

**BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT BRAUNSTONE CIVIC CENTRE**

**THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023 AT 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Anthea Ambrose (Chair), Councillor Becca Lunn Scoppie (Vice-chair) and Councillors Sevim Aslan, Nick Brown, Alex Dewinter, Andy Evans, Christiane Startin-Lorent, Imran Uddin (Substituting for Sam Fox-Kennedy), Marion Waterton and Mark Widdop.

Also in attendance was Councillor Tracey Shepherd (Town Mayor)

**Officers in attendance:** Darren Tilley, Chief Executive & Town Clerk and Pauline Snow, Deputy Chief Executive & Community Services Manager

There were no members of the public present.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Richard Forrest, Sam Fox-Kennedy and Paul Kennedy.

**2. Disclosures of Interest**

A disclosure of Non-Pecuniary Interest was made by Councillor Imran Uddin in agenda item 13(b), Community Grant Applications, Winstanley Wizards Table Tennis Club, since Councillor Uddin's children attend the Table Tennis Club.

**3. Public Participation**

In accordance with Standing Order 3.6, members of the public may attend the meeting for the purpose of submitting a petition, making representations, giving evidence or answering questions in respect of any item of business included on the agenda.

There were no members of the public present.

**4. Minutes of the Meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were circulated (item 4 on the agenda).

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

## 5. **Town Mayor's Report**

The Committee received a report on the activities of the Town Mayor and proposals for initiatives during the Civic Year (item 5 on the agenda).

The Town Mayor updated the Committee on the progress she had made in her first week as Town Mayor and confirmed she had visited several venues including Gillys Café, Watergate Lane, the Friday Social Club at Shakespeare Park Pavilion and the Coffee Morning held in the Community Library, to promote the Chatty Café scheme. This charity encourages residents to attend designated Chatty Cafes set up in the local area to help reduce loneliness and isolation. Volunteers were encouraged to come forward to run the Chatty Café table at the venue. Both venue and volunteers need to pay for registration that would be covered by the fundraising undertaken by the Town Mayor. Details of the Chatty Café scheme and how to become involved will be published on the website, social media and through the Braunstone Life.

### **RESOLVED**

1. that the update on the Town Mayor's Engagements be noted; and
2. that the Chatty Café initiative be endorsed.

#### *Reasons for Decisions*

1. *To monitor and review the effectiveness of the Town Council's community engagement activities; and*
2. *To support an initiative aimed at reducing loneliness and isolation.*

## 6. **Community Safety and Neighbourhood Policing Update**

The Chair welcomed PC Fraser Lennox to the meeting to receive an update from the local neighbourhood police team on local community safety and policing issues.

It was noted that both PC Eimer O'Donnell and PCSO Kurt Brookes had now left the beat team. PC O'Donnell had been replaced by PC Jon Marvell.

Members requested an update on the ongoing incident at Meridian Business Park with regards to a protest. It was noted that the issue was still ongoing but on a much smaller scale with only a small number of protestors still onsite. The ongoing situation did not present any danger or concern for members of the public.

Issues with parking on pavements was still ongoing and PC Lennox had attended several reports of inconsiderate parking.

PC Lennox reported on a positive outcome following an arrest at an address in the Town concerning drug dealing. He confirmed that work on anti-social

behaviour would increase over the coming months. An incident of arson at Braunstone Civic Centre was also being investigated.

The new Walking and Cycling route through Mossdale Meadows and Meridian Leisure was scheduled to be opened at the end of June. Members requested support from the police beat team to ensure that any misuse of the route by motorbikes was quickly dealt with in the early days to discourage any ongoing issues. Contact with the Meridian Leisure security team would also be undertaken to help with this issue and any other antisocial behaviour around the new Walking and Cycling route.

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted.

*Reason for Decision*

*To ensure that current community safety and policing updates were received.*

## **7. Speed Sign Data**

The Committee considered the latest speed sign data from Kingsway and Murby Way (item 7 on the agenda).

It was noted that the Police had been undertaking speeding checks on Murby Way.

**RESOLVED**

1. that the speed activation signs be installed on Turnbull Drive and Murby Way; and
2. that the speed activation reports for Murby Way and Kingsway be forwarded to the Police Beat Team.

*Reasons for Decisions*

1. *To ensure that any concerns of speeding on roads within the Town would be monitored and data collected; and*
2. *To assist the Police with identifying where speeding was a concern in order to consider enforcements.*

## **8. Report from Commbus**

The Chair welcomed Nigel Calver and Olly Curran to an received an update on the Commbus Community Transport Service in Braunstone Town.

It was noted that passenger numbers from the local area had increased over recent months and that regular services were being run on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from Braunstone Town.

The Commbus committee were struggling to recruit new volunteer drivers and any publicity from the Town Council would be welcome. Members noted

that most community transport organisations were struggling with recruitment due to changes in insurance criteria and a higher retirement age that had restricted the number of suitable volunteers available.

A new timetable of services was now available, which the Town Council was happy to help promote and publicise.

The representatives of Commbus highlighted the difficulty in reaching vulnerable and isolated residents that may benefit from the service and suggested linking up with local groups and organisations to support residents.

**RESOLVED** that the update be received and noted.

*Reason for Decision*

*To identify current issues and support needs of residents and ensure that the Town Council*

**9. Fete – progress update**

The Committee received a progress update on preparations for the Annual Summer Fete at Mossdale Meadows.

It was noted that most preparation for the annual summer fete had now been completed and attractions included a dog show, children's rides, climbing wall, alpacas, bands, displays, Go Karts, circus skills, mini fire engine, maze and an assortment of food outlets. Twenty-three stalls had been booked for the event with more likely in the coming months.

A short update on the Thorpe Astley On The Beach event was also received and noted.

**RESOLVED** that the activities arranged and proposed to date, be approved.

*Reason for Decision*

*To ensure that suitable activities would be arranged and in place for the event.*

**10. Franklin Park Community Orchard – Events and community activities**

The Committee received a progress report on community use of the Franklin Park Community Orchard, including events and community.

It was noted that a community pruning day was held in the community orchard on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2023 with support from a local Good Gym team.

It was proposed that the annual Apple Day event take place on Franklin Park on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023.

## **RESOLVED**

1. that the updated be noted, and
2. that Apple Day be arranged to take place on Franklin Park on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023.

### *Reasons for Decisions*

1. *To note community involvement in maintaining the orchard; and*
2. *To ensure that suitable activities be arranged for the Community Orchard.*

## **11. Outside Body Report**

The Committee noted that there was no further update on the activities at Braunstone West Social Centre.

## **12. Summary of Grant Applications**

The Committee received a list of grants paid to date and applied for from external sources, along with acknowledgements for Town Council Grants (Item 12 on the agenda).

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### *Reason for Decision*

*To monitor progress with supporting community groups with identifying sources of funding and with the award of grants under the Council's Community Grants scheme.*

## **13. Community Grant Applications**

The Committee considered Community Grant Applications which had been received (Item 13 on the agenda).

## **RESOLVED**

1. that "The Friday Social" be awarded £500, subject to a bank account in the Group's name being set up,
2. that a grant of £300 be awarded to the Winstanley Wizards Table Tennis Club, and
3. that the following grant applications be approved:
  - a) 3<sup>rd</sup> Braunstone Brownies - £300
  - b) 3<sup>rd</sup> Braunstone Rainbows - £150

### *Reasons for Decisions*

1. *To assist with the establishment of a new group which would reduce social isolation and loneliness;*
2. *To support an active club, recognising that it was established and had*

*funds in the bank account and could charge membership fees; and*  
3. *The grant applications met the scheme criteria.*

#### **14. Financial Comparisons**

The Committee received Financial Comparisons for the period 1st April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

*Reason for Decision*

*There were no issues identified with income and expenditure.*

#### **15. Approval of Accounts**

The Committee considered payments from 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 until 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

**RESOLVED** that the list of Approved Expenditure Transactions, for the periods 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 until 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023, be approved.

*Reason for Decision*

*To authorise payments in accordance with the Accounts & Audit Regulations and the Council's Financial Regulations.*

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm

**NOTE:**

*CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 (SECTION 17) – The Council has an obligation to consider Crime and Disorder implications of all its activities and to do all that it can to prevent Crime and Disorder in its area.*  
*EQUALITIES ACT 2010*

*Braunstone Town Council has a duty in carrying out its functions to have due regard to:-*

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;*
- advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and;*
- foster good relations between different groups*

*To ensure that no person receives less favourable treatment on the basis of race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, sexual orientation, age, religion or belief, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.*

*These minutes are a draft and are subject to consideration for approval at the next meeting scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.*