



# BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Serving the communities of Braunstone Town and Thorpe Astley

## ***BUSINESS PLAN 2023/2024***

### **Strategic Aims & Delivery Objectives**

#### **Town Council Mission**

The Council's Mission Statement sets out its vision to provide high quality services and support the needs of the community, while recognising that this is only sustained by ensuring that the resources to do it are available.

#### **Mission Statement - We exist:**

1. *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;*
2. *to provide a focus for civic pride;*
3. *to listen, identify and respond to agreed local needs; and*
4. *to help develop a strong, secure, self-reliant, self-confident community, free from unlawful discrimination.*

*"Spectemur. Agendo" translates "Let us be Judged by Our Actions"*

#### **Strategic Aims and Delivery Objectives (2023/2024)**

The Council has four Strategic Aims for the medium term, which are set out below. Each Aim is supported by specific delivery objectives for the year, which are reviewed and developed as part of the annual review of the Council's Business Plan and Capital Plan and the annual setting of the budget and Council Tax precept.

#### **1. Protect and Enhance our Parks and Open Spaces**

**Aim:** To invest in and maintain high quality urban green spaces for sport, recreation and play, while enriching the natural environment.

#### **Delivery Objectives for 2023/2024:**

- (a) Complete Phase 3 of the Shakespeare Park refurbishment: Playground;
- (b) open the New Shakespeare Pavilion building for use by the community;
- (c) support existing Clubs at Shakespeare Park to grow while supporting new sporting activities, such as Tennis and Petanque;
- (d) invest in Thorpe Astley Park Tennis Courts and deliver tennis initiatives to enhance participation;
- (e) continue to work with Blaby District Council and the developer to ensure improvements are made to the culvert at Thorpe Astley Park;
- (f) carry out repairs to the Culvert and Bridge at Mossdale Meadows; and
- (g) refurbish and enhance Impey Close Play Area and surrounding open space.

## **2. Provide Vibrant Community Facilities**

**Aim:** To provide vibrant, accessible and cost effective community facilities, which continue to be used by and respond to the needs of our community.

### **Delivery Objectives for 2023/2024:**

- (a) Deliver essential works on the Civic Centre building fabric; and
- (b) expand the Bar Service to include a weekday Civic Centre café service along with outreach services at Thorpe Astley Community Centre.

## **3. Support and Connect the Local Community**

**Aim:** To both nurture and enhance the Town's community life and connect our communities to reduce isolation and build community cohesion.

### **Delivery Objectives for 2023/2024:**

- (a) Support new and existing community activities and initiatives through our Community Grants Schemes and Programme of Events;
- (b) co-ordinate community events, such as Apple Day, Coronation of King Charles III, and a Thorpe Astley Summer Event – Thorpe Astley by the Sea;
- (c) develop Library events, initiatives and continue community engagement; including children's reading, heritage displays and arts & craft events; and
- (d) support the Local Area Coordination Project.

## **4. Respond to Climate Change and champion sustainable development**

**Aim:** To embed climate and environmental awareness in our decision making and actions and play our part in supporting the community to do the same.

### **Delivery Objectives for 2023/2024:**

- (a) Deliver actions identified in the Carbon Audit with a view to the Council becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030;
- (b) undertake surveys and produce Management Plans to enhance the biodiversity of our parks and open spaces;
- (c) support and facilitate initiatives to improve cycling and walking routes within the Town and to the City Centre, Fosse Park and Meridian; and
- (d) work to ensure that development meets present needs, minimises air pollution and car journeys, while protecting the needs of future generations.

## **Objectives**

In addition to the Mission Statement and Strategic Aims and Delivery Objectives, the Council's Committees and Service Areas have operational objectives.

### **Planning and Environment Objectives**

1. To ensure sustainable development, which meets the needs of the present generation without prejudicing the existing built environment and the needs of future generations.
2. To improve the environment, in pursuit of which, objectives 3 to 7 below are contributors.
3. To seek high standards of design and construction within planning applications and to ensure all developments are consistent with environmental objectives.
4. To inform and consult local residents about major planning proposals, Development Plans and other planning initiatives by central and local government.
5. To work with others to minimise the impact from:
  - (a) traffic; and
  - (b) air and light pollution.
6. To promote responsible dog ownership and waste disposal.
7. To provide and maintain street seats and notice boards at key locations.
8. To monitor the New Lubbesthorpe development and to respond to any implications of that development for the environment of the Town.

### **Community Development Objectives**

Nurturing and enhancing community life, equal opportunities and social inclusion.

#### *Young people*

1. To create opportunities for young people to have a voice
2. To identify young people's needs and give support to new local initiatives including summer holiday activities

#### *Crime reduction services*

3. Working with the Police, reduce opportunities for crime, increase public safety and establish a community spirit.

#### *Social inclusion, recreation & culture*

4. To work with our partners to attract increased funding and the provision of a wider range of sporting and other services at local level
5. To provide support for the Office of Town Mayor
6. To assist local clubs and societies to undertake their work for the benefit of the citizens of Braunstone Town
7. To direct grants to organisations where this will be of greatest benefit to the citizens of Braunstone Town
8. To organise arts events/ entertainment's/ Civic Occasions which bring people together
9. To encourage the formation of new community groups by promoting free/subsidised use of the Council's Community Facilities

10. To promote social inclusion

#### Corporate Management & Capital Project Objectives

1. To ensure effective management of the authority
2. To ensure effective implementation of the Council's policies and priorities
3. To ensure the Council's management arrangements, facilitate performance and efficient use of resources
4. To provide efficient and effective office services to support the Council's activities
5. To provide efficient and effective support to the democratically elected members to enable them to make policy decisions
6. To provide efficient and effective information to committees
7. To deal with telephone calls, and personal callers, promptly, courteously and efficiently
8. To ensure and arrange effective staff training
9. To develop a motivated workforce with the necessary knowledge, experience and skills to implement the Council's policies and services
10. To maintain adequate personal records, health and safety controls, and fire evacuation polices
11. To manage and control land and property belonging to the Council
12. To maintain an effective filing and retrieval system
13. To undertake capital projects for the benefit of the citizens of Braunstone Town
14. To ensure that major repairs and renewals are satisfactory and undertaken on Council owned buildings
15. To provide office accommodation for the Council's administrative staff
16. To ensure the Council engages with the Community concerning its activities, including with consultative bodies, such as the Citizens' Advisory Panel.

#### Community Centres Objectives

1. To provide and maintain high quality function rooms for use by hirers
2. To provide and maintain quality meeting rooms for Council and local community groups at low cost
3. To provide a Licensed Bar/Catering service for use by hirers and community groups at prices that are comparable with other similar establishments in the area
4. To maintain usage of the Centres for the benefit of the community

#### Open Spaces & Parks Objectives

1. To provide and maintain parks and open spaces to a high standard
2. To provide quality sports facilities to meet identified needs
3. To provide and maintain play equipment to a high and safe standard
4. To help fight pollution and climate change by planting trees on our parks