

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk

Executive Officer & Town Clerk – Darren Tilley



Welcome to our Annual Report 2017/2018

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. Our Annual Survey responses this year showed high satisfaction across our services. We valued your input and throughout the year have acted on comments you made. Therefore, I encourage residents this year to again respond to our survey, your input is valued in shaping our priorities and services to meet resident's needs. I would also like to extend our appreciation to all those local residents and groups 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.



I am delighted that during the year we made significant progress with the NHS to ensure that the unused medical rooms at Thorpe Astley Community Centre would be utilised for much needed GP services from April 2018. We also received planning approval for our ambitious proposals to improve the pavilion, recreation and play facilities at Shakespeare Park. During 2018/2019 we plan to obtain funding, appoint a contractor and start the works. Finally, on 9th March, Leicestershire County Council approved the principle of the Town Council taking over the management of our Library. Over the summer of 2018 we will be working with the County Council on the detailed legal agreements and timescales for transfer. This is good news for Braunstone Town since this decision at last secures the future of our library after years of uncertainty.

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 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 31st March 2018

Year Ended 31 st March 2017		Year Ended 31 st March 2018
£		£
350,420.68	Balances brought forward	312,803.46
495,653.00	(+) Annual Precept	519,556.00
233,535.76	(+) Total other receipts	275,112.89
442,383.95	(-) Staff costs	462,128.74
63,912.42	(-) Loan interest / capital repayments	63,786.42
260,509.61	(-) Total other payments	313,358.56
312,803.46	(=) Balances carried forward	268,198.63
308,408.89	Total cash and short term investments	250,239.41
4,542,472.99	Total fixed assets and long term assets	4,549,629.49
379,906.10	Total borrowings	335,103.23
The Audit for 2017 was completed on 22nd September 2017		

MEMBERS ALLOWANCES 2017/2018

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	£0	£0	£0
Cllr A DeWinter	£375	£0	£375
Cllr D Di Palma	£0	£0	£0
Cllr S Fox-Kennedy	£375	£0	£375
Cllr A Hack	£375	£0	£375
Cllr D Joshi	£375	£0	£375
Cllr P Kennedy	£375	£0	£375
Cllr B Layne	£375	£0	£375
Cllr S Maxwell	£375	£0	£375
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 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 Planning & Environment Committee. The Planning & 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. Most meetings are held at the Civic Centre, some meetings are held at Thorpe Astley Community Centre. 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 2017/2018

- Held public meetings with the NHS and local GP surgery to **address issues with primary care/General Practice provision** across the Town.
- Worked with the NHS, Kingsway Surgery and Blaby District Council to ensure that **NHS General Practice services** would be provided from **Thorpe Astley Community Centre**, including signing of the agreement and carrying out modifications to the building.
- Co-ordinated and supported Community Groups to deliver a varied **programme of events to the community** including quiz nights, concerts and craft fairs.
- Following vandalism, made **improvements** to play equipment and safety surfaces at **Franklin Park Play area**.
- Reached an in-principle agreement with Leicestershire County Council to manage **Braunstone Town Library**, while the County Council continues to meet its long-term lease obligations.
- Completed the legal transfer and took possession of public open space at Thorpe Astley from Persimmon Homes. We completed transfer arrangements with Barrett Homes, for transfer in 2018/19.
- Obtained planning approval and received tenders for the contract for the **improvements to the Pavilion, recreation and play facilities at Shakespeare Park**, aiming for work to commence in 2018/19.
- Continued to work with Blaby District Council to support initiatives aimed at **improving air quality** and mitigating impact of the Lubbethorpe development on residents.
- Invested in two new **speed monitoring signs** to address safety concerns around speeding traffic and facilitated the establishment of a **Community Speed Watch Scheme** in Thorpe Astley.
- Ensured the **continuation and improvement of pre-school services at Thorpe Astley Community Centre**.
- Invested in new more **efficient parks plant equipment**, while making **on-going savings**.

Plans for 2018/2019

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;
- Support Thorpe Astley Community **Speedwatch and road safety measures** to protect the safety of pedestrians around Meridian Way;
- 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**.

Room Hire Figures

CENTRE		Year Ended 31 st March 2018
Braunstone Civic Centre	Hires	3023
	Income	£70,251.93
Thorpe Astley Community Centre	Hires	1613
	Income	£29,872.27

Annual Survey – available in July and August 2018 Responses Entered into a Free Prize Draw

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
9am, TUESDAY 28th AUGUST 2018