



Macclesfield Town Council Annual Council Meeting

**Minutes for the Annual General Meeting and Mayor Making held on Monday
15th May 2022 at 7pm at Macclesfield Town Hall.**

In Attendance:

- Cllr James Barber
- Cllr Sarah Bennett-Wake
- Cllr David Edwardes
- Cllr Emma Gilman
- Cllr Alift Harewood
- Cllr Mike Hutchison
- Cllr Sandy Livingston
- Cllr Neil Puttick
- Cllr Ruth Thompson
- Cllr Mick Warren
- Cllr Chris Wilcock
- Cllr Fiona Wilson

1. Election of the Mayor of Macclesfield for 2023/24

Cllr Chris Wilcock was elected Mayor of Macclesfield 2023/24.

2. Election of the Deputy Mayor of Macclesfield for 2023/24

Cllr Sandy Livingstone was elected Deputy Mayor of Macclesfield 2023/24.

The meeting was adjourned whilst the newly elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor received their insignia of office.

The Town Clerk then called upon the Mayor of Macclesfield to read and sign their declaration accepting the office of Mayor of Macclesfield.

The Town Clerk then called upon the Deputy Mayor of Macclesfield to read and sign their declaration accepting the office of Deputy Mayor of Macclesfield.

The meeting was then re-convened.

3. Retiring Mayor of Macclesfield Remarks

Cllr Wilson congratulated Cllr Wilcock and wished him the most wonderful 12 months in the role.

Cllr Wilsons said she has had the most amazing year, and that her interest in politics started at school while attending a class called the 'History Behind the News', never dreaming that she would become the Mayor of Macclesfield, which Cllr Wilson says has been an honour to serve our town.

The Mayoral theme was 'Our Community, Stronger Together', and Cllr Wilson chose this as, being a Councillor, she recognises how important the community is. All the Civic events were open to the community, as Cllr Wilson felt it important to provide free events in the town during this current economic climate, and many residents have told her that it is making a difference.

Cllr Wilson saw it as her role to promote Macclesfield, doing tv and radio interviews, visiting local business', working as a member of the Town Centre Recovery Working group and visiting many community groups and organisations, schools and care homes.

Cllr Wilson thanked the Town Hall volunteers who help out with various events and activities and a thank you event was held for them at the Town hall, where they gave very positive feedback on their volunteering experience.

Cllr Wilson spoke of her charities, Macclesfield Youth Brass Band, who she said have enhanced her year and performed at many events, and North West Air Ambulance, who deliver pre hospital care to those injured. The year was about promoting the charities and raising their profiles.

Highlights of the year were firstly the centenary picnic in South Park, held on a beautiful summers day and where consultation took place on the pavilion design.

Cllr Wilson also spoke of the honour of the Proclamation of King Charles III, the first Mayor in 70 years to do so. Then of the emotional Remembrance Service, where many young people attended.

Cllr Wilson also spoke of the brilliant Civic Awards ceremony held at Macclesfield Football club and the Civic event held at the Town Hall for Macclesfield FC becoming champions.

Finally, her happiest day as Mayor was the Mayor's Coronation Tea Party.

Cllr Wilson then thanked her Consort, her husband, Brian Puddicombe, who has been an amazing consort and become an excellent photographer, and she paid tribute to Brain for his hard work for the community too.

Cllr Wilson thanked her fellow Councillors, saying what a hard working team they are, and the New Mayor and Mayoress and wished them the best of year.

Cllr Wilson thanked the Town Hall staff, for doing a brilliant job, saying they aim high and make a difference.

Cllr Wilson also thanked the community and said there was no greater honour than to service your community, and good luck to all the councillors as they continue the projects from the last administration and work on new initiatives.

Cllr Wilson also thanked retired Cllr Janet Jackson for all her hard work over the years on behalf of the Council.

4. Tribute by the Incoming Mayor of Macclesfield to the Retiring Mayor of Macclesfield and Consort

Cllr Wilcock, said the past 12 months for him have been very exciting, not only was there an election but also as he was honoured to be elected as Deputy Mayor for Cllr Wilson's term of office. Cllr Wilcock thanked Cllr Wilson, saying she took to her Mayoral role like a duck to diving in headfirst into promoting Macclesfield as much as possible. Who could forget her first tv appearance when speaking about the water supply issues in her ward and more recently championing the successful abundance of local shops on Chestergate.

Cllr Wilson's first civic event was the Mayor's Centenary Picnic in South Park which was in conjunction with the consultation of the design of the new park pavilion which the public responded to in huge numbers. Cllr Wilson, as well as her consort Brian, have been incredibly busy over the last year visiting many local organisations ranging from charities to school visits. Cllr Wilcock himself was lucky enough to attend Cllr Wilson's visit of Upton Priory school and the children had a fantastic time in her company and asked some very interesting questions!

He said that he thought one of the highlights of her year, and proudest, was the proclamation of King Charles III, this was the first proclamation in Macclesfield for 70 years and she delivered it expertly.

He stated Cllr Wilson's passion for leisure and sport has been a big part of her year and this culminated in a Civic reception for Macclesfield FC who were victorious in securing another league title and promotion which she was there throughout most of the season.

Finally, Cllr Wilcock said Cllr Wilson has upheld her mayoral theme of "Our Community, Stronger Together" throughout her term of office in all she did, he said we have a wonderful community in Macclesfield and looking back at the events that have been organised the community came out in their droves to support her. So on behalf of the Macclesfield community, thank you.

5. Appointment (if known) of the Mayor's Honourary Chaplain, Mayor's Cadet, Introduction to the Mayor's Charity/ies to be Supported and Plans for the Year

Cllr Wilcock amounted his theme for the year 'Live Macclesfield, Love Macclesfield', he chose this theme as he believes Macclesfield is one of the best places to live with a great community who come together.

Cllr Wilcock appointed Rev Andy Williams from St Michaels and All Angels Church, as his Chaplain, and is in touch with the Air Cadets to appoint a Mayor's cadet.

Cllr Wilcock has chosen charities personal to him, that were very helpful to his mother. Firstly they are East Cheshire Hospice, who do amazing work and secondly the East Cheshire Eye Society where is Mum was a member.

He hopes to hold sporting events including an inclusive pool competition.

He also thanked Katie, his wife, the new Mayoress and his daughter Sarah.

6. Apologies for Absence

There were no absences.

7. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Public Questions

The meeting was adjourned to invite comments and questions from the public.

There were no comments from the public.

The meeting was then reconvened.

8. Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council 6th March 2023

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

Matters that were brought up:

- Cllr Edwards brought up the issue of graffiti with the police.
- Cllr Puttick brought up that there was more police presence at the football ground since the last full council meeting.
- Cllr Puttick also asked the Clerk if we were following up linking Community Enforcement with CCTV. The Clerk confirmed this was the case.

9. General Power of Competence

Resolved:

- It was agreed that the Town Council is eligible to adopt the Power.
- The Power of General Competence was adopted with immediate effect.

10. Calendar Of Meetings

Resolved: The calendar of meetings was approved with the following amendment:

- Planning Committee will take place every third Wednesday evening at 7pm in the library.

11. Committee Appointments

Resolved: The Committee Members were approved as follows:

11.1 Planning Committee.

- Cllr James Barber

- Cllr David Edwardes
- Cllr Mike Hutchison
- Cllr Sandy Livingston

11.2 Services Committee.

- Cllr James Barber
- Cllr Sandy Livingstone
- Cllr Neil Puttick
- Cllr Mick Warren
- Cllr Chris Wilcock
- Cllr Fiona Wilson

11. 3 Finance Committee.

- Cllr Sarah Bennett-Wake
- Cllr Emma Gilman
- Cllr Alift Harewood
- Cllr Mike Hutchison
- Cllr Neil Puttick
- Cllr Ruth Thompson
- Cllr Chris Wilcock

11.4 Personnel Committee.

- Cllr James Barber
- Cllr Sarah Bennett-Wake
- Cllr Emma Gilman
- Cllr Alift Harewood
- Cllr Fiona Wilson

12. Governance Review

12.1 Pre Paid Debit and Credit Card Policy

Resolved: The Pre Paid Debit and Credit Card policy was approved.

12.2 Financial Regulations

Resolved: The financial regulations were approved.

12.3 Risk register

Resolved: The risk register was approved.

13. Audit For Financial Year 2022/23

Resolved:

- The Annual Governance Statement was approved.
- The Accounting Statements 2022/23 were approved.

14. Internal Auditor

Resolved: JDH Business Services was approved as internal auditor 2023/24.

15. External Support Services

Resolved:

- Wirehouse Employer Services was approved for HR and H&S support.
- Shires Pay Services Ltd was approved for Payroll Services.
- Blain Boland & Co Solicitors was approved for legal support.
- John Greenhall & Co was approved for finance and accountancy support.

16. Cheshire Association of Local Councils (Chalc)

Resolved: The renewal of membership of ChALC was approved.

17. Other Memberships

Resolved: The renewal of the following membership was approved

- National Allotment Society.

18. Annual report

Resolved: The 2022/23 Annual Report of the Town Council was noted and received.

19. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of Macclesfield Town Council is 7pm, 12th June 2023 at Macclesfield Town Hall.

Chair: Cllr Chris Wilcock
Clerk: Laura Smith
Meeting Closed: 8pm