

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF CITIZENS' ADVISORY PANEL
THURSDAY 2nd MARCH 2017

PRESENT: Councillors N Brown (in the Chair), A Hack, A Ambrose and R Waterton, and local residents Mr M Banton, Mrs T Chavda, Mr J Dodd, Mrs B Hazelgrove, Mr J Hazelgrove, Mrs M Solanki and Mrs J White

Officers in attendance: Mr D Tilley, Executive Officer & Town Clerk, Mrs P Snow Deputy Executive Officer & Community Services Manager, Mrs A Gomes-Alves Community Engagement & Events Co-ordinator

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs N Blight, Mr J Johnson, Mrs J Tilley, Mr R Tilley and Mrs S Zastawny.

2. Disclosures of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st December 2016

The Minutes of Meeting held on 1st December 2016 were received and noted.

4. Thorpe Astley Community Centre

Members considered ways to increase bookings and community use of the centre.

It was noted that no communication had been received from the Leicestershire Partnership Trust with regard to using the medical rooms for health service provision. Members expressed frustration with the unoccupied health rooms not being used by the NHS after 6 years since the Centre had been opened. It was felt that if the rooms were not going to be used by the NHS they could be converted to provide other meeting rooms or services highlighted in a survey undertaken with Thorpe Astley residents about their views on the use of the Centre.

Members queried if the Braunstone Life could be approached to enquire if Thorpe Astley could be incorporated in the title of the community magazine. It was noted that the Braunstone Life was a separate organisation run by volunteers but there was little involvement to the newspaper by residents of Thorpe Astley and that the community needed to help and engage with the magazine if they wished to incorporate Thorpe Astley into it.

The provision of nursery provision currently being provided for by Kidaroo at Thorpe Astley Community Centre will cease at the end of the school year 2017. A tendering process was now underway to provide new childcare provision at the centre.

It was suggested that occasional Town Council committee meetings be held at Thorpe Astley Community Centre in future.

5. Update on Braunstone Town Library

Members considered the latest position with the County Council's proposals for Braunstone Town Library. Members were advised that no communication had been received from Leicestershire County Council or Fabula with regards to the library or a hand-over date. It was understood that Fabula were awaiting confirmation of becoming a charity by the Charity Commission.

It was suggested that a "honesty library" be set up at Thorpe Astley Community Centre where local residents could bring in books they no longer wanted and swap them for others left by other residents.

6. Shakespeare Park Improvement Project

Members received an update on progress with improvement to the pavilion, sport, recreation and play facilities at Shakespeare Park. It was noted that the plans for the project had been forwarded to Blaby District Council for planning permission and talks were currently underway to incorporate some minor alterations to the plans. Positive discussions had been held with the user groups and working group with regards to the plans.

Investigations were being undertaken to ascertain what external funding was available for the Town Council to apply to for the project. A meeting had been held regarding funding from Sports England Strategic Facilities funding scheme but it had been confirmed that the project was not eligible for this funding stream.

It was agreed that a site visit would be arranged for Town Councillors in the near future.

7. Annual Survey 2016 - Actions and Responses to Survey Comments 2016

To set out for consideration the actions and responses to the issues and comments raised by residents in the Braunstone Town Council Annual Survey 2016.

It was noted that the new Lubbethorpe Bridge would be opening in the near future but work was still being undertaken on Beggars Lane which would require completion before the bridge was opened. The bridge would be adopted by Leicestershire County Council by the opening date of the bridge. It was also

noted that the street lights on the bridge were on during the night even though the bridge was not yet open.

8. Termination of the Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.42pm.

DRAFT