

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.45PM

PRESENT: Councillor Anthea Ambrose (Chair), David Di Palma (Vice Chair) and Councillors Ajmer Basra, Sharon Betts, Nick Brown, Sam Fox-Kennedy, Amanda Hack, Paul Kennedy, Gary Sanders, Sam Maxwell and Bill Wright (Town Mayor Ex-officio)

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

There were three members of the public present at the meeting.

70. Apologies

No apologies for absence were received.

71. Disclosures of Interest

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

72. 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 three members of the public present.

73. Minutes of the Meeting held 14th December 2017

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th December 2017 were circulated (item 4 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

74. Town Mayor's Report

The Committee received a report setting out 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 he had attended an event held by Braunstone Swimming Club and had an opportunity to view a new mural at the Winstanley School pool complex. He also advised that a Murder Mystery event was

being held on Saturday 10th February at Braunstone Civic Centre with proceeds being donated to his chosen charity, along with a curry night on 9th April at the Chef and Spice on Hinckley Road. Tickets for both events were available to purchase.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

Reason for Decision

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

75. Crime Reduction Initiatives

The Chairperson welcomed PCSO Calum Loades and Sgt Tony Mannion who provided an update on the current crime figures in Thorpe Astley and Braunstone Town. Residents and councillors had expressed concern at the rise in car crime during November and December in Thorpe Astley. However, it was noted that the January figures had now dropped to the average crime rate. The committee was advised that a large proportion of the car crime in the area had been committed on vehicles that had been left unlocked by owners and property left on view despite an ongoing campaign in the area by the Police to encourage residents to secure their property.

Concern was also raised over issues of anti-social behaviour with residents on Shakespeare Drive. Whilst the Police had limited powers to take action, they were working with residents and the housing associations who owned the properties to reduce the problems with the few residents causing problems. Councillor Sam Maxwell advised that, as a District Councillor, she would be working with the Anti-social behaviour team at Blaby District Council to arrange joint partnership working with the police, EMHomes, housing associations and Blaby District Council officers to tackle the problems in the area.

76. 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I

The Committee reviewed progress with arrangements for commemorating the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War in November 2018 (item 7 on the agenda).

It was noted that the Town Council would take a co-ordinating role in supporting the community to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. The Town Council has agreed to provide an additional small grant scheme totalling £1000 for community groups to apply to for activities that they would like to arrange and the Town Council would support the projects with publicity and use of facilities.

One of the main projects already in place was a cascade of crafted poppies down the external wall of Braunstone Civic Centre. Local residents have been encouraged to join in by creating knitted, crochet, sewn or any other

craft poppies that will be attached to netting and displayed at the Civic Centre.

A permanent War Memorial and improvement to the memorial garden has also been proposed for Braunstone Civic Centre to commemorate all Braunstone Town residents that have lost their lives during any conflict.

RESOLVED

1. that the proposals for a Poppy Cascade at Braunstone Civic Centre be approved and supported in principle and delegated authority be given to the Executive Officer & Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, to undertake and approve detailed arrangements; and
2. that the proposals for improvements to the Memorial Garden, including the installation of a permanent War Memorial, be supported in principle, and a further report be given to the Community Development Committee setting out detailed proposals, costs, potential funding opportunities and timescales.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ensure that practical arrangements could be made to enable the vision of a Poppy Cascade at Braunstone Civic Centre to be delivered.*
2. *To enable improvements to the Memorial Garden to be properly identified, including the provision of a permanent memorial, in order to manage its delivery as a single project in time for the 100th anniversary commemoration in November 2018.*

77. Local Area Co-ordination

The Committee received a progress report concerning the priorities and achievements of the Local Area Co-ordination Project in Braunstone Town (item 8 on the agenda). It was noted that the weekly social group set up by the Local Area Co-ordinator, was well supported and was now a fully constituted community group.

RESOLVED that the current Local Area Coordination activities, as set out in the report, and the liaison arrangements with the Town Council, be supported.

Reason for Decision

To work in partnership with other organisations to provide advice and support for local residents.

78. Summary of Grant Applications

The Committee received a list of grants paid to date and applied for from external sources (item 9 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

Reason for Decision

To monitor progress with supporting community groups with identifying sources of funding and with the awarding of grants under the Council's Community Grants Scheme.

79. Community Grant Applications

The Committee considered Community Grant Applications which had been received (item 10 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the following grant applications be approved:

- a) Braunstone Swimming Club – £300; and
- b) Punjabi Cultural Society – £300 subject to the grant being paid in the next financial year since the group had already received a grant in this financial year

Reasons for decision

- a) *The application had met the criteria of the grant scheme*
- b) *The criteria for community grant applications states that the maximum grant likely to be approved is £300 per group per year*

80. Improvements to Parks and Open Spaces

The Committee received a progress report on current projects and funding. It was noted that tender documents for the Shakespeare Improvement Project were being prepared. A funding bid to Sports England was being prepared for submission in March 2018.

81. Financial Comparisons

The Committee received Financial Comparisons for the period 1st April 2017 to 30th January 2018 (item 12 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision

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

82. Approval of Accounts

The Committee considered payments from 6th December 2017 until 30th January 2018 (item 13 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the list of Approved Expenditure Transactions for the period 6th December 2017 until 30th January 2018 be approved.

Reason for Decision

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

83. Termination of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.



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.

These minutes are a draft and a subject to consideration for approval at the next meeting, scheduled for 12th April 2018.