

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
HELD AT BURNTWOOD LIBRARY, BRIDGE CROSS ROAD, BURNTWOOD ON
WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE 2022 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor D Ennis [in the Chair]
Councillors Bishop, Coe, Evans, Gittings, M Place and R Place

In attendance

S Lightfoot, Town Clerk
Ms J Minor, Deputy Clerk

LICHFIELD DISTRICT CITY OF SANCTUARY

Mr Nigel Gann, Secretary of the Lichfield District City of Sanctuary gave a talk on how the Town Council could work with and support Lichfield District City of Sanctuary. He explained that the Lichfield District City of Sanctuary is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation [CIO] but emphasised that the organisation does not just cover Lichfield but the whole of the district.

Mr Gann stated that their strategy key messages were

- Engagement with existing refugees
- Challenging divisive behaviour
- Developing streams of sanctuary

Mr Gann explained that their aspirations were

- To become known in Burntwood and the villages as a District City of Sanctuary
- To provide their services in Burntwood and the villages as well as in Lichfield
- To create partnerships with Burntwood organisations with shared values and objectives
- To have a formal relationship with Burntwood Town Council as a means of achieving this
- To see Burntwood as a Town of Sanctuary

He explained that they already have relationships with Lichfield District Council, in particular Councillor Richard Cox, Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships and Lichfield City Council who at their meeting on 14 March 2022 resolved to support the vision and principles of the organisation.

Councillor D Ennis felt that the minimum that the Town Council could do was to match the resolution of the City Council and appoint Councillor representatives.

Councillor Evans referred to the "We Stand With Ukraine" event held in the Memorial Park on Saturday 12 March and felt that it was vital for refugees to learn the language in order to integrate.

Councillor M Place said that she would be attending the AGM on Saturday 25 June. Councillor Coe explained that she attended [via zoom] the 08 June Faith Action Coffee House which focused on Faith's Response to the Crisis in Ukraine.

It was proposed by Councillor D Ennis and seconded by Councillor Evans and following a show of hands [5 For, 1 Abstention] it was

RESOLVED That

- (a) The Town Council declares its support for the vision and principles of Lichfield District City of Sanctuary.
- (b) The Town Council appoints up to three representatives as Burntwood Town Council representatives on this outside body until May 2023, then for a period of two years.

PUBLIC FORUM

No questions were raised by members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Greensill, Kirkham, Ho, Taylor and Woodward.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None declared.

3. MINUTES

The Chair reminded Members that they were being asked to comment solely on the accuracy of the Minutes.

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

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 19 April 2022 [Minute Nos. 65-74] be approved as a correct record.

4. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

There was no information arising from the minutes.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillor M Place explained that Everyone Health would be coming to Morrisons in August. They provide free 12-week programmes which include adult weight management, stop smoking, stop smoking in pregnancy, physical activity sessions, falls prevention, loneliness and social isolation service. They also provide free NHS health checks for anyone living in Staffordshire between ages 40-74.

Councillor Evans referred to Dementia Friendly Community and the importance of getting local businesses on board. Information sheets have been produced which can be given out to local businesses. She confirmed that all hairdressers in Burntwood had been given the information sheet as it is important to make as many people as possible aware and it was important to keep the message going. She also referred to the walk being organised by Councillor Woodward in September. Councillor Evans

mentioned that Caroline Bruno, Scheme Manager for MHA Communities may be organising a scarecrow competition.

Councillor R Place stated as a point of order, queried the decision made in respect of Lichfield District City of Sanctuary in front of Mr Gann, as he felt that the speaker should have left the room which would have then allowed a debate. He stated that he was not against the idea but the way it was conducted.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

Councillor R Place referred to the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 08 June 2022 where their terms of reference was discussed and in particular Responsibilities No. 7.

The Town Clerk referred to Governance No. 5 and explained that he would be asking the Chair and Vice Chair to set a spending limit however, Councillor R Place felt that where provision had already been provided within the revenue budget there was no need for a spending limit.

It was proposed by Councillor R Place and seconded by Councillor D Ennis and following a unanimous show of hands it was

RESOLVED That the Terms of Reference for the Committees be referred to the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee scheduled for 10 August 2022.

7. BURNTWOOD WAKES PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION EVENT 2022

Councillor Evans felt that the event had been excellent and due to the windy weather the stalls had been located in the hall which was better for them. She felt that the event went smoothly and it was important that the event was free to reflect hardship faced by families at the moment.

Councillor Coe agreed with Councillor Evans that it was important that children could go on the inflatable, climbing wall for free as people were on a limited budget.

Councillor D Ennis stated that the Town Council tried something different this year with the climbing wall and cave which proved popular as the fairground rides were double/triple the price. It was unfortunate that there was several other events going on in other local areas, but this was inevitable. There was really good talent on the stage throughout the day.

Councillor R Place felt that it was easy for people to criticise but this was a unique event but the Town Council needed to be careful of the budget in the future. Councillor D Ennis confirmed that he had already had discussions with the Chair [Councillor Taylor] as the budget will be half next year. The budget for this event was unspent monies from previous years.

8. MARKETS

Councillor D Ennis suggested that this item be removed from the agenda as the markets are running well. They are well attended and the Town Council gazebo gives Councillors an opportunity to speak to members of the public direct.

It was suggested that Review of Markets could go on the 19 October agenda as the Markets would have just been completed.

9. PLAY IN THE PARKS 2022

The Town Clerk confirmed that the events were progressing rapidly and it was hoped that the Town Council would again be working in partnership with Spark, Beacon Community Church, St John's Community Church and Fun Club. The events will be held across the town on Mondays and Wednesday from 25 July to 24 August and will be advertised in CityLife Magazine and on Social Media.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Town Council had obtained some free play equipment via the scheme currently run by Lichfield District Council – Community Park Play Initiative.

Councillor M Place confirmed that she would provide details for the SPACE scheme.

Councillor D Ennis suggested that the Town Council may need to review its marketing strategy and said that he uses a paid advert on Facebook. He asked if the Town Clerk could look into when the decision was made to use CityLife Magazine.

Councillor Evans stated that every household had received an event calendar.

10. CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The Town Clerk confirmed that the event was progressing and childrens funfair rides had already been booked.

With regard to the request from Burntwood Action Group for them to be included in the Town Council's annual funding for festive trees, the Town Clerk confirmed that Gary Brownridge, Operational Services Manager, Lichfield District Council had visited the site to see what the feasibility was. Mr Brownridge confirmed that Burntwood Action Group have a stand which could accommodate any size trunk base on a 10ft tree. The Town Clerk confirmed that this could be accommodated within the current budget.

Councillor D Ennis supported the festive tree within the Ward as long as the Town Council get a recognition [in the terms and conditions].

Councillor R Place felt that the Town Council needed to be careful even though he supported the suggestion, this was from a right leaning group. The Town Clerk thought that this was an opportunity to engage with local groups.

Councillor Evans thought that all festive trees sponsored/provided by Burntwood Town Council had to have recognition on them [for example Christmas Tree provided by Burntwood Town Council].

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

RESOLVED That a 10ft festive tree to be located in Prince's Park be included in the Town Council's annual funding for festive trees.

11. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND – MIDLAND SOCCER ACADEMY

Councillor R Place raised some concerns and asked if this was a charity as the Club takes "subs". Councillor D Ennis said that the Town Clerk needed to check that this was a community interest company and not a corporate business.

Councillor M Place also raised concerns regarding setting a precedent for all clubs to apply for new kits and Councillor Coe queried membership numbers. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that they currently have approximately 60 members [approximately 15-25 each session] and they are open to everyone aged 50+.

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

RESOLVED That on the basis that it fits the criteria then a grant of £500 be awarded to Midland Soccer Academy.

12. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND – MHA COMMUNITIES SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE

Councillor R Place hoped that there would not be too many Better Burntwood Fund applications to just be ratified in the future by this Committee. Councillor D Ennis explained that due to time restraints and the Committee now only meeting every two months, there will be applications that will just need ratifying.

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

RESOLVED That due to time restraints, under Chair's discretion, the application for funding from MHA Communities South Staffordshire in the sum of £500 be ratified.

13. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND – FUN CLUB

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £500 be awarded to Fun Club.

14. LICHFIELD CITY OF SANCTUARY

See above discussion and resolution.

15. INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

None reported.

[The Meeting closed at 7.33 pm]

Signed

Date