

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2020 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Evans [in the Chair]
G Hunt, Town Clerk
Ms J Minor, Deputy Clerk

15 Town Councillors
2 Members of the public

Councillor Evans welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting.

1. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Norman, seconded by Councillor Woodward and

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 15 May 2019 were taken as read and approved as a correct record.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Councillor Evans made the following statement:

"This year as Chairman has been rewarding, but very different to what I envisaged when I was elected to the role. The commencement was excellent and I was visiting many organisations in Burntwood, both in the voluntary and paid sector, who have been doing a sterling job to provide opportunities for the community to participate in. It is very humbling to realise how many people devote a considerable amount of time on a voluntary basis, to help others and I would like to thank them most sincerely.

My charity was in aid of dementia as the Council is working towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Town. We know there are numerous sufferers of this awful disease around us and often the carers also have a very difficult time attending to them. I arranged a number of fund raising events and one had taken place already in conjunction with St Anne's Church, for which I was very grateful. Unfortunately, then came the awful Pandemic which we are sadly still experiencing and so other ventures have had to be put on hold.

However, I was lucky enough between last May and March this year, to be invited to attend many groups, care homes and civic functions on behalf of the Council. This allowed me to observe the wide variety of facilities that are available for people of all ages to be involved with if they wish.

As this council year comes to an end in very difficult circumstances for all of us, I am reporting in my capacity as Chairman to let you know what the council has achieved during the past

year. Last May, after the elections, the Labour Group took control of the Council and from the start we declared we were going to make it much more inclusive for the public to be involved and also to ensure that we would make our great town a Better Burntwood. Over the year, the whole council has worked hard to achieve this and our Full Town Council meetings have been held at various locations across the town. We have also expanded the time that the public can speak during the meetings, so that they feel more involved in the activities of the Council for their benefit. By notifying the Town Clerk of their question a few days before the meeting, it allows their question to be adequately answered. We have also reorganised the committee structure, which is now much more successful and we will continue to improve as time goes on.

Finally I would like to thank my Vice Chair, Councillor Rob Birch for all the support he has given me over the year, my fellow Councillors, especially the Leader, Councillor Sue Woodward and the staff at Burntwood Town Council for all their help. I am indebted to you all."

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT/PRECEPT

It was proposed by Councillor D Ennis, seconded by Councillor Woodward and

RESOLVED That the Summary Budget for 2020-21 as circulated, was received and noted.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Evans informed Members that there had been no notifications received/questions raised from registered electors within the Town Council boundaries on any matter which affects the Town.

[The Meeting closed at 6.02 pm]

Signed

Date