

Report Purpose:

To update committee on progress and work associated with local service delivery.

Author:

Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Town Centre Manager and Events Officer.

6.1 Events update

Please note footfall figures are not available as the contract for the collection was funded by CEC and it has come to an end. It is now on the budget and will be reinstated.

Spooky Saturday – Saturday 26th October

A spook-tacular day was had by all in town for our Halloween event. As well as old favourites like the ArtSpace Crafty Crypt and the Pumpkin Trail we also welcomed Simon McMannis the pumpkin carver, Cath Cousins and her natural potions and the spectacular Jurassic walking puppets. It was a fantastically busy day – the pumpkin trail proving so popular we needed to print additional maps to meet demand! 45 local businesses took part in the trail this year and we received plenty of positive feedback both verbal and in writing:

Treacle Town Barbers

“Lewis said he saw a lot of footfall going into town at Halloween (not necessarily in to our shop as we’re bookings but we get seen 😊) and there were a few comments about our Pumpkin 🎃 “

Rock a Little Records

“... firstly I would like to thank you for putting together the pumpkin trail, from my point of view the event was a roaring success and footfall I would say was easily doubled great job so if you can include me on the christmas trail that would be great.”

Hadfields

“The pumpkin trail was a success, thank you for arranging it. I saw a good number of families coming to look in the window and had new faces in the shop too. It is so helpful with the shop being a little off the beaten track. Thanks once again for everything you do for the town.”

Modern Woolfare

“Ref the Pumpkin Trail, we had a high footfall of people and gave out lots of sweets to the kids and adults who came down our end of town!”

Pizza Express

“We had a slightly increased number for Saturday lunch and town definitely felt busier on Spooky Saturday.”

Step into Christmas – Saturday 30th November

Yet to have taken place at the time of writing but we look forward to welcoming the people of Macclesfield (and beyond) to a fun, festive day of live music, walkabout entertainment and a variety of activities.

6.2 Floral Displays

The Britain in Bloom event took place on 31st October, and Macclesfield Town Council and the Community won 5 golds, 1 special prize and a silver gilt as follows:

- Gold for Small City
- Gold for Town Centre
- Gold for Pocket Park
- Small Retail Establishment (Totally Locally planters)
- Small Tourist Attraction – Silk Museum
- Silver Gilt for Victoria Park
- Special award for Best Art in the Community (nominated by the Judges) for Ian Curtis Mural

This is an increase on the 3 golds from last year!

Ansa have put 7 planters in the town centre, a reduced amount as the Macc on Foot project will be replacing some of the planters. They are now 2 tier planters, as 3 tier planters were getting knocked over.

6.3 Festoons

We have been told by Cheshire East Council that the festoon lights as part of the shared prosperity fund are planned to be installed in early 2025.

6.4 Christmas lights

At the time of this meeting taking place, the tender for the Christmas lights will be out. The deadline is early February.