

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

HELD AT BRAUNSTONE CIVIC CENTRE

THURSDAY 28th MARCH 2024 AT 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor Anthea Ambrose (Chair), Councillor Rebecca Lunn (Vice-chair) and Councillors Andy Evans, Richard Forrest, Sam Fox-Kennedy, Paul Kennedy, Sam Maxwell (substituting for Nick Brown), Christiane Startin-Lorent and Mark Widdop.

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

There were no members of the public present.

87. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sevim Aslan, Nick Brown and Alex DeWinter.

88. Disclosures of Interest

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

89. 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 were no members of the public present.

90. Minutes of the Meeting held 1st February 2024

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February 2024 were circulated (item 4 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record.

91. 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 the Town Mayor had officially opened the second Chatty Café in Braunstone Town at the Civic Community Lounge, Braunstone Civic Centre.

The Deputy Town Mayor had expressed his pleasure at hosting a lunch for the Levelling up visit and attending the St Crispin's Quiz, on behalf of the Town Mayor.

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.

92. Community Safety and Neighbourhood Policing Update

It was noted that none of Police Beat Team had been available to attend the meeting. However, the latest Beat Team Newsletter was circulated to members (filed with these minutes).

Members were pleased to report that parking issues at school open and close times on Ravenhurst Road had greatly improved. It was suggested that the Police be contacted and thanked for their help in this matter.

It was confirmed that no members had yet volunteered to be part of the Leicestershire Police Local Independent Advisory Group.

RESOLVED that the Police be contacted and thanked for their work in reducing parking issues around Ravenhurst Road at school opening and closing times.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that a good working partnership with the Police Beat Team was maintained.

93. Speed Sign Data

The Committee received recent speed sign data for:

- a) Murby Way
- b) Turnbull Drive

(Item 8 on the agenda)

Members expressed concern at speeding on Turnbull Drive at school opening and closing times. It was suggested this be highlighted to the police.

Details of average speeds on Murby Way between March 2022 and December 2023 were received.

RESOLVED

1. that the speed activation signs be re-installed on Turnbull Drive and Murby Way;
2. that the speed activation reports for Murby Way and Turnbull Drive be forwarded to the Police Beat Team and concerns highlighted to the Police regarding speeding vehicles at school opening and closing times on Turnbull Drive.

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.*

94. Local Area Co-ordination

The Committee received a report and introduction from the newly appointed Local Area Co-ordinator, Kristi Trown (item 8 on the agenda).

It was agreed that the new Local Area Co-ordinator be invited to attend the next meeting of Community Development Committee.

RESOLVED

1. that the report be noted, and
2. that the newly appointed Local Area Co-ordinator be invited to attend the next meeting of the Community Development Committee.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To identify current issues and support needs of residents and ensure that the Town Council and Local Area Coordination social inclusion initiatives complimented each other.*
2. *To welcome the newly appointed Local Area Co-ordinator to the area.*

95. 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.

96. Programme of Events 2024/2025

The Committee considered applications for sponsorship in the Programme of Events for 2024/2025 and a schedule of events (item 10 on the agenda).

It was noted that Bryan and Betty Copson had advised that they would be retiring from organising the St Crispin's Church Quiz Night following the Quiz held on 22nd March 2024.

RESOLVED

1. that the Programme of Events 2024/2025, attached at Appendix 1, be approved,
2. that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive & Town Clerk to approve any further applications to the Programme of Events subject to their eligibility for the Programme; and
3. that a letter be forwarded to Bryan and Betty Copson thanking them, on behalf of the community, for their years of service in organising the St Crispin's Quiz Night.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ensure a suitable Programme of Events would be supported for the forthcoming year.*
2. *To ensure that any further applications were considered and approved in a timely manner to be included in the Programme of Events 2024/2025.*
3. *To recognise their enthusiasm and support for the Town Council's Programme of Events.*

97. Update on arrangements for commemorating 80th Anniversary of D-Day in June

The Committee received:

- a) An update on proposals for commemorating the 80th Anniversary of D-Day in June 2024;
- b) Applications for the mini-programme of events; and
- c) Grant applications
(item 11 on the agenda).

RESOLVED

- 1) that the proposed activities and events be approved;
- 2) that the application for sponsorship in the Mini programme of Events from Braunstone Community Life, as set out in Appendix 1, be approved;
- 3) that the application from Braunstone Community Life for a grant in the sum of £200, as set out in appendix 2 be approved;
- 4) that the application from Braunstone Heritage Group for a grant in the sum of £200, as set out in appendix 3, be approved;
- 5) that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive & Town Clerk to approve further applications received for sponsorship in the Mini

Programme of Events and applications for a grant, subject to them meeting the agreed criteria.

Reasons for Decision

- 1) *To ensure that the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings is suitably commemorated and that local community groups have appropriate support to organise their own events if they wish to.*
- 2) *To support local community groups in arranging events for the Commemoration of the D-Day Landing.*
- 3) *To offer financial support to community groups to arrange suitable events for the Commemoration of the D-Day Landings.*
- 4) *To offer financial support to community groups to arrange suitable events for the Commemoration of the D-Day Landings.*
- 5) *To ensure that any further applications for sponsorship in the Mini Programme of Events and grant applications are considered in a timely manner before the date of the Commemorations.*

98. Thorpe Astley on the Beach

The Committee received an update on progress with organising Thorpe Astley on the Beach (item 12 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the proposed arrangements for the Thorpe Astley on the Beach event be approved.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that suitable activities be provided for this community event for residents to enjoy.

99. Support for Ukraine

The Committee considered whether to continue to support Ukrainian Independence Day and to review support for Groups supporting Ukrainian refugees (item 13 on the agenda).

Members considered the revised proposals for support for Ukraine. It was suggested that free rooms for Ukraine nationals living in the community continue to be offered via the Town Council website. Contact to be made with the Liaison Officer at Blaby District Council to ascertain the number of Ukraine refugees living in Braunstone Town and what their current needs were.

RESOLVED

1. that Ukrainian Independence Day on 24th August continue be commemorated on an annual basis at the Civic Memorial Garden and flag Pole with an appropriate Ceremony hosted by the Town Mayor;

2. that the Ukrainian flag be flown at Braunstone Civic Centre annually around the 24th February, marking the anniversary of the Russian invasion, and on 24th August, marking Ukrainian Independence Day;
3. that delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive & Town Clerk, in on consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader, to fly the Ukrainian flag at other appropriate times;
4. free use of community rooms at the Town Council venues continues to be promoted via the Town Council website; and
5. contact be made with the Liaison Officer at Blaby District Council to ascertain the number of Ukraine refugees living in Braunstone Town and Thorpe Astley and what their current needs were.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To demonstrate the Town Council's full support and solidarity with the Ukrainian people as set out in the motion adopted by Council on 24th March 2022.*
2. *To provide a visual demonstration of both the Council's and the community's support for the Ukrainian people at key anniversaries such as the anniversary of the Russian invasion and on Ukrainian Independence Day.*
3. *To ensure that the flag was flown as appropriate should there be a change in circumstances in Ukraine. e.g., a cease fire or the end of hostilities.*
4. *To ensure that support from the Town Council continue whilst required.*
5. *To ascertain the current needs of the Ukraine community to ensure the Town Council was providing appropriate support.*

100. Outside Body Report

Councillor Rebecca Lunn reported that there was no further update on the activities at Braunstone West Social Centre.

101. School Governing Body Report

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

102. Summary of Grant Applications

The Committee received a list of grants paid to date and applied for from external sources, along with acknowledgements for Town Council Grants (Item 16 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.

103. Community Grant Applications

The Committee noted that no Community Grant Applications had been received.

Members queried the reduction in grant applications received from local groups and suggested that groups may be unsure that they were eligible to apply for a grant, particularly if they had reserves in their bank account.

RESOLVED

1. that groups be advised that reserves in the community group bank account would not prohibit the group from applying for grant from the Town Council; and
2. that short sessions on the Town Council grant schemes be arranged and community groups invited to attend to discuss eligibility for applying for a grant.

Reasons for Decision

1. *To ensure that community groups were fully aware of eligibility criteria for applying for Town Council Community Grants.*
2. *To ensure that support and advice was offered to community groups and that they were encouraged to apply for community grants, if eligible.*

104. Financial Comparisons

The Committee received Financial Comparisons for the period 1st April 2023 to 29th February 2024 (item 18 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Reason for Decision

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

105. Approval of Accounts

The Committee considered payments from 24th January 2024 until 19th March 2024 (item 19 on the agenda).

RESOLVED that the list of Approved Expenditure Transactions, for the period 24th January 2024 until 19th March 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 8.20pm

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 16th May 2024.

SIGNED:

DATE: