



Macclesfield Town Council Full Council

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the on 9th June 2025 at 7pm at Macclesfield Town Hall.

In Attendance:

- Cllr Emma Gilman
- Cllr Sandy Livingstone
- Cllr David Edwardes
- Cllr Chris Wilcock
- Cllr Alift Harewood
- Cllr James Barber
- Cllr Mike Hutchison
- Cllr Sam Hale

1 Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Fiona Wilson
- Cllr Mick Warren
- Cllr Sarah Bennett-Wake

2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Chris Wilcock declared an interest in item 12, as his daughter attended the community support trust activities.

Cllr James Barber-Chadwick declared an interest in item 7.3 as Vice Chair of the Silk Trust

Public Questions

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

3 Minutes of the Full Council Meetings

3.1 Annual Town Meeting Minutes 24th March 2025

3.2 Full Council Minutes 19th May 2025

Resolved: The minutes were approved.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Resolved: There were no matters arising.

5 Planning Committee

5.1 Planning Committee Minutes 12th March 2025

5.2 Planning Committee Minutes 7th May 2025

The minutes were noted.

5.3 Matters arising from the Minutes

Cllr Harewood asked if the Town Council could have a policy to object to all HMO's. Cllr Livingstone said that each planning application had to be taken individually and objected for planning reasons. The clerk suggested that Cllrs email her if they wanted her to look into this.

6 Finance Committee

6.1 Finance Committee Minutes 12th May 2025

The minutes were noted.

6.2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

7 Community Delivery

7.1 Local Police Unit

Chief Inspector Zoe Bowden attended to brief the Council on the local police unit updates. Since the last meeting in March the statistics are as follows for the Macclesfield and Poynton area:

- 916 traffic offences (focus on hotspot areas)
- 49 missing persons
- 150 domestic disputes
- 79 ASB incidents

A range of community safety and engagement measures are underway, with the Macclesfield Multi-Agency Partnership (MAP) enhancing cross-service collaboration, including housing.

Police activity has intensified, with a major drugs warrant yielding approximately £500,000 in seizures and the discovery of a large cannabis farm in Halifax prompting checks on unused properties amid concerns about absentee landlords. Increased beat officer presence is noted, with

more expected, and four operations have been conducted on taxis following resident complaints. A quarterly Community Cohesion Group, which includes youth participants, continues to focus on hate crime and supporting protected characteristics. Traveller encampments are now being moved within 6–8 hours under new legislation, and local businesses will soon receive CCTV guidance, including how to share footage with police. Updates to ward responsibilities are expected on the website this week.

Cllr David Edwardes asked if they were working with CEC on noise cameras on the Silk Road. Zoe said no but they have used them on A34 and it was not proven very useful and there were no plans to use them on the Silk road.

Cllr Wilcock asked about speeding, Zoe explained if there is an area of concern they can tag it. Chris asked if Victoria road was tagged as there was lots of speeding and Zoe said she wasn't sure but she would get it tagged.

Cllr Gilman asked which school is involved and how many children. Zoe replied Macc Academy and 16 children were involved.

7.2 CAB

Will McKellor, attended from the Citizens Advice Bureau. He said in the last quarter there was an increase in demand as there always is after Christmas. There were 193 more clients with 438 issues and a £160,000 increase in income maximisation. Core issues continue to be welfare benefits, relationship breakdowns and debts. Immigration issues also require translation support, raising budget concerns. Cost of living issues remain high; and the CAB have been invited to join "All Together Fairer Commission" (Cheshire East Health & Wellbeing Board) – contributing data and case studies.

Cllr Gilman thanked Will for the work they do and the well written and concise report.

7.3 Silk Museum

Emma Anderson spoke about her report, highlighting the major milestone for the museum: securing Heritage Lottery funding. She noted the strong evidence of local support, including from the Town Council, which was key to their success. The focus now is on delivering the project, which she sees as a bridge to strengthen their relationship with the community. In fact, earlier that day they had met with the football club to explore engagement with its diverse fan base.

They are planning a consultation on how the building could be used over time, with the aim that by the end of the project, it will be a significant heritage asset for the town. Key project elements include developing the café and creating opportunities for the community to use the space—particularly during the evenings. Emma expressed appreciation for being involved in the wider consultation town centre consultation which helped connect them with residents and businesses.

Cllr Hutchison congratulated Emma on the museum's progress, calling it an amazing achievement—particularly the collaboration with the football

community. He asked could the Silkmen Supporters' Trust be involved in ongoing discussions about potential partnerships moving forward.

Cllr Livingstone commented on the astounding level of creativity involved in the project and asked whether the funding included plans to reintroduce traditional skills such as weaving. Emma confirmed that it did, including opportunities for graduates, and noted that the looms are being restored for active use.

At this point in the meeting, Cllr Emma Gilman, Chair, updated that CCTV have said they could not attend the meeting due to staff shortage and that they may attend in the autumn.

8 Governance Review

8.1 Reserves Policy

Resolved: The above policy was approved.

9 South Park Pavilion Update Report for Council

Resolved: To

10 Town Centre Regeneration Working Group

The report was noted.

11 Library / Visitor Information Centre

The report was noted.

12 Fitness for the Future

Resolved: The proposal for further funding was approved for 1 year.

13 Public Realm Steward

Resolved: The proposal was approved.

14 Parks and Play Areas

The report was noted.

15 Date/Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Full Council will be held on 28th July 2025 at the Town Hall.

Chair: Cllr Emma Gilman

Clerk: Laura Smith

Meeting Closed: 8:20pm