

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL



Cllr Nick Brown
Town Council
Leader

Last month I spoke about the financial uncertainty faced by many Councils and how by medium to long term planning, the Town Council continues to work hard to improve the services it provides to people living and working in the area while ensuring that we invest in our infrastructure for future generations. The forthcoming year presents further challenges and uncertainty, with this in mind the Town Council approved its Capital Plan and budget for 2017/2018 at its January meeting. For 2016/2017 the precept for band B, which includes over half the properties in Braunstone Town, will increase by £2.42, this represents an average (Band D) increase of 3.11%. This compares to an average (Band D) increase for all parishes in Blaby District of 4.7% and a proposed increase for Blaby District Council of 3.49% and Leicestershire County Council of 3.99%. Prudent financial management over many years has enabled the Town Council to establish reserves to invest for the future in our parks and community facilities along with investing in operational efficiency measures, which during the current year is estimated to deliver £14,000 of ongoing savings. We recognise the importance of the services we deliver to the people of the Town while understanding that for many family budgets remain tight. Our approach has enabled the Town Council to keep our precept increases gradual and affordable while continuing to invest in and protect the services we provide.

Plans for 2016/2017

In addition to the continuing with the existing level of services, the Town Council aims to achieve the following during the forthcoming year:-

- continue to work closely with Leicestershire County Council to **keep Braunstone Town Library open**;
- **refocus Customer Service Shop services** linking customer access, social inclusion and learning and reading services at the Library, including potential extension of services to Thorpe Astley Community Centre;
- continue to work with the NHS to **find a use for the Thorpe Astley Medical Rooms** while consulting with residents on potential alternative uses should a health facility not be provided by the NHS;
- invest in the redevelopment and improvement of sporting, recreation and play **facilities at Shakespeare Park**;
- complete the legal transfer of open spaces at Thorpe Astley to the Town Council and ensure improvements are implemented to the **Culvert at Thorpe Astley Park**;
- important quality of life initiatives, such as **crime reduction** and support for the Local Area Co-ordinator project **supporting individuals** to improve their quality of life;
- to continue to represent the concerns and quality of life issues raised by residents on the impact of **Lubbesthorpe construction, particularly the M1 bridge construction**;
- implement **improvements to community facilities** at Braunstone Civic Centre and Thorpe Astley Community Centre; and
- continue to make efficiency savings while ensuring the existing **services are safeguarded and where appropriate improved**.

FREE MULTI SPORTS SESSIONS

Youth Offending Service together with Leicestershire & Rutland Sport and IMPACT Project has organised free, run by qualified coaches, 12 week multi sports sessions for local young people from Braunstone Town, aged 11-25. This is a great opportunity to develop their personal skills, meet new people and stay healthy and fit.

Multi-Sport sessions start on 26th February at the Braunstone Civic Centre every Friday (**February 26, March 4, 11, 18; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20**) from 7.00pm till 8.30pm.

For further details, please contact Glen White (glen.white@leics.gov.uk) or Kam Chauhan (kam.chauhan@leics.gov.uk) on 0116 3050030.

THE SUPER SOUNDS OF THE 70'S & 80'S

This year the Harvest Community Church had organised the 1970's & 1980's dance night which took place on 6th February at the Civic Centre. Great atmosphere was delivered by DJ "Lee Raging Rivers" where more than 110 people were undoubtedly enjoying the evening. Additional attraction of the evening was certainly the Photo Booth where participants had a great fun and merriment taking funny pictures in fancy dresses. Net profit from the event will be donated to coping with cancer.



Upcoming Events

- **"An Explosion of Music from Around the World"** – Ratby Senior and Youth Band concert, Saturday 19th March, 7.30pm
- **Community Quiz Night** – Friday 8th April, 7.30pm
- **Mini-programme of Events to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday** – dates to be confirmed
- **Summer Fate** – 30th July, 11.00am – 4.00pm, Mossdale Meadows

PUBLIC MEETINGS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FULL COUNCIL	Thursday 10 th March 2016	8.00pm
PLANS AND ENVIRONMENT	Thursday 17 th March 2016	7.00pm
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Thursday 17 th March 2016	7.30pm

All meetings are held at the Braunstone Civic Centre

Customer Service Shop, Braunstone Civic Centre
Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

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