

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF CITIZENS' ADVISORY PANEL
THURSDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Councillor N Brown (Chair), Councillor R Waterton (Vice-Chair) and Councillors A Ambrose and A Hack, and local residents Mrs N Blight, Mr J Jameson, Mr J Johnson, Mr T Smith, and Mrs S Zastawky.

Officers in attendance: Mr D Tilley, Executive Officer & Town Clerk, Mrs Pauline Hurd, Deputy Executive Officer & Community Services Manager

1. **Apologies**
Apologies for absence were received from Mrs B Hazelgrove, Mr J Hazelgrove and Mrs L Spick.
2. **Disclosures of Interest**
There were no disclosures of interest.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held 5th March 2015**
The report of the meeting held on 5th March 2015 was received and noted.
4. **Braunstone Town Council Annual Report 2014/2015**
The Annual Report 2014/2015 was circulated for members and reported on the work and aspirations of the Town Council during the year. It was noted that 300 Annual Reports were produced and distributed to community groups, Community Centres, libraries etc. throughout Braunstone Town.
5. **Braunstone Town Council Annual Survey Results**
The results of the Annual Survey were circulated to members. It was noted that the survey was distributed throughout Braunstone Town via users of the Community Centres, community groups and to a random sample of local residents. Twenty four completed forms were returned but the newly recruited Community Engagement and Events Co-coordinator would be asked to look at the survey and suggest ways to increase the number of surveys returned. It was suggested that local residents be informed of the initiatives/improvements undertaken that were suggested in previous years surveys that may encourage them to complete future surveys.
6. **Future Options for the Library and Customer Service Shop**
A report on the current position with the Town Council's proposals for combining the Library and Customer Service Shop was circulated to members. Members were supportive of the work undertaken by the Town Council to suggest options to work with Leicestershire County Council to keep the Braunstone Town library open. The proposals put forward by the Town Council will be considered at the County Council Cabinet on 13th October. The outcome of this meeting to be reported to the next appropriate Citizen's Advisory Panel.

7. Narborough Road South – Subways

A report on the Narborough Road South Subways was circulated to Members. It was noted that complaints had been received from local residents regarding the condition of the three subways including flooding, litter, graffiti and general cleanliness. Braunstone Town Council has been working with Blaby District Council, Police and Leicestershire County Council to consider options to improve the subways. It has been suggested that a community artist be employed to work with young people to paint the subways to discourage unsightly graffiti. Quotations to undertake the work would be obtained from suitable artists with experience of similar projects. It was suggested that a consultative questionnaire be circulated to local residents and young people via the BB19 bus, Braunstone Life, social media and notice boards to seek their views on the proposal.

Members of the panel suggested the priority of work should include:

- a) Seeking Blaby District Council co-operation in regular cleansing of the subways
- b) Consider options and costs for the community art project
- c) Paint over the existing graffiti to clean walls
- d) Take steps to reduce the incidences of flooding in the subways, particularly over winter months

Members also suggested that notice boards be in place at the subway entrances informing residents of telephone numbers to contact to report any problems with the subways.

8. Holmfield Park – Improvements

It was noted that quotations for improvement work to the playground equipment at Holmfield Park had been received and an appropriate supplier had been chosen to undertake the work following a consultation with local residents about what they would like included in the work. Wicksteed Playgrounds would carry out the improvements week commencing 26th October 2015 and take approximately two weeks to complete. By choosing this week it would allow young people to have access to the park during the school half term break.

9. Thorpe Astley Community Centre – Medical Rooms

The Executive Officer & Town Clerk and Councillor Amanda Hack had attended a meeting with the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group to discuss the use of the medical rooms at Thorpe Astley Community Centre and what services could be provided. A consultation with local residents would be undertaken to ascertain what type of services they would like access to. A further meeting had been arranged at the end of October.

10. Panel Work Programme for 2015/2016

Members did not suggest any further work for 2015/2016 and consider that securing the Braunstone Town library of paramount importance.

However, it was suggested that the newly recruited Community Engagement and Events Co-ordinator be asked to consider new ways to communicate/ consult with local residents to obtain more feedback on Braunstone Town Council initiatives and proposals.

11. **Termination of the Meeting**
The meeting closed at 8.50pm.



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 _____ (CHAIR)

DATED _____