

MACCLESFIELD COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

PUBLIC MEETING MACCLESFIELD LIBRARY 12 JULY 2013

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE	COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE
Lindsey Parton	Ken Edwards
Diane Moulson	Janet Jackson
	Alift Harewood
	Brendan Murphy
	Lesley Smetham

RESUME OF THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Clarification requested of the range of organisations on the Stakeholder list.	Explained that it had been drawn up with the help of the Sub Cttee and included all community organisations, businesses, housing associations, church and faith groups, LAP. Activity in Retirement Working Party based at Town Hall had not been included in stakeholder list.
2.	Question concerning timing of review straight after TC development was approved	Governance review for Wimslow and Macclesfield was first considered in 2011. Delay in launching the Macclesfield review was due to Wimslow being dealt with first.
3.	Do Parish Councillors get paid & would they have offices?	Allowances payments would be down to the PC itself but typically only expenses paid. PC would require premises which it would need to pay for.
4.	What influence would the PC have in planning?	Would be as a statutory consultee only. CEC would consider representations from it as it does with members of the public but can only consider valid planning grounds.
5.	How many residents does the review cover?	Approximately 55,000 with an electorate of 40,000.
6.	If a Council took on services would there be any corresponding funding provided from CEC?	Depends on the services taken over. Funding for a statutory function could follow, unlikely to apply if the service was discretionary.
7.	Would the final model of how the PC might look be subject to negotiation with CEC	Yes. There would be an automatic transfer of some services such as allotments but others would be open to negotiation.
8.	How much would a PC cost?	This would depend on what it did and what services it took over. Gave as an example Crewe TC which had a precept of £35 but was still evolving having only come into existence in April 2013.

9.	Could there be more than one PC for the area?	This could be a possibility if the feedback received during the consultation period supported it.
10.	Businesses in the town were stakeholders but some owners did not live in the town	Businesses were still welcome to complete the feedback forms to provide their views which the Sub-Committee would consider in this context.

COMMENTS RECEIVED

1.	What would happen if stayed the same? CE treats Macclesfield very badly which would continue if no TC to make representations on residents behalf, even if it was limited in its influence.
2.	Macclesfield deserves a proper town Council with full powers, not what is being offered. Driver is CEC wanting to off-load costly/discretionary services without passing over the profitable ones rather than promoting local democracy. Just replacing old layer of local government with a new one.
3.	Having a TC for Macclesfield would complete the model across Cheshire.
4.	The other options proposed are not 'options' in the true sense as they could still exist if a PC was set up.