

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MONDAY 9th DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.45PM

PRESENT: Councillor Anthea Ambrose (Chair) and Councillors Ajmer Basra, Nick Brown, Alex Dewinter, Sam Fox-Kennedy, Paul Kennedy, Sam Maxwell, Christiane Startin-Lorent and Robert Waterton (substituting for Councillor Amanda Hack).

Also in attendance was the Town Mayor, Councillor Parminder Basra.

Officers in attendance: Darren Tilley, Executive Officer & Town Clerk and Pauline Snow, Deputy Executive Officer & Community Services Manager.

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

45. Apologies

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors David Di Palma, Amanda Hack and Tracey Shepherd.

46. Disclosures of Interest

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

47. Public Participation

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.

48. Minutes of the Meeting held 10th October 2019

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October 2019 were circulated (item 4 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

49. Town Mayor's Report

The Committee received a report on the activities of the Town Mayor and any proposals for initiatives during the Civic Year (item 5 on the agenda).

The Town Mayor advised that she was proposing to arrange a fundraising event at either the Chef 'n' Spice for a buffet or at the Marriott Hotel for a formal Dinner and Dance.

RESOLVED that the update be noted

Reason for Decision

To monitor and review the effectiveness of the Town Council's community engagement activities.

50. Speed Sign Data

The Committee considered recent speed sign (item 6 on the agenda). It was noted that there was a consistent number of drivers that drove between 30 – 40mph. Discussions were held on the options available to the Town Council to reduce speeding vehicles and safeguard pedestrians.

Members considered requests for the speed signs to be situated at other sites.

RESOLVED

1. that the criteria for the installation of traffic calming measures be obtained from Leicestershire County Council;
2. that Leicester City Council be approached to ascertain if they have similar concerns from residents living on the Leicester city side of Braunstone Lane regarding speeding vehicles; and
3. that the speed sign be installed on Turnbull Drive and Meridian Way Extension once permission had been sought from the owners of this section of road.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ascertain the criteria for speed reduction measures in order to identify where such measures would be appropriate.*
2. *To consider partnership working with Leicester City Council to tackle the problem of speeding vehicles on the boundary line between the two authorities;*
3. *To ensure that all roads where speeding had become a problem could be monitored and data collected.*

51. Community Speed Watch (Thorpe Astley)

The Committee received feedback, including results, from the Community Speed Watch initiative in Thorpe Astley (item 7 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted and continued support be given by Braunstone Town Council to the Thorpe Astley Community Speedwatch group's efforts to mitigate speeding and its impact on local pedestrians and road users in Thorpe Astley.

Reason for Decision

Given the number of vehicles recorded with a speed in excess of 30 mph, and given the concerns expressed by Thorpe Astley residents, it would be reasonable to continue to focus on the main routes in Thorpe Astley in order to take appropriate action to address high speeds, which was threatening the safety of pedestrians and having an adverse effect on the quality of life enjoyed by local residents.

52. Community Safety and Neighbourhood Policing Update

The Committee received an update from the Local Neighbourhood Police Beat team on local community safety and policing initiatives (item 8 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the update be noted

Reason for Decision

To ensure that current community safety and policing updates were received.

53. Promoting and Supporting Local Sports Clubs

The Committee considered how the Town Council could assist with promoting and supporting local sports clubs who use the Council's facilities, in order to ensure that community sport, particularly sporting opportunities for young people, continued to be developed and sustained (item 9 on the agenda). It was suggested that the Town Council could offer space at the community centres to display trophies won by the various clubs and to offer notice board space to promote teams and forthcoming events.

RESOLVED

1. that the Report be noted; and
2. that sports clubs be contacted to ascertain if space to display trophies and team information would be of benefit to the sports clubs.

Reasons for Decision

1. *The Town Council's current offer to community groups, grants and community group hire rates, was sufficient to ensure that the sports teams remained sustainable.*
2. *To ensure that the work of the sports clubs was promoted and successes celebrated by the wider community.*

54. Support for Community Groups

The Committee considered whether the Council's approach to supporting community groups was fit for purpose and where necessary to make recommendations to Policy & Resources Committee to consider changes to the Community Group Room Hire Scheme in order to support community

groups and to ensure the scheme continued to be fit for purpose (item 10 on the agenda). Discussions were held on the availability of free use rooms for community groups at Thorpe Astley Community Centre during the evenings and weekends.

RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE that a panel of members be established to review room hire arrangements for the Council's Community Centres and to consider:

- (a) an inflationary increase be applied to Private Functions & Commercial Use hire charges,
- (b) Braunstone Town resident hire charges be frozen,
- (c) the equivalent inflationary percentage be applied as a decrease to the Community Group hire charges,
- (d) the charging structure to hire the Activity and Large meeting rooms at Thorpe Astley Community Centre and the Ravenhurst and Winstanley rooms at Braunstone Civic Centre when both rooms at each centre were hired in one booking, and
- (e) free use rooms for Community Group hire be considered during evenings and weekend where there was availability.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that the Council's Policies to support community groups remained appropriate and fit for purpose. To ensure the Centres remained competitive and cost effective, continued to be used by the community and that income generated was maximised.

55. Summary of Grant Applications

The Committee received a list of grants paid to date and applied for from external sources and received acknowledgements for Town Council Grants (item 11 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision

To monitor progress with supporting community groups with identifying sources of funding and with the award of grants under the council's Community Grants scheme.

56. Improvements to Parks and Open Spaces

The Committee received a progress report on current projects and funding. Members noted that no update had yet been received for the start date on the improvement work to the culvert bridge at Thorpe Astley. Concerns were also raised with regard to ongoing flooding of the park area at Thorpe Astley due to excessive rain. It was suggested that work could be carried out to the land to spike the ground that may help with some drainage.

57. Community Development Objectives

The Committee considered the Community Development Priorities and Objectives and determine whether they were relevant to address current and emerging issues faced by the Council and the community (item 13 on the agenda).

RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the community development priorities and objectives, as set out in the report.

Reason for Decision

The Council's priorities continued to be the focus for delivering a vision for local services and an environment which reached the highest possible standards. The council's objectives were relevant and reflected changing issues in the community.

58. Financial Comparisons

The Committee received Financial Comparisons for the period 1st April 2019 to 30th November 2019 (item 14 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision

There were no issues identified with income and expenditure to date.

59. Capital Plan and Budget Estimates 2020/2021

The Committee considered a Statement of Expenditure for 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019, a list of capital projects for 2020/2021 and beyond and a proposed budget for 2020/2021 for recommendation to Policy & Resources Committee (item 15 on the agenda).

RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

1. that the draft Estimates for the Community Development Committee, as attached at Appendix 2, be included in the Budget Estimates for 2020/2021; and
2. that a budget of £1,000 be included as a one-off in 2020/2021 budget for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day to provide financial support of up to £200 for each group/event.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ensure appropriate resources for the Community Development and Social Inclusion Services.*
2. *To ensure appropriate financial support to enable VE Day anniversary events to be organised and to ensure their success.*

60. Approval of Accounts

The Committee considered payments from 2nd October 2019 until 3rd December 2019 (item 16 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the list of Approved Expenditure Transactions for the period 2nd October 2019 until 3rd December 2019 be approved.

Reason for Decision

To authorise payments in accordance with the Accounts & Audit Regulations and the Council's Financial Regulations.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.



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: _____

DATE: _____