

# **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the  
**Community Governance Review Sub-Committee**  
held on Thursday, 11th April, 2013 at The Tatton Room - Town Hall,  
Macclesfield SK10 1EA

## **PRESENT**

Councillor D Marren (Chairman)  
Councillor P Groves (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors J Jackson, B Murphy, P Whiteley and R West (for Cllr Baxendale)

## **Members in attendance**

Councillors L Brown, K Edwards, L Jeuda and L Roberts

## **Officers**

Lindsey Parton, Registration Service and Business Manager  
Paul Mountford, Democratic Services Officer  
Julie Stockton, Communications Officer

## **Apologies**

Councillor G Baxendale

## **83 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **84 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

## **85 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2013 be approved as a correct record.

## **86 PROJECT PLAN**

Members considered a revised project plan for the Macclesfield Community Governance Review.

Members noted that in the event of one or more parish councils being the outcome of the review, any elections were unlikely to be held before April 2015. In the light of this, Members considered the merits of extending the review period to allow more time for advance publicity, public consultation

and feedback, and to avoid holding public meetings and ballots during school holidays.

In considering the matter, Members had regard to DCLG guidance that community governance reviews should take no longer than 12 months. In addition, it was considered unwise to extend the review unduly as this would not allow Members to accommodate any unforeseen slippage in the review process. Therefore, Members agreed that whilst the project plan should be adjusted to allow more time for public consultation and to avoid school holidays, and should reflect the fact that any parish elections would be held in April 2015, the review process itself should take no longer than 12 months.

### **RESOLVED**

That the project plan be further amended in the light of Members' comments and resubmitted at the next meeting.

## **87 CONSULTATION LEAFLET**

Members considered the proposed text of the leaflet to be used for the first stage of public consultation. The text had been revised following comments made at the previous meeting.

The following amendments to the leaflet were agreed:

- The Make it Macclesfield Forum should be included in the 'No Change' section.
- The leaflet should make it clear that in the event of no change to the existing governance arrangements, Cheshire East Council would remain responsible for all local authority services within the unparished area.
- The leaflet should set out the implications for the Macclesfield Charter Trustees under the different governance options.

Members felt that, as with previous reviews, two versions of the leaflet should be produced: one very brief and to the point, and another containing more detail for those seeking further information.

### **RESOLVED**

That the leaflet be amended as agreed and the Chairman be authorised to approve the final version.

## **88 PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Members considered proposals for a number of public meetings for the Macclesfield Community Governance Review. These would involve a

presentation followed by a question and answer session, the purpose being to provide information on the nature and purpose of the review, the community governance options for consideration, and the means by which members of the public could submit their comments. As with previous reviews, Members of the Sub-Committee present at the meetings would focus on the process involved without championing a particular option, in accordance with DCLG guidance.

Members suggested that about six meetings be held, some in the afternoon and others in the evening, but not during school holidays, at a range of locations across the unparished area, including school halls. The officers noted specific suggestions from local ward members.

### **RESOLVED**

That the officers submit proposals for consideration at the next meeting.

### **89 NEXT MEETING**

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 10.30 am at Macclesfield Town Hall.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 11.45 am

Councillor D Marren (Chairman)