 7th July 2015 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Macclesfield Town hall.

In attendance:

- Cllr L Durham
- Cllr B Dooley
- Cllr J Jackson
- Cllr P Bolton
- Cllr M Sharrocks
- Cllr N Puttick
- Cllr G Jones
- Cllr A Harewood
- Cllr A Schofield

Also in attendance were Pete Turner (Macclesfield Town Council Interim Clerk) and Diane Smith (Cheshire East Council Town centres Manager).

1. MAYOR'S ADDRESS

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Cllr M Hardy
- Cllr C Andrew
- Cllr A Arnold

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr G Jones declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7 of the agenda, being an allotment holder within Macclesfield and allotments forming an aspect of transferred assets from Cheshire East Council.

The meeting was adjourned to allow for comments and questions from the public in attendance.

- i. Eileen Talbot, speaking as a senior voice for Macclesfield's Older People's Network.

Mrs Talbot spoke on the creation of the network, its aim for information sharing and the current concerns it is aware of in terms of the perceived diminished representation of the network within the town, the unsure future of the Senior Citizens' hall and how will the network be included in the work of the newly formed Town council.

Councillors speaking from a Cheshire East view spoke about the Partnerships Committee and Cllr Dooley agreed to feed back the work of this committee to Mrs Talbot.

Councillors also indicated that the grants policy being considered at this meeting could be an avenue for funding for the network.

Councillors assured Mrs Talbot that the council is very interested in working with all community groups in the town and welcome their input in to the work of the council in the coming months and years.

- ii. Alderman Carolyn Andrew pointed out that the Town Hall seemed lacking in the provision of a hearing loop or equipment for people with hearing impairments attending meetings, which could hinder their inclusion and involvement in future town Council meetings.

Councillors agreed with the comments made by Alderman Andrew and confirmed that the Town Clerk would write to Cheshire east Council to request consideration and provision for future meetings.

- iii. Liz Braithwaite asked for clarification as to how members of the public should contact the Town Council and how the Town Council will keep people up to date with details of meetings and the work of the council.

Councillors reported on the work already commenced by the Website and Communications Working Group and clarified that the council is still very new and that this was only the second meeting of the council. Work is in progress and a website is intended to be launched as soon as is practicable.

Ms Braithwaite also pointed out that the public wished to engage with the Town Council and that she had particular concerns with regard to the future of car parks in the town. Councillors welcomed this and indicated that the work on communications was a clear initial priority and work was progressing well. It was also agreed that

Car parks would be an item on the agenda for the forthcoming Services Committee meeting (21/7/15).

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL ON 21ST MAY 2015

The draft minutes of the meeting of Macclesfield Town Council on 21st May 2015.

Resolved:*The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.*

5. PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Town Clerk clarified details within the circulated report relating to proper consideration of planning applications, such that Macclesfield Town Council is a statutory consultee on planning applications within the parish and should have a formal means of response.

Resolved:

- i. *That a planning committee for Macclesfield Town Council is established*
- ii. *That the membership of the committee is confirmed as:*
 - Cllr Neil Puttick*
 - Cllr Aliff Harewood*
 - Cllr Gareth Jones*
 - Cllr Beverley Dooley*
 - Cllr Philip Bolton*
 - Cllr Liz Durham*
- iii. *That the committee meets on Mondays at 7pm in the Town Hall according to the following schedule:*
 - 20/7/15*
 - 10/8/15*
 - 7/9/15*
 - 28/9/15*
 - 19/10/15*
 - 9/11/15*
 - 30/11/15*
 - 21/12/15*
 - 11/1/16*
 - 1/2/16*
 - 22/2/16*
 - 14/3/16*
 - 4/4/16*
 - 25/4/16*

16/5/16

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE

6.1 Full Council

Resolved: *That the Terms of reference as circulated for Full Council are approved.*

6.2 Services Committee

Resolved: *That the Terms of reference as circulated for the Services Committee are approved.*

6.3 Personnel Committee

Resolved: *That the Terms of reference as circulated for the Personnel Committee are approved.*

6.4 Finance Committee

Resolved: *That the Terms of reference as circulated for the Finance Committee are approved.*

6.5 Planning Committee

Resolved: *That the Terms of reference as circulated for the Planning Committee are approved.*

7. DEVOLUTION OF ASSETS AND SERVICES FROM CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

The Town Clerk outlined the circulated report and indicated that little progress had yet been made as the responsible Cheshire east Council Officer had been leave. However, it is expected that details of the proposed transfers will be made available in due course.

Resolved:

- i. *That the Town Clerk is authorised to continue to negotiate with Cheshire East Council with regard to Asset Transfer.*
- ii. *That the Town Clerk report to the Services Committee and Full Council with updates and progress.*

8. WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

Councillor Schofield highlighted the work so far of the group progressing the delivery of a website for the council and consideration of multiple channels of communication. It was requested that all councillors provide 5 contacts within the community who would be willing to act as website testers and those members of the public present were also invited to give their details to be included in the testing of the councils developing website.

Resolved:

- i. *The membership of the group was confirmed as:*
 - Cllr Schofield*
 - Cllr Puttick*
 - Cllr Sharrocks*
 - Diane Smith*
 - Pete Turner*
- ii. *The Terms of reference for the group were confirmed*

9. GRANTS POLICY

The Town Clerk introduced the item and directed members to consider the circulated draft policy and application form. It was clarified that, once approved by this council, the grants would be available to be applied for. It was also clarified that the policy and application could be reviewed on an ongoing basis to allow the facility to meet the needs and aims of the community.

Resolved:

- i. *That the grants policy is approved as circulated*
- ii. *That the grants application form is approved as circulated.*

10. MEMBER ITEMS**10.1 World War One Commemoration**

Councillor Jackson introduced the council to the group leading on the commemorations relating to World War One and requested that the council take the time to consider the requests of the group. Cllr Jackson then handed the discussion to Diane Smith under Item 11 of this agenda.

10.2 Fair Trade

Cllr Harewood commented that Macclesfield had supported the Fairtrade principals during the administrations of both Macclesfield Borough Council and Macclesfield Charter Trustees and that she hoped that this heritage of support for Fairtrade would continue with Macclesfield Town Council

Resolved:

- i. *That Macclesfield Town Council supports the principal of Fairtrade.*

- ii. *That Macclesfield Town Council will source Fairtrade tea, coffee and refreshments whenever practicably possible.*

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Diane Smith spoke to the circulated correspondence and commended the work of the World War One Commemoration Committee, who had carried out detailed research in to the whereabouts of numerous relocated World War One memorials relating to servicemen of Macclesfield.

The group aim to return the memorials to Macclesfield and are seeking the Town Council's support to find a permanent home for them within the town, preferable Macclesfield Town hall.

It was clarified that all the memorials as yet located were in good order and not currently at risk and that there would be some costs associated with *their relocation*

Resolved:

- i. *The Chairman of the WW1 Commemoration Group will be the Mayor, Cllr Liz Durham.*
- ii. *That the Town Clerk contacts Cheshire East Council to request consideration for the principal of relocating World War One war memorials located outside of the ton to the Town Hall.*

12. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of Macclesfield Town Council is 7pm, 8th September 2015, at Macclesfield Town Hall.

Cllr Durham issued her apologies for the meeting of 8th September.

Meeting closed at 8.11pm

Chair – Cllr L Durham

Clerk – Pete Turner