

**MACCLESFIELD COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW
PUBLIC MEETING
IVY BANK SCHOOL MACCLESFIELD
9 JULY 2013**

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

RESUME OF THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

	QUESTION/COMMENT	ANSWER
1.	Is the leaflet up to date, as it does not take account of the Localism Act, which gives more potential for Town Councils to be involved in planning decisions.	<p>This would be fed into the consultation.</p> <p><u>Member Comment</u> If there is a Town council it will not be responsible for planning applications. Neighbourhood plans can be made anyway and have to be consistent with the core strategy. If there was a Town Council the same decisions would be made.</p>
2.	Bollington has a Town Council, so they run themselves. How come they have more facilities than anywhere else in the borough? Because they are a Parish. For me they made the right decision, because they get closer to the community and bring it together. We had a Macclesfield Borough Council, but you chose to leave us and desert us and to sell it all off. There are not enough Labour Councillors. I read reports on the website regarding Crewe. There was only 700 turnout/leaflets to cover 3 parishes. That is not good governance.	N/A
3.	I was unfortunate to sit through the Planning Committee for the town centre planning application. Macclesfield people no longer have a say. It has been taken over by Councillors with no commitment or knowledge of the town. I don't object to paying to have a say, but not if only minor issues. Bollington TC appear to have more clout or their views are taken more seriously. John Prescott decided that Macclesfield would be a unitary Authority. I see that	There is a summary in the leaflet. There are some powers in the localism Act. The Macclesfield area is the only one in Cheshire east that does not have a Town/Parish council. There are certain legal constraints and statutory limitations as to what a Parish/Town Council can do.

	Wilmslow, Crewe and Congleton have a Town Council. Is there any way a Town Council can have more responsibility?	
4.	If we had had a Town Council prior to the Town centre planning application would it have been effective?	Member Comment Yes. I sit on the Strategic Planning Board and it influences me when I see Parish and Town Council comments, but it is not the decider.
5.	The old Macclesfield Borough Council was a good Council and Margaret Duddy was a good Leader.	Member Comment What we wanted originally was to strive for improved working with the County Council. We will never get back to what we had before 2009.
6.	Car parking charges in the town will increase, as the Council is selling the car parking provision to NCP.	N/A
7.	It worries me that there will be services for the young but not the older generation.	N/A
8.	The process for the CGR should have been better publicised.	N/A
9.	With regard to the Cheshire East Local Plan it appears that stakeholders are consulted before the general public. I would have thought that the public are the major stakeholders.	N/A
10.	The areas with a Parish Council, such as Poynton, have said that they don't want development, so it tends to go elsewhere.	N/A
11.	A Town Council seems like a good idea, but it appears that it won't have any teeth, which is a shame. I feel that it is wrong just to have Cheshire East.	N/A
12.	The reason places such as Bollington, Knutsford and Alderley Edge do well is that they have a personality. Also, Bollington has an amazing set of inhabitants. They have a successful, privately run leisure centre. Macclesfield residents need to get together.	N/A
13.	There is an enormous opportunity to get behind the West Park Museum and the Silk Museum. The people of Macclesfield need to work together on this.	N/A