

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BURNTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT THE OLD MINING COLLEGE CENTRE, QUEEN STREET, BURNTWOOD
ON THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2015 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs Stokes (in the Chair)
Councillors Bamborough, Mrs Banevicius, Ms Brettell, Mrs Conolly, Mrs Constable, Constable, Drinkwater, Ennis, Mrs Evans, Mrs Fisher, Humphreys (from 7.15 p.m.), Mosson, Pullen, Mrs Pullen, Mrs Rigby, Mrs Shingler (from 7.15 p.m.), Stokes, Mrs Tranter, Willis-Croft and Mrs Woodward

In attendance

Mrs M Danby, Town Clerk
Ms J Minor, Administrative Assistant
PCSO J Postle
V Chamberlain, Burntwood Action Group
2 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs P Palmer, Thistledown Avenue

Mrs Palmer queried the lack of play equipment on the Redwood Estate. Mrs Palmer was informed that the park was known as Chase View Park and due to vandalism, anti-social behaviour and complaints from residents the play equipment had been removed some time ago.

PRAYERS

The Chairman asked that Members take a moment of silence to reflect former Councillor, Ron Bradbury, who had died this week and also the Queen - the longest serving monarch.

Members were informed of the sad death of Ron Bradbury who had been a very colourful character within the community. Mr Bradbury had been Chairman of the Town Council (2004-05 and 2013-14) and had been involved with the Fusion Credit Union and Community Transport in their early stages. With the support of the Burntwood Heritage Group (of which Mr Bradbury was a member) and Burntwood Town Council, Mr Bradbury had created a small historical museum at the Old Mining College Centre. Mr Bradbury had produced a regular newspaper column and had visited many schools. For prosperity, Mr Bradbury together with his video camera had attended the official opening of the Leisure Centre by Princess Anne. Mr Bradbury was the driving force behind Scamp. Members were informed that even in poor health Mr Bradbury continued to serve the community well.

It was unanimously **AGREED** that when the IT suite at the Old Mining College Centre is refurbished that this be named after Mr Bradbury has a tribute to him.

41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Miss Fisher.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None declared.

43. MINUTES: TOWN COUNCIL

Members raised a query as to the accuracy of Minute No. 34 - S106 Environmental Improvements: Sankeys Corner etc (Pages 14 and 15) and in particular the last bullet point of the resolution.

RESOLVED THAT:

- a) the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 30 July 2015 (Minute Nos. 21 - 40) be received and where necessary approved and adopted.
- b) the last bullet point of the solution be amended to read: the decision on the reallocation of funds will be made when the financial information has been received and considered by the Policy and Resources Committee.

44. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman informed Members that together with the Leader of the Town Council, the lease to the Old Mining College Centre had been signed and it was hoped that the Centre would be at the heart of the community in the future.

45. MINUTES: PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members made reference to Page 13, Minute No. (g) - 23 July 2015 (formerly The Oak) and felt that, since S106 and BBC monies had been spent, a missed opportunity may have arisen in contacting the owner(s) regarding the poor state of the building.

The Chairman stated that he would be attempting to contact the owner/brewery.

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning Committee held on 23 July 2015 (Minute Nos. 20 - 25) and 20 August 2015 (Minute Nos. 26 - 31) be received and where necessary approved and adopted.

46. MINUTES: WILLIAM CADMAN CHARITY TRUSTEES

Members made reference to the fact that two Members of the Committee cohabit and asked if there was a conflict of interest. The Town Clerk stated that she would obtain advice/response from NALC.

Members queried Minute No. 3(b) - 10 August 2015 and asked what they were unhappy with. Members were informed that a grant of £2,000 for a kitchen should have come out of the grant aid budget.

Members queried Minute No. 3(c) - 10 August 2015 and the Town Council have no right foregoing the annual grant and that the Town Council should abide by the rules.

Members queried Minute No. 5(b) and was informed by the Town Clerk that two emails had been sent (and two read receipts had been received). It was suggested that a letter may have been more appropriate in this case.

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the William Cadman Charity Trustees held on 10 August 2015 (Minute Nos. 1 - 7) be received and where necessary approved and adopted.

47. MINUTES: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE

Members were informed that Kirkwells Planning Consultants had been present at the meeting on 27 August.

Members queried the words "Members confirmed that there was not an urgent rush" (Minute No. 10, Page 4, 1st bullet point - 27 August 2015) and felt that all the work had been undertaken in order that a draft Plan could be produced. Members asked why three officers from the Town Council had been present at the meeting and at what cost. It was confirmed that the Implementation Officer was assisting with the Neighbourhood Plan, the Administrative Assistant due to her Planning Committee connections was present and the Town Clerk had been requested to attend the meeting. It was noted that it was important that all associated with the Neighbourhood Plan attend, this includes officers of the Town Council working on the plan which includes the Town Clerk.

Members referred to the bullet point referring to parking and access to Chasewater and felt that this issue needed to be addressed and that The Sportsway leading to the Rugby Club could provide echelon parking.

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee held on 27 August 2015 (Minute Nos. 7 - 12) be received and where necessary approved and adopted.

48. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Councillor Drinkwater, Leader of the Opposition Group submitted the following question:

"What action has been taken to implement the numerous agreements that were made at the last Council meeting i.e. the purchase of a defibrillator, Burntwood in Bloom Committee - political balance and staff structure?"

Members were informed that positive action had taken place. With regard to the defibrillator, an application for S106 monies was being drawn up, the defibrillator would be installed at the Old Mining College Centre and this item would also appear on the next agenda for the Policy and Resources Committee.

Members were informed that the Burntwood in Bloom Committee was a community committee and in order to add another Member, a larger committee may be needed to include more balance from the community. It was agreed that this could be considered at the next Policy and Resources Committee meeting.

The Leader of the Town Council noted that the question received from the opposing group was too vague and an open question that was in no way specific, the Leader requested that in future all Members questions to be specific to the subject enquired about and to the point, that way an answer could be given.

49. PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED That retrospective approval be given to increase the membership of the Planning Committee to 10 Members (seven Majority Group Members and three Minority Group Meetings) with immediate effect and that the new Members would be:

- Councillor Mosson
- Councillor Mrs Fisher
- Councillor Drinkwater

50. BURNTWOOD WAKES FESTIVAL

50.1 Burntwood Wakes Festival 2015: Review

Members received and noted the Burntwood Wakes Festival 2015: Review Report.

50.2 Burntwood Wakes Festival 2016 (BWF16)

RESOLVED That a BWF16 Task and Finish Group be established comprising of the following Members:

- Councillor Bamborough
- Councillor Mrs Conolly
- Councillor Miss Fisher
- Councillor Pullen
- Councillor Stokes
- Councillor Ennis
- Councillor Mrs Woodward

51. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS MADE BETWEEN 27 JULY AND 27 AUGUST 2015 INCLUSIVE

Members referred to the Elected Members Information Pack issued July 2015 regarding a payment made for Chairman's Expenses. Members also queried the cost of the Burntwood in Bloom competition and asked why S Lightfoot's name was included in a public document. Members were informed that S Lightfoot was a contractor and not a staff member and that all contractors/businesses should be referred to by name in the schedule of payments.

RESOLVED That the Schedule of Payments totalling £23,283.24 made between 27 July and 27 August 2015 inclusive be received and noted.

52. 2015/16 BUDGET AS AT 27 AUGUST 2015

Members referred to the proposed installation of lighting at Chawner Close and confirmed that the land was in fact owned by Lichfield District Council and not Staffordshire County Council and asked whether the sum on Page 5 Code 4240/4241 (Electricity/Maintenance) could be used. The Town Clerk advised that the budget sum was for the Council's existing street lighting which will be billed in March 2016.

Members asked for a breakdown regarding Page 3 Code 4060 (Car Mileage: Employees) and Code 4062 (Car Parking Fees).

Members referred to Page 12 Code 4701 (Election Expenses). Members were informed that the sum is added to an Earmark Reserve and that the election invoice from Lichfield District Council is awaited.

Members asked for a breakdown regarding Page 8 Code 4600/210 (BWF15).

Members stated that there appeared to be a discrepancy regarding the figure for the BTS: Implementation Officer (Page 10 Code 4750) - referred to the Policy and Resources Committee for clarification.

RESOLVED That the 2015/16 Budget as at 27 August 2015 be received and noted.

53. CONCLUSION OF THE 2014/15 EXTERNAL AUDIT

RESOLVED That the 2014/15 Annual Return be received and noted.

54. OLD MINING COLLEGE CENTRE, QUEEN STREET, CHASETOWN

Members felt that taking over the Old Mining College Centre was a massive task for the Council and it was **AGREED** that the Leader of the Majority Group and Leader of the Minority Group together with their Deputies meet to discuss the proposals for the Old Mining College Centre.

(The Meeting closed at 8.08 p.m.)

Signed

Date