

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

HELD AT BRAUNSTONE CIVIC CENTRE

THURSDAY 11th JULY 2024 AT 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor Anthea Ambrose (Chair), Councillor Rebecca Lunn (Vice-Chair), and Councillors Nick Brown (substituting for Sam Fox-Kennedy) Andy Evans, Richard Forrest, Tracey Shepherd and Mark Widdop.

Officers in attendance: Pauline Snow, Deputy Chief Executive & Community Services Manager.

There was one member of the public present.

17. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alex DeWinter, Sam Fox-Kennedy, Christiane Startin-Lorent and Marion Waterton.

18. Disclosures of Interest

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

19. Public Participation

In accordance with Standing Order 3.6, members of the public may attend the meeting for the purpose of submitting a petition and/or making representations, giving evidence or answering questions in respect of any item of business included on the agenda.

There was one member of the public present at the meeting. The gentleman lived in Cressida Court, Braunstone Lane, and was concerned about speeding and safety along Braunstone Lane particularly between Bidford Road and Woodshaw Rise. He stated that the speed of traffic had got worse over the years and now it was unpleasant and unsafe to be out in the front gardens. A vehicle had recently overturned in the area, due to travelling at speed.

RESOLVED

1. that the County Councillor for the Division be informed of the concerns raised by the resident including concerns about fading central white line on Braunstone Lane, and
2. Personal injury data for Braunstone Lane be requested from County Council.

Reasons for Decision

1. To enable the County Councillor for the Division to raise any relevant matters with County Highways.
2. To assess the number of accidents recorded on Braunstone Lane.

20. Minutes of the Meeting held 16th May 2024

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th May 2024 were circulated (item 4 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

21. Town Mayor's Report

The Committee received a report on the activities of the Town Mayor and any proposals for initiatives during the Civic Year (Item 5 on the agenda).

It was noted that due to a prior engagement, the Town Mayor would be officially opening the fete but was unable able to stay for the remainder of the day. The Town Mayor had requested volunteers to run his stall in his absence.

RESOLVED that the update on the Town Mayor's Engagements be noted.

Reason for Decision

To monitor and review the effectiveness of the Town Council's community engagement activities.

22. Community Safety and Neighbourhood Policing Update

The Committee received an update from the Local Neighbourhood Police Beat team on local community safety and policing initiatives.

The Police had been unable to attend the meeting and members had referred to the stabbing at Thorpe Astley and ongoing concerns with motorbikes on footpaths.

RESOLVED

1. that Leicestershire Police be formally requested to provide an update to the Town Council on the recent stabbing incident in Thorpe Astley, including previous reporting and action, along with any learning, and
2. that Leicestershire Police be requested to provide an update on the suggested multi-agency Problem Management Plan, concerning the illegal use of motorcycles.

Reasons for Decision

1. *No update had yet been received from the Police and it was appropriate to follow up on the previous letter to the Police on the subject and to ascertain whether previous reports had been acted upon accordingly and whether there was any learning for the incident.*
2. *To receive an update on the proposals outlined at the previous meeting of the Committee and to ensure that the Town Council could be included in the discussions.*

23. Speed Sign Data

The Committee received recent speed sign data for:

- a) Murby Way
- b) Turnbull Drive

(Item 7 on the agenda)

Following previous discussions with issues of speeding on Braunstone Lane it was

RESOLVED

1. that both speed activation signs be installed on Braunstone Lane and placed on approved lamp posts in the vicinity of Bidford Road and Woodshaw Rise junctions; and
2. that the speed activation reports for Murby Way and Turnbull Drive be forwarded to the Police Beat Team,

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ensure that any concerns of speeding on roads within the Town would be monitored and data collected.*
2. *To assist the Police with identifying where speeding was a concern in order to consider enforcements and identify particular areas of concern.*

24. Report from Commbus

The Chairperson welcomed Nigel Calver, (Communications Officer) and Kim Richardson, (Chair) of Commbus to the meeting to present an update on the work of the organisation.

It was reported that passenger numbers were now back to pre-covid figures except for Braunstone Town although it was noted that much of Braunstone Town was served with a good bus service.

More volunteer drivers were required to support the service and new timetables had been produced.

It was suggested that the timetables of trips be advertised in the Braunstone Life in order to reach as many residents as possible.

RESOLVED

1. that the update be received and noted; and
2. that the Town Council to help promote the service and publicise the need for more volunteers.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To support needs of residents.*
2. *To support the mini bus with reaching potential customers and volunteers.*

25. Library – Community Engagement/involvement and social inclusion

The Committee received an update on initiatives to develop community involvement in Braunstone Town Library and provide for social inclusion (item 9 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that the Community Library continues to thrive and support local residents.

26. Summer Fete 2024

The Committee received a progress report on arrangements for the Summer Fete 2024 (item 10 on the agenda).

It was noted that there were now 18 community group stalls booked and 22 private/commercial stalls booked.

RESOLVED

1. that the report be noted; and
2. that the recommendation to no longer reserve the Civic Centre rooms on the day of the Summer Fete to be used in the event of bad weather, be approved.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ensure that suitable events and activities be arranged for the annual Summer Fete.*
2. *To recognise that the Civic Centre was no longer an appropriate venue to transfer the summer fete over to in the event of bad weather and to allow the rooms to be hired out on the day of the Summer Fete and an income to be received.*

27. Thorpe Astley on the Beach

The Committee reflected on the event and determined whether it should be held in 2025 and if so in what form (item 11 on the agenda).

It was noted that the event at Thorpe Astley had been very successful with more people attending this year.

It was suggested that if the event was to continue each year, new activities would need to be considered to ensure the event was still attractive to attend.

RESOLVED

1. that the Thorpe Astley on the Beach event be arranged in 2025 in a similar format to the 2024 event, and
2. that new attractions be considered to replace or enhance those already used at the event

Reasons for Decision

1. *The event provided a community event for Thorpe Astley and residents of Braunstone Town.*
2. *To ensure that the event remains attractive to attend and offers new activities and events for residents to enjoy.*

28. Tennis Coaching Sessions

The Committee noted that the planned Tennis Coaching Sessions were cancelled due to the lack of interest and received an update on alternate proposals (item 12 on the agenda).

Alternative options for tennis coaching in September had been proposed but members felt that this was not an appropriate time of year to promote tennis coaching.

RESOLVED

1. that no further tennis coaching be arranged for 2024;
2. that tennis coaching be arranged for mid-July and August in 2025 to coincide with Wimbledon,
3. that all options for promotion and publicity for the coaching sessions be considered and investigated to ensure widespread publicity.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To note that September was not a suitable time to commence tennis coaching.*
2. *To arrange tennis coaching at an appropriate time in the year to maximise interest in attending coaching sessions.*

3. *To ensure that promotion of tennis coaching reaches all residents of the Town to encourage participation.*

29. Outside Body Report: Braunstone West Social Centre

The Committee received no report from Councillor Rebecca Lunn for Braunstone West Social Centre.

30. School Governing Body Reports

The Committee received no reports from members of School Governing Bodies.

31. Summary of Grant Applications

The Committee received a list of grants paid and applied for from external sources between April 2024 and July 2024 (Item 15 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision

To monitor progress with supporting community groups with identifying sources of funding and with the award of grants under the Council's Community Grants scheme.

32. Community Grant Applications

The Committee considered Community Grant Applications which had been received (Item 16 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the following grant applications be approved:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------|
| a) Namaste Exercise Group | £500 |
| b) Swagat Group | £500 |

Reason for Decision

The grant applications met the scheme criteria.

33. Financial Comparisons

The Committee received Financial Comparisons for the period 1st April 2024 to 30th June 2024 (item 17 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision

There were no issues identified with income and expenditure to date.

34. **Approval of Accounts**

The Committee considered payments from 8th May 2024 until 2nd July 2024 (item 18 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the list of Approved Expenditure Transactions, for the period 8th May 2024 until 2nd July 2024, be approved.

Reason for Decision

To authorise payments in accordance with the Accounts & Audit Regulations and the Council's Financial Regulations.

The Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

NOTE:

*CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 (SECTION 17) – The Council has an obligation to consider Crime and 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 minutes are a draft and are subject to consideration for approval at the currently proposed meeting scheduled for 10th October 2024.