

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT BRAUNSTONE CIVIC CENTRE

26TH JANUARY 2017 at 8.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor Berneta Layne (Town Mayor), Councillor Bill Wright (Deputy Town Mayor) and Councillors Shabbir Aslam, Parminder Basra, Roger Berrington, Sharon Betts, Nick Brown, David Di Palma, Amanda Hack, Paul Kennedy, Phil Moitt, Gary Sanders, Darshan Singh and Robert Waterton.

Officers in Attendance: Mr D Tilley, Executive Officer & Town Clerk.

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

COUNCILLOR BERNETA LAYNE, TOWN MAYOR, IN THE CHAIR

5493 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Anthea Ambrose, Ajmer Basra, Sam Fox-Kennedy, Dinesh Joshi, Sam Maxwell and from County Councillor Mrs. Jo Fox.

5494 Disclosures of Interest

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

5495 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of Braunstone Town Council held on 24th November 2016 were circulated (item 3 on the agenda).

It was proposed by Councillor Berneta Layne and seconded by Councillor Bill Wright and was:

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of Braunstone Town Council held on 24th November 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

5496 Vote of Thanks to Mr Stuart Maxwell

Council proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Stuart Maxwell in recognition of his services to Braunstone Town Council and the residents of Braunstone Town (item 4 on the agenda).

It was proposed by Councillor Nick Brown and seconded by Councillor Amanda Hack and was:

RESOLVED that Braunstone Town Council offer its thanks to Mr. Stuart Maxwell in recognition of his service to Braunstone Town Council and the residents of Braunstone Town

Reason for Decision

Since his election in December 2010, Councillor Stuart Maxwell had served both the residents of Millfield Ward and the Town Council. In particular, Councillor Stuart Maxwell had served on the Plans & Environment Committee where his professional expertise in public transport and highways had made a significant and important contribution to the Town Council's response to the Lubbesthorpe Development, Fosse Park island improvements and generally around transport planning, air quality and infrastructure issues.

5497 Co-option to Vacancy on the Council

Council considered applications for co-option as a member of Braunstone Town Council for the Millfield Ward (item 5 on the agenda).

Two applications had been received in the following order:

1. Sohan Singh Johal of 19 Woodcote Road, received 10th December; and
2. Tracey Shepherd of 42, Grass Acres, received 13th January.

The candidates each addressed Council explaining how they intended to serve as a Town Councillor and answered questions from members of the Council. Both candidates agreed to leave the room while the other candidate addressed the Council and the merits of the applications were considered.

It was proposed by Councillor Nick Brown and seconded by Councillor Bill Wright and was:

RESOLVED that Tracey Shepherd be co-opted as a Town Councillor to fill the vacancy for Millfield Ward.

Reason for Decision

The submission provided background on Tracey Shepherd, who had set out how she would serve as a member of the Town Council and the Council considered her suitable to serve as a Town Councillor.

Councillor Shepherd duly signed the formal Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took up her place on the Council.

5498 Council Objectives

Council considered the Council's Objectives, which had originally been developed in 2011, and determined whether they were relevant to address current and emerging issues faced by the Council and the community (item 6 on the agenda).

RESOLVED

1. that the Council Objectives set out in Appendix 1 be approved, subject to the Planning & Environment Objectives being as set out in Appendix 2;
2. that the Council Priorities for 2017/2018 be based on the 2016/2017 Priorities, subject to:
 - i. Priority 2, Customer Service Shop, once having been completed, a new priority “Enhancing a Socially Inclusive and Vibrant Community” being included,
 - ii. Priority 3, Thorpe Astley Medical Rooms, being deleted in the event of NHS Services being provided, and a new priority “Meet the needs of Thorpe Astley residents by facilitating the delivery of services and events at Thorpe Astley Community Centre” being included, and
 - iii. Priority 6, Quality of Life Services, explicitly including Air Quality; and
3. that the Council’s Priorities and Objectives be reviewed annually.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ensure that the Council’s objectives were relevant and reflected changing issues within the community.*
2. *Having successfully achieved priorities on the Customer Service Shop and Thorpe Astley Medical Rooms, to positively and proactively respond to the evolving and changing social demographic of the community through developing and supporting new and existing events and community/social inclusion initiatives. To recognise the importance of air quality in light of the new Lubbesthorpe development, which was likely to increase air pollution in Blaby District.*
3. *To ensure that they remained relevant to address the current and emerging issues faced by the Council and the community.*

5499 Capital Plan 2017/2018

Council considered priorities and projects for 2017/2018 Capital Plan (item 7 on the agenda).

RESOLVED

1. that the Completed Projects (section a), having now been completed, be removed from the rolling programme of Capital Projects;
2. that the projects due for completion (section b) be removed, assuming their completion prior to the end of the plan period, otherwise to be included on the 2017/2018 Capital Plan;
3. that the Current Projects (section c) be rolled forward on to the 2017/2018 Capital Plan;
4. that the Proposed New Projects (section d) be added to the 2017/2018 Capital Plan; and
5. that the Projects proposed for Deletion (section e) be removed from the rolling programme of Capital Projects.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To confirm that the projects had been completed and there was no further*

- work outstanding.*
- 2. To ensure the plan was updated accordingly reflecting progress with its delivery.*
 - 3. To confirm that the projects were outstanding and were still required.*
 - 4. To recognise the need to undertake investment and improvement as identified.*
 - 5. To recognise that, following review, these projects were no longer required.*

5500 Budget, Fees & Charges and Precept for 2017/2018 and Future Estimates

Council considered the budget and precept for 2017/2018, including fees and charges, and to set out proposed estimates for future years (item 8 on the agenda).

RESOLVED

1. that the Estimates for 2017/2018, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report, be approved as the Council's Budget for 2017/2018;
2. that the proposed Community Centres and miscellaneous fees and charges, as attached at Appendix 3 of the report, and the proposed sports pitch fees and charges, as attached at Appendix 4 of the report, be applied from 1st April 2017 to all new bookings and where payment was made on or after 1st April 2017; and
3. that a Net Precept Requirement for £519,556 for the financial year 2017/2018 be submitted to Blaby District Council.

Reasons for Decision

- 1. To meet the Town Council's operating budgets for 2017/2018 along with funding for the Capital Plan and service pressures as identified in the report on Medium to Long Term Priorities and Financial Planning, adopted by Council on 24th November 2016.*
- 2. To apply increases in charges to ensure sustainability of the Council's services in accordance with the Council's Medium to Long Term Priorities and Financial Planning objectives.*
- 3. The precept requirement for the year being the difference between expenditure and income, calculated in accordance with Section 50 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*

5501 Appointments to Committees

Council considered appointments to Committees, any changes, including filling the vacant position on Plans & Environment Committee and the vacant position on Policy & Resources Committee (item 9 on the agenda).

RESOLVED

1. that Councillor Tracey Shepherd be appointed to the vacancy on Plans & Environment Committee; and

2. that Councillor Sharon Betts be appointed to the vacancy on Policy & Resources Committee.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To enable Councillor Tracey Shepherd, who had been co-opted to the Council to serve on a Committee.*
2. *To ensure that the vacancy on Policy & Resources Committee was suitably filled.*

5502 Announcements

a) Town Mayor

The Town Mayor, Councillor Berneta Layne, thanked Councillors and residents who supported the Christmas Gifts and Craft Fair on Saturday 26th November 2016, which had raised funds for her Town Mayor's Charity, Arthritis Research UK.

The Town Mayor added that she and her Consort had also recently attended three events in the Programme of Events:

- i. Harvest Community Church Carol Service,
- ii. Christmas Fun Concert, and
- iii. Aladdin Family Pantomime.

The Town Mayor informed Council that Community Development Committee on 8th December 2016 had approved her proposals for a Caribbean Evening on Friday 24th March 2017, which would include entertainment and hot food. The Town Mayor invited all Councillors to attend and support the event, which would be raising funds for her charity, Arthritis Research UK.

b) Leader of the Council

No announcements were made.

c) Executive Officer and Town Clerk

No announcements were made.

5503 Public Session

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 at the meeting.

5504 Questions from Councillors

No questions had been submitted.

5505 Reports of Standing Committees: Plans & Environment Committee – 8th December 2016

Council received the Report of the Plans & Environment Committee meeting held on 8th December 2016 (p6138 – p6144).

It was moved by Councillor Robert Waterton and

RESOLVED that the Report be adopted.

5506 Reports of Standing Committees: Community Development Committee – 8th December 2016

Council received the Report of the Community Development Committee meeting held on 8th December 2016 (p6145 – p6151).

It was moved by Councillor Nick Brown and

RESOLVED that the Report be adopted.

5507 Reports of Standing Committees: Policy & Resources Committee – 12th January 2017

Council received the Report of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 12th January 2017 (p6152 – p6158).

Page 6157, Minute 70 – Thorpe Astley Medical Rooms – Occupational Licence Agreement

Councillor Nick Brown noted the decision to agree to Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust using the Medical Rooms for Children's Services and requested that once proposals and a start date had been confirmed that a joint press release be issued.

It was moved by Councillor Nick Brown and

RESOLVED that the Report be adopted.

5508 Reports of Standing Committees: Plans & Environment Committee – 19th January 2017

Council received the Report of the Plans & Environment Committee meeting held on 19th January 2017 (p6159 – p6165).

Page 6159, Minute 109 – Air Quality

Councillor Robert Waterton gave feedback on the session involving Air Quality which had been attended by District Environmental Health Officers. He added that evidence from monitoring could only be used where it had been collected in accordance with the national guidelines and these guidelines stated that monitoring stations should be located in residential areas/close to a dwelling. Having monitored air quality, improvements to air

quality relied upon implementation of mitigation measures, which mainly fell within the remit of the Highways Authority, Leicestershire County Council, who the Committee had decided to invite to a future meeting. It was agreed that should County Highways Officers attend a future meeting of the Plans & Environment Committee that notification would be sent to all members of the Council in order that they could attend the meeting.

Councillor Bill Wright confirmed that a new monitoring station would be installed on Narborough Road South close to Fosse Park, which was being funded from the Section 106 agreement for Castle Acres.

Page 6163, Minute 114 – Planning Decisions

Councillor Robert Waterton advised that where a planning application had been approved by the District Planning Authority and the Town Council's Plans & Environment Committee had recommended refusal, that members of the Committee, in respect of applications in their ward, were encouraged to follow up with the relevant Planning Case Officer to ascertain why approval had been given and whether the Town Council's concerns had been addressed/taken into consideration.

Councillor Bill Wright agreed to follow up through Blaby District Council's Scrutiny Commission on whether a scrutiny review of the planning process could be undertaken to investigate the consistency and effectiveness of the decision making process.

It was moved by Councillor Robert Waterton and

RESOLVED that the Report be adopted.

5509 Motions on Notice

No Motions on Notice had been submitted.

5510 Sealing of Documents

There were no documents for sealing.

5511 Outside Body Reports

a) Leicestershire County Council

No report was given.

b) Blaby District Council

Councillor Shabbir Aslam updated Council on current Blaby District Council priorities and the work of Braunstone Town ward members on the District Council. Blaby District Council was working to promote growth, investment and jobs by bringing local business together through a regular business breakfast. Work continues to address anti-social behaviour issues, however, incidents remain isolated, with the District generally being a safe place to live. Councillor Aslam also highlighted the

importance placed on a clean environment and addressing recent increases in fly-tipping.

Councillor Bill Wright updated Council on the work of scrutiny, which had been scrutinising budget proposals, provision of car parks, tackling dog fouling and reviewing the District Council's approach to tackling anti-social behaviour among young people.

c) Braunstone West Social Centre

Councillor Roger Berrington stated that the new Committee was up and running and the meeting in November lasted 25 minutes.

d) Braunstone Town Community Minibus

Councillor Paul Kennedy reported on the meeting, which took place on Tuesday, the minibus would be involved in the Braunstone Life Awards and with the Spring Fair at Thorpe Astley Community Centre. The next committee meeting was scheduled for 14th February.

e) Leicestershire Neighbourhood Watch Steering Group

Councillor Bill Wright reported that he had given his apologies to the last two meetings since these clashed with meetings at Blaby District Council. Councillor Wright confirmed that the group had set up a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

f) Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils

Councillor Amanda Hack reported that the recent meeting on 10th December had discussed tackling dog fouling and traffic issues.

g) Lubbesthorpe Strategic Consultative Board

Councillor Robert Waterton reported that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled for 1st February. Current issues being explored by the Board included a wider meeting for parish councillors concerning the phasing programme and the structure of the group.

h) School Governors

Councillor Nick Brown advised that Millfield Academy Governors met last week and there was nothing specific to report.

5512 Termination of Meeting

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

These minutes are a draft and are subject to consideration for approval at the next meeting, scheduled for 23rd March 2017.

NOTE:

CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 (SECTION 17) – The Council has an obligation to consider Crime & 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.

These issues were considered in connection with each of the above decisions. Unless otherwise stated under each item of this report, there were no implications.

SIGNED _____ (CHAIR)

DATE _____