

# BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL



**Cllr Nick Brown**  
**Town Council Leader**

At the beginning of this financial year I highlighted that Blaby District Council had voted to end the payment to parish and town councils of the parish share of Council Tax Support Grant and New Homes Bonus from next April (2018), in order to plug a gap in their own finances. The loss of this income, along with existing financial pressures faced by the Town Council equated to an approximate increase of 17% on the Town Council's share of Council Tax bills. For a typical household in a Band B the equivalent of paying around £15 per year extra.

Since then we have been working hard to identify ways to protect the services which many in the Town value, while finding ways to deliver these services and run our operations more efficiently, an approach supported by the Town's Citizens' Advisory Panel at its December meeting. In January the Council set its budget and was able to protect all of its front line services while identifying slightly over £10,000 per annum of ongoing savings, and £55,000 of our reserves over the next two years, in order to minimise the impact of Blaby's decision on local tax payers, which has enabled us to reduce the increase in Council Tax for 2018/2019 to 9.7%, the equivalent of around £8.15 on a typical band B property for the year.

I would like to thank residents for their understanding and support for our approach which strikes a balance between protecting services, making savings and increasing Council Tax. Nonetheless, the use of our reserves to spread the impact on residents following Blaby's decision will impact upon the Council's finances and ability to deliver capital investment over the next 3 to 5 years.

On a separate note, the Town Council and Town Councillors have been working hard during 2017 with the NHS authorities and local GP Practice, Kingsway Surgery, to address many of the problems residents have identified when accessing GP services. There is a proposal to utilise the unused NHS facility at Thorpe Astley Community Centre from Spring this year and more information concerning this much needed and welcome development will be published in March.

## LOCAL GROUPS INVITED TO RAISE FUNDS THROUGH EVENTS

**Does your community group want to raise funds? Would you like to get involved in an event but need support?**



Braunstone Town Council promotes the arts and Community Events by working in partnership with local groups and good causes. A number of events are held in the Autumn to Spring of each year. The Town Council underwrites the cost of each event and passes on the net proceeds to the local group or good cause. The Town Council produces a 'What's On' guide, maintains a mailing list, produces tickets and publicity material and helps to organise the events. The

sponsored groups are asked to help run the event and assist with ticket sales. Groups can organise a fundraising raffle and/or provide refreshments at the interval. By involving the local community groups, a programme of well-supported events has been established. If you would like your group or organisation to be considered for inclusion in the next Programme of Events please contact Mrs Pauline Snow on 0116 2899270 or pauline.snow@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk by Friday, 30th March.



## Your Invitation to the Town Mayor's Charity Curry Night

Braunstone Town Mayor, Cllr Bill Wright would like to invite all residents to his Charity Curry Night on 9th April, 7pm at Chef & Spice, Hinckley Road, Leicester, LE3 5PG, raising money for his mayoral charity for the year—Rainbows Children's Hospice. Tickets are priced at £15.00 each, and the charity will receive £9.00 of the ticket price. If you would like to attend you can purchase your ticket in both, Braunstone Civic Centre and Thorpe Astley Community Centre. For more information please call on 0116 2890045.

## SPRING CRAFT FAIR SATURDAY 19TH MAY 11.00AM—2.00PM

### THORPE ASTLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

*If you are interested in hiring a table at the event please collect the booking form from Customer Services desk at Braunstone Civic Centre. Alternatively please call 0116 2890045 or email [anna.gomes-alves@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:anna.gomes-alves@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk) for more information. The tables will be available at a cost of £12 each with all proceeds being donated to the Town Mayor's Charity—Rainbows.*

**supporting**  
**rainbows**  
hospice for children and young people



### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**\*\*\*SUMMER FETE**  
**28 July\*\*\***  
tel. 0116 2890045 to  
book a table

### PUBLIC MEETINGS—DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PLANS AND ENVIRONMENT	Thursday 8th February	7.00pm	Braunstone Civic Centre
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Thursday 8th February	7.45pm	Braunstone Civic Centre
POLICY AND RESOURCES	Thursday 22nd February	7.30pm	Braunstone Civic Centre
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY	Thursday 1st March	7.30pm	Braunstone Civic Centre

**Customer Service Shop, Braunstone Civic Centre**

**Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm**

**Kingsway, Braunstone Town, Leicester LE3 2PP**

**Telephone 0116 289 0045, Fax 0116 282 4785**

**email – [enquiries@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk), [www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk)**

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