

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
HELD AT BURNTWOOD LIBRARY, SANKEY'S CORNER, BURNTWOOD  
ON THURSDAY 18 MAY 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Miss Fisher (in the Chair)  
Mrs Mary Danby, Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Jayne Minor, Senior Administration Officer  
N Caine, Direct Services Manager  
20 Town Councillors  
25 Members of the Public

Councillor Miss Fisher welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that she had had a brilliant year as Chairman and thanked the Council for their support.

**1. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 18 May 2017 were taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

I was thrilled last year when I was chosen to be the Chairman of Burntwood Town Council and I became one of the youngest in the country.

I have really enjoyed my year and the events I have attended. It is very special when you represent the town you live in.

My year started by attending Lichfield District Council's Civic Service, I opened Bradshaw's Farm Shop Summer Fayre and in July I went to the opening of the Parkour Park in Cherry Close. I also attended Lichfield City Council's Mayor at Home High Tea and the Sheriff's Ride. In Burntwood I attended the Wakes Festival in their old home at Burntwood Leisure Centre and at Christmas opened our Christmas Festival and switched on the Christmas lights at Swan Island. There were two highlights in my year, firstly my Civic Carol Service at St Anne's Church, then in February my Charity Evening where two bands I play with 'Blast Off' and 'Gan Teideal' performed raising money for my charities.

My chosen charities for this year have been 1st Burntwood Scouts and We Love Burntwood Fund and through peoples generosity we have managed to raise £1,721.

The Town Council has now settled into its new home at The Old Mining College Centre, Queen Street where we have welcomed new staff onto the team. We will be working hard in the future to make it a fantastic Community Hub for the town.

We have undertaken a review of the Civic Function and are looking at updating our website. We are very proud to be carrying on with our free community events, the

Wakes Festival goes from strength to strength and the Christmas Festival is growing thanks to our work with partners. The hugely successful Play in the Parks will be back this summer and I know a lot of local families will be looking forward to it.

Can I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported me during my year, with special thanks to Councillor Mrs Pam Stokes my Vice Chairman who has been a huge help to me and I wish her and her consort Councillor Keith Stokes a very happy and successful coming year.

Lastly, thank you to the staff at the Town Council.

The Chairman presented Mrs Lorraine Burns, representing 1<sup>st</sup> Burntwood Scout Group, one of the Chairman's chosen charities with a cheque in the sum of £860.50. Mrs Burns thanked the Chairman and informed all present that the money would go towards the payment of Wi-Fi access at the Scout Hut in Elder Lane.

The Chairman presented Ms Sally Grieve, representing The Community Foundation for Staffordshire, one of the Chairman's chosen charities with a cheque in the sum of £860.50. Ms Grieve thanked the Chairman and informed all present that the Foundation manages funds which gives out grants to both Burntwood and Lichfield charities.

### **3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT/PRECEPT**

The Summary Budget for 2016/17 as circulated, was received and noted.

### **4. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Reports in respect of Member representation on various outside bodies were received and noted.

### **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Colin Waldron** made reference to the closure of Greenwood House and he asked for the annual running costs of the building pre-closure and post closure to be provided to him. The Chief Executive Officer informed Mr Waldron that the Town Council had no jurisdiction over this matter and were therefore unable to provide the requested information and he was advised to contact Staffordshire County Council who own the building. Councillor Mrs Woodward, in her capacity as a County Councillor, informed all present that Greenwood House, which closed in 2007/08, as a residential care home was expensive to run and people were living more in their own homes. The intention at that time had been to open Greenwood House as a dementia centre however the change in political control of Staffordshire County Council in 2009 meant that this did not go ahead. Councillor Mrs Woodward confirmed that no planning application had been submitted for the site but she was under the impression that the building would be demolished and was not fit for purpose (health centre). Councillor Mrs Woodward stated that Burntwood was vastly under resourced relating to health centres. With regard to current running costs,

Councillor Mrs Woodward said that the current annual cost was £5,000 (rates) plus security and electricity.

**John Griffin** made reference to Lichfield Live and the co-option to fill a casual vacancy for the Chasetown Ward. Mr Griffin said that he agreed with local democracy and that Labour had accused the Tories of going back on an agreement. The Chief Executive Officer stated that no election had been called; the notice of casual vacancy had been advertised on social media, local press and on noticeboards, etc. Councillor Drinkwater stated that no election had been called because of the agreement to co-opt a Labour member. The Chairman confirmed that the co-option was an agenda item for the Annual Meeting of the Town Council.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

(The Meeting closed at 7.15 p.m.)

Signed .....

Date .....