



## Welcome to our Annual Report 2018/2019

By Councillor Nick Brown, Leader of Braunstone Town Council

The Town Council continues to provide important services to the community and this Annual Report provides a summary of our achievements over the last 12 months and looks ahead to our aspirations for the next 12 months. Recently the Council reviewed its consultation processes with an aim to undertake a range of short surveys/consultations throughout the year. We value your input and therefore, I encourage residents to respond to our surveys and consultations, to help us shape our priorities and services to meet residents' needs.

A full list of our achievements over the year are set out overleaf, however, I wish to reflect on two of these.

The year began with the opening of the NHS facility at Thorpe Astley Community Centre, which the Town Council had been trying to bring about since 2010. I along with many residents are delighted that Kingsway Surgery opened this branch surgery since you consistently told us about the difficulties you faced in accessing GP services. I am grateful to Kingsway for their positive and sensible approach in expanding their provision to meet increasing demand, which included within six months increasing opening from two to five days a week. We continue to work with them to ensure that this service is successful and will continue to meet the needs of patients.

This year we commemorated the 100th anniversary of the end of world war one. The Town Council provided both a dedicated grant and programme of events scheme for community groups wishing to run commemorative events. Thank you to all those who responded; particularly Braunstone Community Life for their dedicated hard work organising and creating the magnificent poppy cascade, remembrance events and for the vision to refurbish our memorial garden. The memorial garden will provide a focal point in the years to come for acts of remembrance and dedication to our service personnel through Armed Forces Day and other events.

More up to date information on the Council's services and the latest news can be found on our website at [www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk) or contact our Customer Service Shop at Braunstone Civic Centre where the Council's staff would also be pleased to help.

Once again, thank you for your time.

Councillor Nick Brown



### Accounts for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

Year Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018		Year Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019
£		£
<b>350,420.68</b>	<b>Balances brought forward</b>	<b>268,198.63</b>
519,556.00	(+) Annual Precept	574,107.00
275,112.89	(+) Total other receipts	188,870.62
462,128.74	(-) Staff costs	463,923.55
63,786.42	(-) Loan interest / capital repayments	60,891.04
313,358.56	(-) Total other payments	269,579.65
<b>268,198.63</b>	<b>(=) Balances carried forward</b>	<b>236,782.01</b>
250,239.41	Total cash and short term investments	229,438.14
4,549,629.49	Total fixed assets and long term assets	4,551,639.29
<b>335,103.23</b>	Total borrowings	<b>289,474.07</b>
<b>The Audit for 2018 was completed on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018</b>		

### MEMBERS ALLOWANCES 2018/2019

The Council believes in openness and transparency, therefore, each year we publish the amount paid to Town Councillors in allowances and the amounts claimed in expenses. Below are the allowances paid (gross) and expenses claimed.

	ALLOWANCE	EXPENSES	TOTAL
Cllr A Ambrose	£375	£0	£375
Cllr M S Aslam	£375	£0	£375
Cllr A S Basra	£375	£0	£375
Cllr P Basra	£375	£0	£375
Cllr R Berrington	£375	£0	£375
Cllr S Betts	£375	£0	£375
Cllr N J Brown	£375	£0	£375
Cllr A DeWinter	£375	£0	£375
Cllr D Di Palma	£0	£0	£0
Cllr S Fox-Kennedy	£375	£0	£375
Cllr A Hack	£0	£0	£0
Cllr S Sangha	£0	£0	£0
Cllr P Kennedy	£375	£0	£375
Cllr B Layne	£375	£0	£375
Cllr S Maxwell	£0	£0	£0
Cllr P L Moitt	£375	£0	£375
Cllr G Sanders	£375	£0	£375
Cllr T Shepherd	£375	£0	£375
Cllr D Singh	£375	£0	£375
Cllr R Waterton	£375	£0	£375
Cllr B Wright	£375	£0	£375

### Our Mission Statement

*"We exist to ensure that local services and the environment reach the highest possible standards within the resources available for citizens, visitors and those who work in Braunstone Town; to provide a focus for civic pride; to listen, identify and respond to agreed local needs; and to help develop a strong, secure, self-reliant, self-confident community, free from unlawful discrimination."*



**BRAUNSTONE CIVIC CENTRE CUSTOMER SERVICE SHOP**

Monday – Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm

Kingsway, Braunstone Town, Leicester, LE3 2PP TEL: 0116 289 0045 FAX: 0116 282 4785

EMAIL: [enquiries@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk) [www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk)



# About Braunstone Town Council



The Council provides a wide range of services together with social and recreational facilities. The Council also promotes the interests of the town in its representation to other bodies. It works in partnership with the larger District Council and County Council to provide and supplement local government services within the town area.

The Council comprises 21 members who are elected every four years. Each year the Council elects from amongst its number the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Leader and Deputy Leader

The Full Council meets six times a year. The Council has three standing committees: Policy & Resources, Community Development and Plans & Environment Committee. The Plans & Environment Committee meets approximately twelve times a year. All Meetings are open to local residents and include a public participation session on the Agenda. Agendas for the Council and standing committees are available to the public a week before the meeting date. Meetings are held at the Braunstone Civic Centre, Kingsway, Braunstone Town, Leicester, LE3 2PP. Further information is available on request by telephoning the Council on 0116 2899270 and can also be found on the notice board at the Town Council Offices, Thorpe Astley Community Centre and on the Council's Website

## Our Achievements in 2018/2019

- Appointed a contractor to undertake the improvement works to the **Pavilion and Site at Shakespeare Park** and awarded Sport England Grant funding of £100,000 and Developer Contributions of £17,213 towards the project.
- Concluded agreements with the County Council to transfer **Braunstone Town Library** to the Town Council's management by the summer of 2019, which provide for improvements to the service while avoiding additional costs for the Town's taxpayers.
- Working with Kingsway Surgery, facilitated the opening of their branch **GP surgery at Thorpe Astley Community Centre**, its expansion from 2 to 5 days a week and the opening of an additional GP consultation room.
- Our application for the **footpath between Watergate Lane and Staplehurst Avenue** to become a "Right of Way" was successful, protecting the path for future generations.
- Provided both a dedicated grant and programme of events scheme to groups wishing to run events to commemorate the **100th anniversary of the end of world war one**.
- Working with the community, delivered a **refurbishment of the Civic memorial garden** so that it can provide a focal point in the years to come for acts of remembrance and dedication.
- Supported Thorpe Astley residents to establish a **Community Speed Watch** scheme and group, data collected is forwarded to the police to address speeding concerns.
- Renewed and expanded the Council's network of **CCTV cameras** to include new areas including our parks.
- Completed the legal transfer and took possession of **public open space** at Thorpe Astley from David Wilson Homes and Wilson Bowden Developments.
- Merged Fire & Intruder Alarm Contracts at all buildings and appointed a new contractor to empty dog waste bins, **making on-going savings while protecting services**.

## Room Hire Figures

CENTRE		Year Ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019
Braunstone Civic Centre	Hires	3400
	Income	69,529.06
Thorpe Astley Community Centre	Hires	1852
	Income	26,066.80

## Plans for 2019/2020

In addition to the continuing with the existing level of services, the Town Council aims to achieve the following during the forthcoming year:

- Invest in the redevelopment and improvement of sporting, recreation and play **facilities at Shakespeare Park**;
- **Improvements to our community facilities** at both Braunstone Civic Centre and Thorpe Astley Community Centre;
- Continue to provide and support important **quality of life** initiatives, such as crime reduction and grants for community groups, youth projects and individuals and tackling poor air quality;
- 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**;
- Meet the needs of Thorpe Astley residents by facilitating the delivery of **services and events at Thorpe Astley Community Centre**;
- Continue to work to **keep Braunstone Town Library open**;
- Complete the legal transfer of open spaces at Thorpe Astley to the Town Council in order to enable future investment and improvement to the facilities, including ensuring improvements are implemented to the **Culvert at Thorpe Astley Park**;
- Actively working with the developer and Blaby District Council to ensure that the **land adjacent to the M1 bridge is suitably landscaped** to provide protection for residents from the new road and to provide a leisure and recreation space;
- Continue to look to make efficiency savings while ensuring the existing **services are safeguarded and where appropriate improved**.

## Your Views

Throughout the year we undertake a range of consultations and short surveys to ascertain the views of residents on our major projects, such as our improvement proposals for Shakespeare Park, other priorities and services and also to help us to articulate the needs and aspirations of the community.

We have a dedicated Consultation page on our website (found under *Town Council*).

[www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk/index.php/town-council/town-consultations](http://www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk/index.php/town-council/town-consultations)

Details of consultations and surveys will be notified on our website, in the Braunstone Life, on social media and at our community centres. If you respond to any of our consultations and surveys you will be eligible to be entered into an annual prize draw.