

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
HELD AT BURNTWOOD MEMORIAL INSTITUTE, RUGELEY ROAD, BURNTWOOD ON  
TUESDAY 25 MAY 2021 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

**PRESENT**

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

18 Town Councillors  
2 County Councillors  
3 Members of the public  
Reverend R Westwood

Councillor Evans welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the virtual Annual Town Meeting held on 13 May 2020 {Minute Nos. 1-4} were taken as read and approved as a correct record.

**2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Councillor Evans made the following statement:

"As this council year comes to a close, it is time for me to reflect on the achievements in Burntwood over the past difficult year, as the Pandemic has taken hold and caused all of us to adjust our lives accordingly. For me and I am sure for many others across Burntwood, the most positive action we have witnessed is an amazing upsurge in the community spirit in our town. So many volunteers and groups have pulled together to ensure there is help, support and advice for anybody who requires it. For all who have contributed towards a more united, helpful and clean Burntwood and have given generously of their time during the past year and are continuing to do so, I give my sincere thanks.

The past year has been particularly harrowing for us in Burntwood in many respects and as Chairman I want to thank you for the way the majority of you have conducted yourselves in these unprecedented times. Nobody could have envisaged the difficulties that were to lie ahead for all of us.

Unfortunately, once again I was unable to raise contributions for my charity in aid of dementia, particularly as the council is continuing to work towards a Dementia Friendly Town. Dementia is a dreadful disease that is causing problems for many families in the area, so the council considers it to be vitally important to assist the sufferers and their carers by making Burntwood easier to access for shopping etc. We hope that during the next few months we will have the opportunity to do this.

The work of the Town Council has continued despite the difficulties and regular meetings are held virtually via Zoom, which have been open to the public and time is set aside if anyone wishes to ask questions as long as prior notice is given, in order to prepare a suitable answer. This pledge was made when the Labour Group took control in 2019. Councillors are committed to working together towards making this great town into a Better Burntwood. This is why we are grateful that the numerous volunteer groups are working with us to achieve this aim. Consequently, we hope that eventually we may come together to assist in delivering some of the community activities enjoyed by so many in the not-too-distant future. To this end we are willing to listen to what the public think we should be achieving, that is within our remit as a town council. We hope that the approved Neighbourhood Plan will bring a positive result for Burntwood, which will enable us to acquire more funding for the community as well as other advantages.

Finally, once again I would like to thank my Vice Chair, Councillor Rob Birch for all his support, all my fellow Councillors, especially the Leader of the Council, Councillor Sue Woodward and the staff at Burntwood Town Council for all their help. I am indebted to you all.

In the meantime, please remember Hands, Face and Fresh Air and Keep Safe.

Together we will build a Better Burntwood.”

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

**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 6.05 pm]

Signed .....

Date .....