

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
HELD AT EMMANUEL NEWLIFE CHURCH, CANNOCK ROAD, CHASE TERRACE ON
TUESDAY 22 MARCH 2022 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor D Ennis [in the Chair]
Councillors L Ennis, Evans, Gittings, Kirkham, Westwood and Woodward

In attendance

S Lightfoot, Town Clerk
Ms J Minor, Deputy Clerk
Councillor Taylor

PUBLIC FORUM

No questions were raised by members of the public.

56. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors M Place and R Place.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None declared.

58. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Woodward and seconded by Councillor L Ennis and

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 23 February 2022 [Minute Nos. 47-55] be approved as a correct record.

59. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

Councillor D Ennis confirmed that the exhibition – Dementia Friendly Burntwood “Through My Eyes” was still at the Library and it was hoped to bring part of the exhibition to the next Burntwood Producers’ Market to be held on Sunday 10 April 2022.

60. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillor Woodward referred to the “We Stand With Ukraine” event held on Saturday 12 March. Even though she had been asked, Councillor Woodward believed that the vetting of refugees for accommodation was the responsibility of Lichfield District Council and social care was the responsibility of Staffordshire County Council and not the Town Council. Councillor Woodward confirmed that she will be meeting with Reverend Westwood, Reverend Wallace and Esther Allen soon to discuss ways in which

the community could help by for example signposting to the Disasters Emergency Committee [dec.org.uk].

Councillor Woodward explained that the Town Clerk had suggested twinning with a town in Ukraine. Councillor D Ennis had found approximately 12 other towns of a similar size to Burntwood that might be suitable and Olena Volkova had put forward a suggestion that could be considered later.

Councillor D Ennis referred to signposting and suggested that the front page of the Town Council's website could now reflect Ukraine and not "Click here to view more information on Coronavirus". Councillor Woodward stated that we needed a bona-fide list of organisations where people can be signposted to for example Disasters Emergency Committee. Councillor Woodward pointed out that Burntwood Library was one of Staffordshire County Council's "Community Help Points".

Councillor Woodward confirmed that Rose Westwood, who helped set up the community store had left her role and they were currently looking to recruit a Project Co-ordinator [closing date 28 March 2022] and asked if Members could share the social media post.

Councillor Woodward also confirmed that the Earl of Shrewsbury did attend the event in the end and Mercian Labels were going to have an open day in the near future.

Councillor D Ennis referred to Chasetown Football Club and confirmed that their new Chair, Steve Jones was investing heavily in the local community. It was hoped that in the new future a planning application would be submitted to Lichfield District Council for a new stand, hospitality suite etc and after two fantastic wins against two big clubs, they are nearly at the top of the 2021-2022 league table.

Councillor Evans pointed out that previous problems with expansion with the Club is that the Club lies within the Green Belt.

It was suggested that Mr Jones could attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss future projects or attend the Planning and Development Committee when the application is presented.

61. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND – ACTIVE 60S GROUP

Councillor D Ennis confirmed that the Active 60s Group had also submitted an identical application to Lichfield District Council's Community Fund. He felt that the application needed to reflect more of a project not just for example, paying for speakers, subsidising day trips etc.

Councillor Woodward explained that the Town Council had previously agreed that priority would be given to applications that add to community capacity and are from applicants who have not recently received funding from the Council [the scheme is not intended to be a source of year-on-year funding] and asked what other grants have they received.

The Town Clerk explained that the funding of up to £500 for local groups wishing to provide activities and support for their community was designed to be light touch with an idea to engage with them. Following a discussion with Councillor D Ennis, the Town Clerk confirmed that in the future the Better Burntwood Fund reports would not include a recommendation, and councillors would have discussion before making a decision on grants. The Town Clerk described some minor adjustments to the application process.

It was proposed by Councillor D Ennis and

RESOLVED That the application be deferred until more detail on how the proposed grant would be spent.

62. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND – BURNTWOOD MEMORIAL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Councillor D Ennis explained that he had forwarded to the Town Clerk details of the Staffordshire Business and Environment Network. There is grant funding available to cover all the equipment costs and then they only need to find labour money as the project for a new solar panel system would be in the region of £20,000 and he felt that £500 would just sit in a pot.

Councillor Woodward felt that we needed to direct them to the Town Council's other Better Burntwood Fund [funding for third sector organisations that provide services to the local community at the early help stage] as they do a lot for the Burntwood community and they were currently struggling financially with the upkeep of the building.

Councillor Kirkham stated that she had previously attended a couple of the meetings of the Committee and was doing her very best to support them. Councillor Woodward had spoken to Councillor Greensill and asked if she wanted to attend the meetings as a ward member for Gorstey Ley.

Councillor Evans explained that previously the Town Council did have representatives on outside bodies and stated that during the Covid-19 lockdown the rooms could not be used but they still had expenses and it was important to support them.

It was noted that Lichfield District Council had recently removed the concession on charitable waste disposal without prior notification and Councillor Evans said that she has advised them to look for a different provider.

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

RESOLVED That a meeting be held with members of Burntwood Memorial Community Association [to include Councillor D Ennis and the Town Clerk] to explore better ways of supporting them regarding solar panels and to offer help and assistance for applications, if needed.

63. BURNTWOOD WAKES PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION EVENT 2022

Councillor D Ennis confirmed that the basic elements of the event had been sorted out and that the Steering Group was continuing to run on Fridays at 12 noon either in person or via zoom.

The Town Clerk confirmed that acts had been booked for the stage and he was continuing to work hard on obtaining fairground rides. Councillor D Ennis confirmed that climbing walls, mobile caving, punch and judy, face painting, inflatables etc had all been booked.

64. INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Under Chair's delegated powers Councillor D Ennis confirmed that a Better Burntwood Fund application had recently been received from Burntwood Litter Heroes for £500.

He explained that the group's objectives were to encourage residents to look after streets and that they undertook individual and group litter picks around Burntwood. The purpose of the grant would contribute towards the purchase of litter pickers, bag rings, Hi-Viz jackets etc.

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

RESOLVED That a grant in the sum of £500 be awarded to Burntwood Litter Heroes.

Councillor Woodward referred to a film which showcases a partnership project between the Town Council and community groups in Burntwood. She explained that an initiative in Burntwood had been used by a national organisation to demonstrate the way Councils and community organisations could work more closely together. The Cooperative Councils Innovation Network [CCIN] had produced a film highlighting the creation and work of the Burntwood Be A Friend scheme. She suggested that perhaps the film could be shown at a future meeting of the Committee.

The Town Clerk explained that membership of the CCIN gave the Town Council a platform to have a say and we were well respected.

[The Meeting closed at 7.00 pm]

Signed

Date