



Macclesfield Town Council Full Council

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the on 28th October 2024 at 7pm at Macclesfield Town Hall.

In Attendance:

Cllr Sandy Livingstone
Cllr James Barber
Cllr Alift Harewood-Jones
Cllr Mike Hutchison
Cllr Ruth Thompson
Cllr Mick Warren
Cllr Chris Wilcock
Cllr Fiona Wilson

1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Sarah Bennett-Wake,
Cllr David Edwardes
Cllr Emma Gilman
Cllr Sam Hale

2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr James Barber declared a non – pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.4 Silk Museum as he is a co-opted member of their board and item 10 as a co-opted member of CVSCE board.

Public Questions

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

There were no public speakers (aside from the speakers under Item 7).

The meeting was then reconvened.

The meeting was then reconvened.

3 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 9th September 2024

Resolved: The minutes were approved.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Resolved:

Cllr Wilson updated on the action to set up a meeting with CEC and MHA action regarding car parking. She did request a meeting, but this was politely declined. Cllr Hutchison asked if the Clerk had the feedback from MHA with regard to their car park survey. The Clerk will request this.

5 Planning Committee

5.1 Planning Committee Minutes 28th August 2024

The minutes were noted.

5.2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

6 Services Committee

6.1 Services Committee Minutes 2nd September 2024

The minutes were noted.

6.2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

7 Community Delivery

7.1 Local Police Unit

Inspector Nick Rogers attended in place of Chief Inspector O'Driscoll. He said overall, the crime data Macclesfield for the LPU (includes Disley Knutsford) for last year showed 9944 crimes recorded, out of those prosecuted just under 2000 people, a strong figure. Recorded crimes for this year is 7767 so will be a little bit lower- but prosecution rate remains the same.

Over summer burglaries are more prominent 115 last year and detection rate of 12%. As there was a spike last year, they put things in place and have 88 this year, a 23% decrease, which is excellent.

There was a knife crime operation where 652 people walked through the knife ark, 6 people were stopped and searched, no knives were found. This will happen again before Christmas.

Also, drugs dogs have been used at the train station and 40 people stopped, with 3 arrested and charged. Again, another day planned before Christmas.

Next, he said Operation Treacle starts for 2 weeks covering Halloween and Bonfire night and there will be more patrols etc.

The Public Space Protection Order is in place in the town centre and Officers are working with CEC Enforcement to put another one in place when this runs out next year.

The Mayor thanked the LPU as there has been less ASB in the town centre.

Cllr Willson raised parking at the football club, which has been a big ongoing issue. A meeting has taken place and Inspector Haque attended. A number of steps are being worked on by the police, club and Councillors but it still remains an issue.

Cllr Wilson passed on her thanks to Inspector Haque.

Cllr Wilcock highlighted the irresponsible parking at the cricket club on bonfire night, could this be raised as part of Operation Treacle. Inspector Rogers said he would feed this back.

7.2 CAB

Will McKellar attended and reported on data within the council report. 853 clients were seen over the past 3 months, and the number of issues presenting was 1082. £475000 was brought in for residents in income maximization.

A pension credit session was set up with the Town Council at the Town Hall, and the CAB were able to give information to residents, with some attendees entitled to pension credit which they did not know and have now applied. They have followed up with other sessions in their own offices.

Will said the means tested benefits are the most underclaimed and so they must keep working to ensure people are aware of what they can be entitled to and to help them claim.

CAB also deliver other specialist services, including a family service which has just received funding from the National Lottery to aid struggling families plus they will be offering a session at the Core pantry to aid people who use this food support service.

Domestic fuel support continues to be in high demand and expected to increase over the winter months.

Cllr Hutchinson asked about case study 3 in the report, asking if it is difficult to mean test people for benefits? Will answered that in its most basic form it is straightforward, however as most benefits are modular, health etc. can come into it making it more complex.

7.3 CCTV

Jim Sharp, Operational Manager of CEC CCTV, attended. He updated that the switch from analogue to digital cameras was almost complete with only 4 more cameras needing switched on the outskirts of town.

Cllr Wilson asked about the incident at the underpass, near the Travel Lodge, and that she believed the perpetrators had been caught. Jim confirmed this and said that there was cameras at the underpass, and they were able to track the offenders and contact the police to get them arrested. He also said that week they had also been able to track down a vulnerable missing young lady using the camera network.

Cllr Livingstone said that the Council to spend a significant amount on contributing to CCTV and therefore expected a written report for Council meetings with statistics and case studies.

Resolved: The clerk will contact CCTV Manager to ensure they have the date of Full Council and can provide a written report.

7.4 Silk Museum

Emma Anderson updated that they are just about to embark on a capital program, with Cumberbirch, a local company. They are hoping there will not be too much disruption and are not planning to close the museum. Funding has come from a number of places and will offer a new open archive allowing people to engage as they never have before. Hopefully it will launch in spring.

The Macclesfield Football Exhibition has begun, and it is going very well, the launch was fantastic. They are also working on Woman's Line and are looking to put together funding applications to extend this work.

Regarding income generation, the current financial situation is better than expected, and Paradise Mill admissions are very pleasing. Emma also thanked the Town Council for the contactless giving post to encourage donations.

Cllr Hutchison, asked about the football exhibit, and the number of people attending was not quite as high as anticipated. He said as a coopted member of the Silkmen Supporters Club, could the club announce and share information about the exhibition. Emma agreed and said she will contact the club. Emma said the stories of the fans were of most interest and they need to find a way to capture these stories and share them.

Cllr Harewood asked if the football exhibition would be permanent, and Emma said they envisaged it to be permanent, however they want to develop it.

Cllr Wilson added that the launch of 'When football came to Macclesfield' was a fabulous evening, and she agreed that the stories told by the speakers were very emotional and that the Silkman supporters club would be perfect for telling their stories.

Cllr Livingston commended them on connecting history to the people and he attended the 'People of Paradise Mill' and declared the History Hunters amazing.

8 Governance Review

8.1 Communications and Community Engagement Strategy

8.2 Banners, Aboard and Signage Policy

Resolved: The above polices were approved.

8.3 Banking for Current Account Proposal

Resolved: The proposal in the report was approved.

9 South Park Pavilion Update Report for Council

To note the updated report.

10 Contracts

Resolved: The proposals in the report were approved as follows:

- The floral contract will be extended to ANSA for one year for the same price.
- The CVSCE contract will be renewed for 3 years for £12,000 per year.

11 Finance Reports

The following reports were noted:

11.1 Income and Expenditure

11.2 Bank Reconciliation and Receipts and Payments

11.3 Detailed Balance Sheet

12 Date/Time and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Full Council will be held on 16th December 2024 at the Town Hall.

Chair: Cllr Sandy Livingstone

Clerk: Laura Smith

Meeting Closed 8.05pm