

**MACCLESFIELD COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
PUBLIC MEETING
BROKEN CROSS CLUB MACCLESFIELD
8 JULY 2013**

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE	COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE
Brian Reed	Brendan Murphy
Lindsey Parton	Janet Jackson
Julie North	Carolyn Andrew
Rose Hignett	Louise Brown

RESUME OF THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Of the seven options, is it correct to say that only number 2 (A Parish/Town Council) would be an elected body?	Yes, in terms of formal elections. For the other organisations it is possible to elect Borough Council Members to sit on them.
2.	When will we know what services are likely to be transferred over to the Local service Delivery Committee or any future Town/Parish Council?	<p>Not until after December 2013. There are a range of functions that a Town Council can decide to deliver, but they do have to charge to deliver these services. A Town Council has its own way of delivering these services and there are some which the Borough Council could pass down, but we don't know what these would be yet.</p> <p>Member Comment If you elect a Town Council for Macclesfield they will be able to express your views with a collective response, but this will come at a cost, depending on what services Cheshire East decide it can be responsible for. At the moment the Charter Trustees are responsible for historic issues, such as the Mayoralty, Christmas lights, the Remembrance Service and Civic Service.</p>
3.	How will the payment be provided? Will we have to pay Cheshire East and they pass it in?	Yes, the Town Council would decide what services to provide. It would then precept costs and this would be included in the Council tax. An example of where this happened is Crewe where certain assumptions have to be made to create a budget in the first year of the Council.
4.	With the Wilson Bowden development, the proposed road, loss off Green Belt and the requirement for any new development to have 30% affordable housing, we need a say in our own town. It all feels very remote. I don't mind paying more, but don't want a road and a load of shops. Why are we talking about building in the Green Belt? These are all major issues which can't be addressed by a Town Council, which can only deal with minor	<p>In terms of planning, a formally elected Town Council has the right to respond/comment on planning applications, but not to determine them.</p> <p>Member comment It must be accepted that any Town Council would have few powers.</p>

	issues.	
5.	From what has been said, I feel inclined to go down the road of a Town Council.	N/A
6.	<p>There is no local politics on the cheap anymore. I question whether we have funding to be able to achieve favourable changes in our local administration. I don't want to see more parishes or community trusts. I want to see a local Macclesfield Town Council. The funding for that will have to come from the Government. The Government loses billions of pounds through corporate tax avoidance. I appreciate what Cheshire East Council does, but ever since dissolution of MBC we have had to go cap in hand for funding for growth. Macclesfield looks like a train crash, with empty shops and a miserable shopping centre, struggling for cash. I am not looking for an expensive administration with Mayors/cars/town twinning. I want better social services, more funding for health, better planning for the development of the town centre. We must reduce business regulations, enforced by remote civil servants. Please consider a Macclesfield Town Council.</p>	N/A