

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
HELD AT ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY CHURCH, HIGH STREET, CHASE TERRACE
HELD ON TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2021 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Westwood [in the Chair]

Councillors L Ennis (left the meeting at 7pm), Evans, Gittings, Kirkham, M Place, R Place and Woodward.

In attendance

G Hunt, Town Clerk

Councillor Willis-Croft

Councillor Taylor

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions raised by the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor D Ennis.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Evans declared an interest in respect of item 6. She confirmed that she was a trustee of CASES who might be referred to in any discussions concerning this item.

3. MINUTES

Councillor Woodward pointed out the following errors:

- Item 53 should read Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service **Authority** and not Panel
- Item 58 should read to **record** (not recall) our thanks to Angela Brady

It was proposed by Councillor Woodward and seconded by Councillor L Ennis and following a unanimous show of hands it was

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 16 March 2020 [Minute Nos. 52-60] be approved as a correct record.

4. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

There was no additional information provided.

5. CHRISTMAS EVENTS

During a discussion of the arrangements for this event the following key points were made:

- The report did not refer to the Morley Road event as this was being delivered independently by the Co-op. The only support that the Town Council provides is the donation of the Christmas tree.
- Bromford Housing had provided a grant of £200 towards the Bells Lane event (which had previously been supported by the Co-op).
- The cost had increased this year due to additional expenditure on new items (Christmas market and new Christmas tree lights) but there was unspent funding in the budget to cover the increased cost.

Mr Hunt informed the meeting that permission to use private forecourts at Sankey's Corner had not been received yet. The lack of formal permission could have implications for the Town Council's public liability cover.

6. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

Mr Hunt outlined to the Committee the proposed arrangements for allocating funding this year. It would be based on a commissioning model rather than the traditional allocation of grants. It would be focused on supporting community services that provided early help (Tier 1). The meeting discussed the scope that the Town Council had to support local action and recognised that other partners would lead on the support and delivery of higher tier (tiers 2 to 4) services. The discussion touched on alcohol and drug services. Whilst it was recognised that these services were generally complex and set at tier 2 and above there was acknowledgement that the Town Council might in the future be able to help with any early intervention awareness raising activities. The idea of piloting a commissioning model was welcomed.

It was proposed by Councillor Woodward and seconded by Councillor Evans and following a unanimous show of hands it was

RESOLVED That the Town Clerk be authorised to let contracts for the following essential community services:

- i) First Contact community telephone helpline with supporting website [estimated contract value £1,500]
- ii) Community Transport [estimated contract value £1,500]
- iii) Income Maximisation [estimated contract value £4,000]
- iv) Volunteer Training [estimated contract value £2,000]

[Councillor L Ennis left the meeting at 7pm]

7. COMMUNITY DIAGNOSTIC HUBS

During the discussion of this report the Committee expressed its disappointment that previous guarantees to provide new services following the closure of St Matthews and Hammerwich Hospitals had not been kept. It was recognised that the location of a diagnostic hub in or within easy reach of Burntwood (by public transport) would address many of the limitations of the current health care arrangements for the town. It would also future proof the town against the

likely impact of an aging population. The Committee asked the Town Clerk to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Town Council based on the views set out in paragraph 2 of the report.

8. **BURNTWOOD MARKET**

The consensus of the Committee was that the markets had been well received by the public. It was also agreed that a market in some capacity should be held in the town. However, the Committee felt that further research was needed before any definite commitments were made. Key issues raised were.

- The public's appetite for regular markets needed to be tested. The idea of a social media-based survey was welcomed. The survey held at the last market was helpful but the number of people completing the survey was too small to be meaningful
- The cost was high. The public were unaware of the cost and the expectations for future markets are often consequently unrealistic
- The frequency of markets needed to be determined particularly in respect the impact of the weather and other competing events on attendance
- Opportunities for better promotion needed to be explored especially regarding people who do not use social media
- The market needed to be supported by more local businesses based at Sankey's Corner
- The toilets needed proper sign posting and cleaning.

9. **WAKES/EVENTS [QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE] 2022**

The Committee recognised the need to prepare for the Platinum Jubilee.

10. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Councillor M Place reported on community meetings that she had attended. She wondered if there was a means by which Councillors could report on such meetings. Mr Hunt suggested that it might be possible to set up a drop box which could be used by Councillors to report on the meetings that they had attended. This information would then be available to all Councillors. The Committee were supportive on this idea being explored. It was also agreed that prior to each committee meeting the councillors would be invited to share any updates/news from groups in their wards.

11. **DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TOWN**

Cllr Evans updated the Committee on the work that the Dementia Working Group had started to raise awareness of the needs of people living with dementia and their carers.

12. **INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

No items were reported

[The Meeting closed at 8 pm]

Signed Date