

**BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD USING ZOOM VIDEO AND WEB CONFERENCING SOFTWARE**

**25TH MARCH 2021 at 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Parminder Basra (Town Mayor), Councillor Darshan Singh (Deputy Town Mayor) and Councillors Anthea Ambrose, Shabbir Aslam, Nick Brown, Amanda Hack, Sohan Johal, Leanne Lee, Sam Maxwell, Phil Moitt, Dipen Nathwani, Satindra Sangha, Tracey Shepherd, Christiane Startin-Lorent, Marion Waterton and Robert Waterton.

**Officer in Attendance:** Mrs Pauline Snow, Deputy Executive Officer & Community Services Manager

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

**COUNCILLOR PARMINDER BASRA, TOWN MAYOR, IN THE CHAIR**

**5909 Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Alex DeWinter.

**5910 Disclosures of Interest**

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

**5911 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.

**5912 Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of Braunstone Town Council held on 28th January 2021 were circulated (item 4 on the agenda). Councillor Bob Waterton requested an amendment to the minutes (page 7112, item 5908 c) Report of School Governors) be amended to read that Councillor Leanne Lee had taken up the role of Chair of School Governors.

Councillor Nick Brown moved approval of the minutes with the proposed amendments; which was seconded by Councillor Amanda Hack and was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of Braunstone Town Council held on 28th January 2021 as amended, be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

### **5913 Announcements**

#### a) Town Mayor

The Town Mayor, Councillor Parminder Basra, made the following announcements:

- i. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic she had been unable to organise very little fundraising activities apart from a Walk & Talk initiative to invite residents to undertake a walk & talk with someone (within covid restrictions) and donate to her chosen charity via a Just Giving Page. The Town Mayor was pleased to advise that she had already reached 50% of her goal and wished to thank members that already donated and shared the link.
- ii. The Town Mayor had recorded a short video for the day of reflection on 23<sup>rd</sup> March to commemorate a year of Covid lockdown in the UK. The video had been available on social media for residents to reflect on a very difficult year for all.
- iii. The Town Mayor would be hosting a virtual Awards Night on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May and presenting local residents with an Award of Merit and thanking groups that had participated in the 2019/2020 Programme of Events. Invitations to the evening would be forwarded shortly.
- iv. A minute's silence was held to reflect on the past year and remember all those that had sadly lost their lives due to the pandemic in the past year.

#### b) Leader of the Council

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Nick Brown, paid tribute to all the volunteers and residents that had supported vulnerable residents through the past, difficult year and commented on a much-strengthened community that had developed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Leader of the Council also passed on congratulations and best wishes from the Town Council to the Executive Officer & Town Clerk on the birth of his daughter.

#### c) Executive Officer and Town Clerk

The Council received a report from the Executive Officer and Town Clerk.

The report set out details on the following matters:

- Phased reopening of Council Services
- Vaccinations at Thorpe Astley Community Centre
- Covid-19 Community Response Update
- Community Activity and Events

### **5914 Questions from Councillors**

No questions had been submitted.

**5915 Reports of Standing Committees: Planning & Environment Committee – 11th February 2021**

Council received the Report of the Complaints Appeal Sub-Committee meeting held on 11th February 2021 (p7113 – p7121).

Page 7119, Minute 190 – Lubbesthorpe

In respect of the Lubbesthorpe Group, Councillor Bob Waterton advised that the group met in March and would meet again in April regarding the New Lubbesthorpe development. Local surrounding parish councils had agreed to attend the meetings but, to date, the New Lubbesthorpe Parish Council had declined to participate but it was felt that it was important that they attend and they would be invited to the next meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Bob Waterton

**RESOLVED** that the Report be adopted.

**5916 Reports of Standing Committees: Community Development Committee – 11th February 2021**

Council received the Report of the Community Development Committee meeting held on 11th February 2021 (p7122 – p7128).

Page 7124, Minute 116 – Speed Sign Data

Councillor Bob Waterton requested that the flow of information between the Community Development Committee and the Planning and Environment Committee be improved as some of the items considered at each of the meetings overlapped the committees.

Councillor Amanda Hack queried the current situation with the speed activated signs and it was confirmed that new batteries had been purchased for one of the signs and synchronizing the signs was currently being undertaken to ensure that they were working correctly.

It was moved by Councillor Anthea Ambrose and

**RESOLVED** that the Report be adopted.

**5917 Reports of Standing Committees: Policy & Resources Committee – 25th February 2021**

Council received the Report of the meeting of Policy & Resources Committee held on 25th February 2021 (p7129– p7138).

Page 7131, Minute 172 – Update on Thorpe Astley Culvert and legal transfer of Thorpe Astley Park

Councillor Christiane Startin-Lorent requested that work to the culvert be progressed as soon as possible due to the condition of the bridge surface and existing construction.

Page 7132, Minute 173 – Land adjacent to the M1 bridge, Thorpe Astley

Councillor Amanda Hack advised that residents were concerned about current work being undertaken on land adjacent to the M1 bridge, Thorpe Astley that the Town Council was in the process of taking ownership of from the developer.

It was noted that the current work was legal work required to be carried out by the developer under planning conditions before it could be transferred. Once this was completed the developer and Town Council would be undertaking consultation with residents on what landscaping/features they would like to see on the development. It was requested that a press release be made available on the website and social media platforms to advise residents of work and forthcoming consultation exercise along with a plan of the proposed site to be taken over by the Town Council.

It was moved by Councillor Nick Brown and

**RESOLVED** that the Report be adopted.

**5918 Reports of Standing Committees: Planning & Environment Committee – 11th March 2021**

Council received the Report of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 11th March 2021 (p7139– p7151).

Page 7141, Minute 196 – Planning Applications and Licensing Applications

Councillor Bob Waterton requested the title be realigned.

Page 7149, Minute 201 – Blaby District Local Plan Options Document Consultation

Councillor Bob Waterton asked that wording in “Reasons for Decision” be amended from “meat” to “meant”.

It was moved by Councillor Robert Waterton and

**RESOLVED** that the Report be adopted.

**5919 Motions on Notice**

No Motions on Notice had been submitted.

**5920 Sealing of Documents**

There were no documents for sealing.

**5921 County and District Councillor Reports**

a) Leicestershire County Council

Councillor Amanda Hack, as County Councillor for Braunstone Division, reported on the following matters:

- Preservation of NHS staff's mental health following the very difficult, past year before returning to normal operation of services
- Vaccination roll-out was going very well for the county with Leicestershire being in the top four performing counties. It was noted that there was a high positive take up in the county but slightly lower in Leicester City for the vaccination.
- Kingsway Surgery is now inviting under 50-year-olds for their covid-19 vaccination.
- The focus for the future would be on mental health and an increase in services available including an Anorexia Unit at the Bradgate Health Unit and much improved performance in mental health services
- The City and County Councils had jointly funded, along with public crowdfunding, a Memorial Walk at Watermead Park as a walk of reflection for the past year and to remember all those that had sadly passed away due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This had now been officially opened.
- Forest House Medical Centre was currently rolling out its Covid-19 vaccination programme and was currently inviting 55 – 59 year-olds to attend for their vaccination.

Councillor Bob Waterton queried the lack of response from County Council Highways department on speeding issues and the difficulty in getting any work undertaken. He also raised concerns about potential impact on the highways due to plans submitted by Aldi at Thorpe Astley that the highways department had not addressed.

b) Blaby District Council

Councillor Sam Maxwell, as District Councillor for Ravenhurst & Fosse Ward, reported on the following matters:

- Council Tax had been agreed at the full rate with cross-party support for a letter to be sent MPs for a fair funding deal for the local authority
- The Scrutiny Panel had updated the Green Agenda to include:
  - a) Refurbishment of Blaby District Council Offices at Narborough to a carbon neutral building by 2030
  - b) Transport including cycle paths/lanes, charging points for electric cars and e-bikes.
  - c) New housing and conversion of homes to be eco-homes including green heating, waste services etc.
  - d) Harnessing of members skills and knowledge on working groups and various projects of the district council.

**5922 Outside Body Reports**

a) Braunstone Town Community Minibus

No update was given on the Braunstone Town Community Minibus.

- b) Braunstone West Social Centre  
Councillor Phil Moitt reported the committee were not currently meeting and that only two groups were currently allowed to meet at the centre including a local child care group.
- c) School Governors  
Councillor Leanne Lee reported that it had been a hard year for teachers, parents and children due to the Covid-19 pandemic but was delighted to see children keen to return to school. Councillor Lee highlighted the difficulties faced by teachers, parents and children with schooling from home and particularly for parents with several children at school age and also possibly working from home. Schools had received Covid Catch up funds and suggested that this should be used to support children's mental health going forward.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_