

**BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT BRAUNSTONE CIVIC CENTRE**

**THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022 AT 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Anthea Ambrose (Chair), Councillor Tracey Shepherd (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Ajmer Basra, Nick Brown, Sam Fox-Kennedy, Amanda Hack, Paul Kennedy and Christiane Startin-Lorent.

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

**19. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sam Maxwell, Dipen Nathwani and Marion Waterton.

**20. Disclosures of Interest**

There were no disclosures of any Disclosable Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests by Members.

**21. Public Participation**

In accordance with Standing Order 3.6, members of the public may attend the meeting for the purpose of 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.

**22. Minutes of the Meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were circulated (item 4 on the agenda).

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

**23. Town Mayor's Report**

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

Members were reminded that the annual summer fete would be taking place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August on Mossdale Meadows, 11am – 4pm and that

volunteers were required to help with setting up in the morning and dismantling in the evening.

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted

*Reason for Decision*

*To monitor and review the effectiveness of the Town Council's community engagement activities.*

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

The Chair welcomed PC Stuart Clough to the meeting. The Committee received an update on local community safety and policing initiatives. The latest Police crime reports were circulated to members at the meeting (filed with these minutes).

Members raised concerns regarding the ongoing issue with motorbikes using public footpaths. The Police were limited in what action could be taken due to levels of resources. Intelligence gathering from the public would help to identify offenders. Barriers on footpaths to deter the motorbikes was not an option as these barriers also restricted access to bicycles, mobility scooters and pushchair. Work was ongoing to reduce and apprehend the offenders.

Concern was also raised regarding recent aggravated burglaries in the Town. The police were currently running operations to apprehend offenders, including uniformed and plain clothes officers patrolling areas at night by car, bike and foot. Seven arrests had recently been made and the coming months would hopefully show a decline in burglaries.

Theft from cars was reported as an ongoing issue and residents were urged to ensure that valuables are not left in cars and to check vehicles were locked.

It was reported that there was a planned intake of new Police officers over the summer months but it would be some time before they would be fully trained to a sufficient level to be able to undertake duties independently.

It was confirmed that Sergeant Nick Davis had now retired and a new beat sergeant would be in post later in the year.

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted.

*Reason for Decision*

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

#### **25. Speed Sign Data**

Members considered the latest speed sign data from Withers Way and

Braunstone Lane (item 7 on the agenda).

It was noted that Item 7a, Withers Way, covered the period 30th May 2022 to 11th June 2022.

Accident data had been received from Leicestershire County Council for the stretch of Braunstone Lane between the police station and Bidford Road. The data indicated that there had been 5 accidents in the previous 5 years which included 1 cyclist, 1 pedestrian and 3 car on car. This appeared to confirm that speeding at this location of Braunstone Lane was not resulting in accidents causing death or serious injury.

## **RESOLVED**

1. that the speed signs be replaced on Braunstone Lane and Withers Way in the same area but facing the other direction of traffic; and
2. that further analysis of the data be undertaken to understand the recording of 94 vehicles traveling at less than 15 mph along Withers Way at 3am.

### *Reasons for decision*

1. *To ensure that any concerns of speeding on roads within the Town would be monitored and data collected.*
2. *The significant number of slow moving vehicles during the early hours on Withers Way compared to other speeds and to the rest of the day could not on the face of it be explained within the overall pattern of vehicular movements.*

## **26. Outside Body Reports**

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

## **27. School Governing Body Reports**

The Committee received a report from a member of a School Governing Bodies (item 9 on the agenda).

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

### *Reason for Decision*

*To ensure all members of the community have the opportunity to access the work of the school governors in the area.*

## **28. Library – Community engagement/involvement and social inclusion**

The Committee received the notes taken from the recent Library Consultation Group Meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 (item 10 on the agenda).

It was noted that two volunteers had agreed to set up a craft and chatter group in the library and invite local residents to bring their crafts to the library for a chatter and coffee with other residents.

The Summer Reading Challenge in the library would take place over the summer holidays and local schools had been contacted about the scheme.

Discussions had also been held with Ravenhurst school to invite classes to come along to the library. This would be taking place in the Autumn term. Other local schools would be contacted and invited after the summer holiday. Winstanley School would also be contacted to see if any of the pupils undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Aware would be interested in volunteer work in the library to assist with their award.

Discussions had also been held with the Facilities Manager and Senior Library Officer to establish a book and jigsaw loan facility at Thorpe Astley. A suitable area for this had been agreed and would be in place within a couple of weeks.

Members queried what options were available to provide an outreach service for the Library at Thorpe Astley Community Centre.

#### **RESOLVED**

1. that the proposed community events to take place in the library, as detailed in the report, be approved; and
2. that discussions be held with the County Council on what options were available to provide an outreach service for the Library at Thorpe Astley Community Centre.

#### *Reasons for Decision*

1. *To promote the wider use of the library as a community hub and provide activities and events for the community to participate in.*
2. *To make it easier for residents, who would otherwise have to travel to the Library at the Civic Centre, to access some library services from the Community Centre at Thorpe Astley.*

#### **29. New Year's Eve Events**

The Committee considered a criteria in order to invite applications for use of the Council's facilities for fundraising events on New Year's Eve (item 11 on the agenda).

#### **RESOLVED**

1. that free use of the Millfield Hall and Council Chamber at Braunstone Civic Centre and Main Hall at Thorpe Astley Community Centre on New Year's Eve, 31st December 2022, be advertised to local groups on the

- basis that money raised would be donated to charity, with at least 25% of the proceeds being donated to the Town Mayor's Charity; and
2. that the Chief Executive & Town Clerk be given delegated authority to consider applications received and offer the use of the facilities at Braunstone Civic Centre and Thorpe Astley Community Centre on the basis that applications meet the criteria

*Reasons for Decision*

1. *To ensure a fair and transparent process for free use of rooms for New Year's Eve fundraising events.*
2. *To ensure that any applications would be considered in a timely manner in order to advise groups of the decision in order for them to commence preparations for their event if their application is successful.*

**30. 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.*

**31. Community Grant Applications**

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

**RESOLVED** that the following grant applications be approved

- |   |   |      |
|---|---|------|
| a) Asian Elderly Group                            | - | £200 |
| b) Braunstone Town Horticultural Art & Craft Show | - | £300 |

*Reason for Decision*

*The grant applications met the scheme criteria.*

**32. Financial Comparisons**

The Committee received Financial Comparisons for the period 1st April 2022 to 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

*Reason for Decision*

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

**33. Approval of Accounts**

The Committee considered payments from 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 until 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**RESOLVED**

1. that the list of Approved Expenditure Transactions for the period 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 until 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022 be approved; and
2. that payment transaction 17269 for £720 and payment transaction 17314 for £605, both to Funtime Bounce, be checked to ensure the description of the purchase had been recorded correctly.

*Reasons for Decision*

1. *To authorise payments in accordance with the Accounts & Audit Regulations and the Council's Financial Regulations.*
2. *Two separate payments for different amounts had been made to the same supplier, Funtime Bounce, with the same description, Electric Go Karts.*

The Meeting closed at 8.40pm

**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.*

**SIGNED:** .....

**DATED:** .....