

Macclesfield Town Council Annual Report 2017-18

Mayor's Annual Report

Cllr Beverley Dooley was invested as Mayor of Macclesfield on 15th May 2017 and appointed Sebastian Dooley as her Consort, Fr Paschal of St Alban's Catholic Church as her Chaplain, and Kieran Forshaw from ATC 201 Sqn as Mayor's Cadet. The Mayor's theme "caring for one and all" was reflected in her choice of charities: Reach Out and Recover, a support in the community organisation, offering their service users a safe, secure and stable environment in which they can start to tackle their addictions and personal issues, and Space4Autism which supports the whole family by holding monthly parent support meetings/workshops and events and clubs for all ages.

Mayor's Events:

- Sunday 23rd July Civic Service
- Saturday 9th September Charity Afternoon Tea
- Saturday 7th October Charity Quiz Night
- Saturday 24th February Charity Ball
- Sunday 15th April Thanksgiving Service
- Sunday 22nd April St George's Day Parade and Service
- Sunday 6th May Mayor's at Home and Civic Awards Ceremony

The Charity Ball was a great success, with over 80 guests enjoying a 3 course dinner and dancing. The event raised £1800 from ticket sales, raffle and auction.

Over £4000 was raised by the Mayor's charity events during the course of the year.

The Mayor's Christmas card competition saw the Mayor engaging with the primary schools and resulted in hundreds of entries. After much consideration, 3 winners were selected and their designs were used for the Mayor's official Christmas cards. 25 runners up were selected for an online advent calendar displayed on the council's website home page.

The Civic Diary has been as busy as previous years with the Mayor attending over 170 engagements and supporting council initiated events such as Cycle Saturday, Welly Walk and the Christmas Lights Switch On. Appointments range from teaching cubs about heraldry, to official openings, to presenting prizes and to attending exhibitions. Highlights include judging the annual

Treacle Market dog show, the Eid celebration, legion d'honneur presentation and the Rotary swimathon. The Mayor has also attended several civic and charity events hosted by Town Mayors in Cheshire East.

The Mayor would like to thank the Deputy Mayor and Councillors for their support during her term in office.

Community Engagement Annual Report

St George's Day

On Sunday 23rd April, Macclesfield celebrated St George's Day with the sun shining down on Market Place. Children were given the opportunity to take part in a Knight's Training School in St for being part of St George's team in the battle against the dragon. There was a dragon hunt, a shield making activity, hot food, face painting and balloon modelling.

Waters Green Morris Dancers provided some brilliant entertainment and Macclesfield Youth Brass played some music to add to the atmosphere of the day. Macclesfield Community Artspace created a fearsome dragon which mingled with the crowds during the day, eventually being slayed by St George and his army of newly trained mini Knights.

The parade set off from Duke Street at 2:30pm and was assembled by Parade Marshal Peter Lake and led by Macclesfield Youth Brass Band Drumming Corp. Those involved included local dignitaries, Scouts and Guiding groups.

The parade then led into St Michaels Church where there was a service of commemoration of St George as the Patron Saint of England. St George's Day is an important day in the scouting calendar when promises are renewed and this formed part of the service.

Cycle Saturday

We launched our new cycling route leaflets with an event on Saturday 1st July. A their Grand Depart in the afternoon. The event promoted cycling in the area and was attended by around 1000 people.

British Nerf Championships

The first British Nerf Championships took place in South Park on Saturday 2nd September. 20 participants navigated the inflatable obstacle course while aiming at unique targets created by Artspace.

The sun shone all day while families enjoyed the free activities including a Nerf target range, face painting and badge making.

Welly Walk

On Saturday 14th October, we held a Welly Walk event in West Park. Families followed a play trail hunt around the park. Each time they found a sign, they were provided with an idea of an outdoor play activity to try.

Local actor Sam Redway provided a storytelling circle where children of all ages gathered around, sitting on log seats, to hear fictional tales about West Park.

The Macclesfield RSPB explorers encouraged children to take part in a birdwatching activity and helped them to identify lots of different types of garden birds, along with providing advice on how to look after our feathered friends over the winter.

There was a forest school provided by Cheshire Falconry which gave children the chance to toast marshmallows over a fire they helped to make, den making sessions, birds of prey and bush craft sessions.

There were also lots of creepy crawlies and mini beasts for children to hold and learn about.

The event was designed to encourage outdoor play throughout the colder months and with almost 1,000 people enjoying the free activities, Welly Walk will be back in 2018.

Pumpkin Path

On Saturday 28th October, we held a Halloween event which took place in Market Place.

Despite the wet and windy weather matching the gloomy and spooky theme, lots of families turned up to enjoy the frightful fun.

Macclesfield Community Artspace built and ran the 'Graveyard Café, Space 4 Autism invited children to do some creepy crafts and ROAR (Reach out and Recover) provided some ghoulish games.

Two giant pumpkins roamed around in the Town Centre, danced to some spooky music and entertained people on the day.

8 pumpkins were hidden in shops around the Town Centre and those lucky enough to find them all were able to help themselves to a treat...or a trick!

Tree of Light

Macclesfield Town Council were handed the reigns for this event by Orbitas last year.

The theme of Tree of Light is to remember loved ones at Christmas time. People wrote Christmas messages on stars which were hung on the Market Place tree.

We held the event in the Town Centre for the first time, with the intention of singing carols around the tree. However, the snow, rain, wind and hail helped to make the decision to move the event indoors to St Michael's Church.

With over 600 people attending despite the awful weather, Tree of Light will definitely return in 2018.

Cycle Saturday

On Saturday 10th March, local cyclist Darren Allgood delivered the second Cycle Saturday event. This is part of a plan to hand over some of our events which can be packaged, to the community.

This event saw lots of people take part in cycling themed activities including balance bikes for children, a static cycling challenge, a smoothie bike and a chance to see the bike doctor.

Community Engagement round up

The Community Engagement Officer has been working on:

- Supporting community groups to deliver their own events
- Working with Utopia (group for local LGBTQ young people) to plan Macclesfield Pride
- Attending and contributing to partnership meetings across the Town
- Becoming part of the newly established Town Centre partnership group
- Working with Youth Fed (part of the National Citizenship Service) to develop an effective engagement plan for social action projects going forward
- Establishing a Mail Chimp version of MaccUpdate to increase our communication methods
- Establishing a group of volunteers and carrying out the planning for a Macclesfield parkrun
- Building a relationship with local schools which will deliver several projects in conjunction with the Town Council in the coming year
- Working with local cycling group Macclesfield Wheelers to develop the Cycle Saturday events
- Becoming part of the North Engagement group and working together on community projects such as establishing Connected Community Centres
- Encouraging community groups to apply for Town Council grants

Local Service Delivery in Macclesfield

“What does Macclesfield Council actually do?”

It’s a fair question and also we are a small council and a young council, so our “impact” may not be readily felt yet. So, hopefully to help answer the above question, I have compiled a list of projects and activities we have delivered and are going to deliver in the near future. I hope you find it useful.

Reporting – we report and follow up issues with street cleansing, highways maintenance, street lighting, anti-social behaviour and drainage on a day-to-day basis

We installed and maintain Defibrillators in the town centre

Small environmental projects, such as bird boxes for nesting birds in the town

We work with community groups to help them access funding, services and build partnerships to punch above ours and their weights – eg Age UK, CVSE, Civic Society

We work closely with allotment groups prior to transfer and will be investing in the allotments, empowering the allotment societies to more actively manage their sites.

We maintain a close partnership with the larger authority and its subsidiaries (ANSA, Orbitas etc)

We invest in public arts – displays

We invest time and money in local community groups to progress their individual aspects of community enrichment, such as Artspace and Barnaby

We fund community events around the town such as Hurdsfest and family fun days on the Weston and Moss estates.

We have an ongoing discourse with Cheshire East Council with regard to local service delivery and the potential transfer of assets, services and responsibilities

There is a significant governance responsibility which leads to practical interventions

Regarding local planning issues, we are a second line of consultation, taking an active role in larger and more challenging planning issues

The council is taking a proactive stance supporting the regeneration of the town, investing in public realm improvement projects

One of our early successes was the increase and focussed investment in the floral displays in the town, which continue to have a positive impact on the public realm.

We have delivered the very well received Brick Project I, II & III

We fund the larger third sector agencies in Macclesfield and continue to encourage their ongoing sustainability (eg CAB, Make it Macclesfield, DIB, Barnaby, Silk Heritage Trust)

We fund and take an active interest in the CCTV provision in Macclesfield

The Town Council has taken bold and positive moves when delivering and enhancing the town centre Christmas Lights provision and the very well attended switch on events

Developing relationships with communities in China and working with schools in Macclesfield to promote the cultural links along the historical Silk Road

Our civic function has grown and developed to include a mayor's Cadet, taking a leading part in the acts of remembrance, provision of Civic events, the introduction of the Town Crier, the Civic Awards

We give numerous talks to community groups through the year as a means of engagement and the opportunity to identify new projects, sustainable solutions for community facilities and services and building partnerships.

The council has been able to directly influence conservation projects, particularly on Middlewood Way, along the Bollin and at Riverside Park

Concerns relating to local services have been progressed and represented at numerous local and national consultations, such as Hospital services and the relocation of waste services away from the town

We have taken a lead on providing a sustainable approach to the delivery of community events in Macclesfield, following the changes to the enforcement of temporary road closures for community events. These changes meant that the costs of road closures would prevent most events from taking place. We have invested in the community, training volunteers from the Rotary, Barnaby, Artspace and Macclesfield Council staff to be authorised to enact temporary road closures, therefore removing the vast majority of the cost restrictions on community events.

Promoting activity and opportunities to take part in sport, including the production of cycle trail information and promotion

We have taken on a community facility (Weston Community Centre) which was significantly underused and financially unsustainable and found worked in partnership with the third sector to deliver a building that is being refurbished and will soon be in far greater use.

Working with Cheshire East to secure the future of the Senior Citizens' Hall

We are working on new projects for local infrastructure investment, such as car charging points on council car parks

We have invested in community equipment – gazebos, PA, generator and road closure signage

Taken a lead on the development and delivery of events – Cycle Saturday, British NERF Championships, Annual Pancake Race, ABF Pipe & Drum, St George's Day as well as others.

We provide advice to community groups and the public, such as The Potato Riot, Macclesfield Garden Festival and third sector engagement projects

Each year we provide community grants, this year to 25 community groups and charities with a budget of £65,000

We work with town centre businesses, keeping them informed of the projects coming to the town centre, events being planned and building relationships with key town centre stakeholders (large retail, businesses and Grosvenor Centre)

We lead on local promotion, focussing on the opportunity to enjoy the town's heritage and the surrounding countryside

We have resolved to find an innovative partnership approach to working with CEC visitor services to seek to ensure this service in the town centre for years to come.

There has been an ongoing and developing relationship and partnership with the local policing team, which will see us investing in and influencing local policing in Macclesfield – Operation Sheild, Schools Liaison, Police bikes and more

We have had an active engagement with schools and young people, giving talks, arranging tours of the Town hall and Mayoral visits

We maintain a very efficient operating model, for example maintaining low staffing numbers and meeting financial reporting requirements, IT and professional support (HR & H&S) through negotiated contractors with external service providers.

We are looking to invest in the towns parks and play areas, working in partnership with ANSA and augmenting the current provision, with £100,000 committed for investment this year

This year we will be investing in youth activities and summer schools as well as promoting active lifestyles, providing opportunities for activity and linking these to promoting Macclesfield

We seek to find a sustainable solution for the future provision of accessible toilets in the town centre

Provision of the new Town Entry Signs

Renewing and delivering the tree of light event

Maintaining and developing communications through traditional and social media as well as developing mailing lists

Through the year, we have repaired, reinstated and provided public realm benches and seating

Cleared Middlewood Way by the River Bollin and Tesco

As well as this, on a day to day basis, we advise and direct multiple resident queries and complaints on much broader issues than we directly provide, we fulfil to the highest standards of audit and financial responsibilities, meet with the community, community groups and residents through the community engagement work and enhance and develop the civic function, pride and services

We welcome the input of the community in to our local service delivery and invite you to attend our meetings or contact the office with any suggestions, comments or queries.

The Council's Finances

The Finance Committee led the council through a detailed budget-setting process that began in September 2017, with the final budget for 2018/19 being approved in January 2018.

How Macclesfield Town Council will use your £39.77 council tax precept.

Payment of £39.77 based on a band D home per year.

1. Staffing (20%)
2. Projects and Events (19%)
3. Community Investment Projects (12%)
4. Administration (9%)
5. Christmas Lights (8%)
6. Community Delivery (7%)
7. Floral Displays (6%)
8. Community Enforcement and Policing (5%)
9. Community Grants (5%)
10. Local Planning (5%)
11. CCTV (4%)

Please note that Macclesfield Town Councillors do not cost any money, it is a voluntary role.

Your Local Councils

Macclesfield Town Council - What we do

We are the parish council for the town of Macclesfield

- Community Grants
- Floral Displays
- Christmas Lights
- Street Sports
- CCTV
- Local Promotion
- Community Events
- Mayor of Macclesfield
- Parkrun (South Park)
- Funding for Parks & Play Areas
- Remembrance Events
- Economic Development

Call on 01625 374241

Cheshire East Council – What they do

They are the principle authority for all of Cheshire East, including what was Macclesfield Borough

- Schools
- Highways
- Waste collections

- Council Tax
- Benefits
- Licensing
- Social Services
- Planning and Building Regs
- Public Health
- Crematorium
- Car Parks
- Road gritting
- Regeneration

Call on 0300 123 5500

These lists are not exhaustive but hopefully helpful.

Annual Financial Return for 2017/18

The information in the table below is taken from the working details for the Annual Return for year ending 31 March 2018. For a breakdown of year-end figures, please contact clerk@macclesfield-tc.gov.uk or call 01625 374142.

Table 1 Annual return income and expenditure

Income/expenditure	Last Year	This Year	General notes for Guidance
Balances brought forward	£401,307	£729,836	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the Council Financial Records
Annual precept	£679,857	£695,369	Total amount of Precept income received in the year
Total other receipts	£2,536	£6,394	Total income or receipts recorded in the cash book minus the Precept
Staff costs	£87,202	£116,303	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and expenses
Loan interest/Capital repayments	£0	£0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the Council borrowings

Income/expenditure	Last Year	This Year	General notes for Guidance
Total other payments	£266,662	£446,011	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook minus employment costs and loan/interest expenditure/payments
Balances carried forward	£729,836	£869,285	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year
Total Cash and Investments	£701,272	£819,417	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held as at 31 March
Total Fixed Assets	£4,742	£4,742	The recorded current book value at 31 March of all tangible fixed assets owned by the Council as recorded in the asset register
Total borrowings	£0	£0	The outstanding capital balances as at 31 March of all loans from third parties

The Council

Broken Cross Ward

Cllr Liz Durham

Cllr Martin Hardy

Central Ward

Cllr Beverley Dooley (Mayor)

Cllr Janet Jackson

East Ward

Cllr Philip Bolton

Hurdsfield Ward

Cllr Matthew Sharrocks

South Ward

Cllr Neil Puttick

Cllr Chris Andrew

Tytherington Ward

Cllr Ainsley Arnold

Cllr Gareth Jones

West & Ivy Ward

Cllr Alift Harewood

Cllr Adam Schofield (Deputy Mayor)

The Committees 2017/18

Finance Committee

Cllr Andrew

Cllr Schofield (Chairman)

Cllr Durham (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Jones

Cllr Dooley

Cllr Hardy

Cllr Harewood

Services Committee

Cllr Hardy (Chairman)

Cllr Bolton (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Dooley

Cllr Jackson

Cllr Puttick

Cllr Jones

Cllr Arnold

Planning Committee

Cllr Jones (Chairman)

Cllr Bolton (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Harewood

Cllr Dooley

Cllr Durham

Personnel Committee

Cllr Arnold (Chairman)

Cllr Schofield (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Jackson

Cllr Jones

Cllr Durham

Cllr Sharrocks

Cllr Puttick

Attendance Register 2017/18

Members are summoned to attend formal council and committee meetings throughout the year (as well as attending many informal meetings) and their attendance is formally recorded.

Cllr Liz Durham

Attended 21 (75.0%)

Apologies 7 (25.0%)

Cllr Martin Hardy

Attended 7 (43.75%)

Apologies 9 (56.25%)

Cllr Beverley Dooley

Attended 28 (93.3%)

Apologies 2 (6.7%)

Cllr Janet Jackson

Attended 10 (83.3%)

Apologies 2 (16.7%)

Cllr Philip Bolton

Attended 17 (70.8%)

Apologies 7 (29.2%)

Cllr Matthew Sharrocks

Attended 3 (37.5%)

Apologies 5 (62.5%)

Cllr Chris Andrew

Attended 9 (75.0%)

Apologies 3 (25.0%)

Cllr Neil Puttick

Attended 9 (75.0%)

Apologies 3 (25.0%)

Cllr Ainsley Arnold

Attended 9 (75.0%)

Apologies 3 (25.0%)

Cllr Gareth Jones

Attended 32 (100.0%)

Apologies 0 (0.0%)

Cllr Alift Harewood MBE

Attended 18 (69.2%)

Apologies 8 (30.8%)

Cllr Adam Schofield

Attended 11 (78.6%)

Apologies 3 (21.4%)

This register only covers formally convened Council and Committee meetings and does not take in to account the numerous informal meetings and briefings attended by members, or their attendance as volunteers on outside bodies and charities

The Offices

Macclesfield Town Hall
Market Place
Macclesfield
SK10 1EA

01625 374142

www.macclesfield-tc.gov.uk

We can also be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram