

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk

Executive Officer & Town Clerk – Darren Tilley



Welcome to our Annual Report 2015/2016

By **Councillor Nick Brown**, Leader of Braunstone Town Council

Thank you for taking the time to read the Town Council's Annual Report. I hope you will find the contents of interest and give you an insight to what we do. I would like to extend our appreciation to all those local residents and partners who have, over the year, become involved in events and projects instigated by the Council and given their support to assist us in providing the high level of service to local people.

Shown here in this document you can see the details of our achievements over the past year and our plans for the forthcoming year. 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 or call at our Customer Service Shop at Braunstone Civic Centre where the Council's staff would also be pleased to help.



Listening to You - We are the smallest unit of local government and that means we are closest to the people - we listen to what our residents have to say, and your involvement is vital in helping us to decide how best to provide our services. One way to tell us what you think is to complete our Annual Survey, further details overleaf. **The results to our survey in 2015, along with our actions and response can be found on our website and can be obtained from Braunstone Civic Centre.**

Once again, thank you for your time.

Councillor Nick Brown

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2016

Year Ended 31 st March 2015		Year Ended 31 st March 2016
£		£
388,143.00	Balances brought forward	424,269.00
463,281.00	(+) Annual Precept	477,804.00
285,940.00	(+) Total other receipts	329,155.00
380,481.00	(-) Staff costs	373,275.00
64,164.00	(-) Loan interest / capital repayments	64,038.00
268,448.00	(-) Total other payments	443,495.00
424,269.00	(=) Balances carried forward	350,420.00
420,480.00	Total cash and short term investments	323,741.00
4,525,391.00	Total fixed assets and long term assets	4,539,448.00
463,391.00	Total borrowings	422,628.00

The Audit for 2015 was completed on 17th September 2015

MEMBERS ALLOWANCES 2015/2016

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 and expenses claimed for the Councillors who were elected in May 2015.

	ALLOWANCE	EXPENSES	TOTAL
Cllr A Ambrose	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr M Aslam	£375	0.00	£375
Cllr M S Aslam	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr A S Basra	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr R Berrington	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr S Betts	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr N J Brown	£0.00	0.00	£0.00
Cllr A DeWinter	£375	0.00	£375
Cllr D Di Palma	£0.00	0.00	£0.00
Cllr S Fox-Kennedy	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr A Hack	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr D Joshi	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr P Kennedy	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr B Layne	£375	0.00	£375
Cllr S J Maxwell	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr S Maxwell	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr P L Moitt	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr C Parmar	£375	0.00	£375
Cllr G Sanders	£422	0.00	£422
Cllr R Waterton	£375	0.00	£375
Cllr B Wright	£422	0.00	£422
The Town Mayor's Allowance	£750.00	0.00	£750.00

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: enquires@braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk, 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 2015/2016

- **Refurbishment of Millfield Hall at the Civic Centre** – in order to enhance the appearance of the Millfield Hall, the Town Council carried out major refurbishment and maintenance of the Hall: new insulation and roofing work replaced the top covering of the roof, new heating and air conditioning systems, new ceiling tiles and replacement of fluorescent tubes to new LED lighting, new stage and room curtains, varnish and refurbishment of existing wooden floor.
- We recognise the importance of delivering services more effectively while saving money and to this extent we continue to invest in efficiency measures such as energy saving LED lighting at our Community Centres.
- **Holmfield Park** - Following extensive consultation, the Council carried out improvement work on the play facilities, including new toddler play equipment, installation of new swings for older children and new safety surfaces and replaced the pathway. Further maintenance works are planned, including painting of the gates and improvement to the park entrance.
- **Franklin Park Community Orchard** - The Community Orchard is a collection of fruit trees and now is open and accessible to local residents at all times. As well as enjoying the place, local people can share the harvest, and take some responsibility for any work in the orchard. Community Orchards are now becoming more popular and Apple Day is celebrated widely in October each year.
- **Narborough Road South Subways** – The Town Council agreed to consider a community art project involving local residents to enhance the subways and deter further graffiti. However, due to limited support for the proposal, the Braunstone Town Council has decided that no further action would be taken.
- Reached agreement with Blaby District Council to continue the Joint Customer Service Shop until 2019
- Reached agreement with Citizen Advice Bureau to continue Advice Surgeries from Braunstone Civic Centre until 2019
- Implemented an organisation review within budget streamlining the Council's Management and Administration while directing resources and the front line and ensuring all staff are paid a living wage.

Room Hire Figures

CENTRE		Year Ended 31 st March 2016
Braunstone Civic Centre	Hires	4023
	Income	£65,192.62
Thorpe Astley Community Centre	Hires	1800
	Income	£43,082.75

Plans for 2016/2017

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

- continue to work to **keep Braunstone Town Library open**;
- **refocus Customer Service Shop services** linking customer access, social inclusion and learning and reading services at the Library, including potential extension of services to Thorpe Astley Community Centre;
- continue to work with the NHS to **find a use for the Thorpe Astley Medical Rooms** while consulting with residents on potential alternative uses should a health facility not be provided by the NHS;
- invest in the redevelopment and improvement of sporting, recreation and play **facilities at Shakespeare Park**;
- complete the legal transfer of open spaces at Thorpe Astley to the Town Council and ensure improvements are implemented to the **Culvert at Thorpe Astley Park**;
- important quality of life initiatives, such as **crime reduction** and support for the Local Area Co-ordinator project **supporting individuals** to improve their quality of life;
- to continue to represent the concerns and quality of life issues raised by residents on the impact of **Lubbesthorpe construction, particularly the M1 bridge construction**;
- implement **improvements to community facilities** at Braunstone Civic Centre and Thorpe Astley Community Centre; and
- continue to make efficiency savings while ensuring the existing services are safeguarded and where appropriate improved.

Braunstone Town Council Annual Survey – Free Prize Draw - £50

The views of Braunstone Town residents are vital in assisting the Council in providing services that people really want and also helps us to articulate the needs and aspirations of our local community to the larger District and County Councils or to other agencies and government bodies.

You can help us in making decisions on our services by completing the Council's Annual Survey. Hard copies can be obtained from Braunstone Civic Centre and Thorpe Astley Community Centre, or if you wish we can post it to you. The survey is also available online at www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk

CLOSING DATE FOR RETURNING YOUR RESPONSES
FRIDAY 26TH AUGUST 2016.