

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM, THE OLD MINING COLLEGE CENTRE, QUEEN STREET,
BURNTWOOD ON WEDNESDAY 05 APRIL 2023 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Taylor [in the Chair]
Councillors Coe, D Ennis, Evans, Gittings, Ho and Woodward

In attendance

S Lightfoot, Town Clerk
Ms J Minor, Deputy Clerk
Ms K Horner, Community Development and Engagement Officer

PUBLIC FORUM

No questions were raised by members of the public.

56. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Kirkham, M Place and R Place.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Taylor declared an interest in items relating to Burntwood Memorial Institute as he is a Trustee and Chair of their Committee.

Councillor Coe declared an interest in Agenda Item 6v. – Better Burntwood Fund [Pathway Project] as she was the Founder of Pathway and is currently a volunteer.

Councillor Woodward declared an interest in items relating to Burntwood Be A Friend as she is the Secretary to the Trust Board. Councillor Woodward declared an interest in items relating to Friends of Chasewater as she is a member.

58. MINUTES

The Chair reminded Members that they were being asked to comment solely on the accuracy of the Minutes and that the Minutes had been approved at Full Council on 15 March 2023.

Following a unanimous show of hands, it was

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 08 February 2023 [Minute Nos. 45-55] be approved as a correct record.

59. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

Councillor Woodward referred to Minute No. 49 – Community Engagement and in particular the Wharfside Community Gardens. She explained that this was a real opportunity for Burntwood residents and they were very interested in partnering with the Town Council by e.g. allocating some plots to Burntwood residents, as they have done with Hammerwich Parish Council and asked if this had been pursued. The Town Clerk confirmed that this was on his agenda to follow up after the elections on 04 May 2023.

Councillor Woodward referred to Minute No. 50.2 – Better Burntwood Fund [Cherry Orchard Garden Services] and in particular the resolution and was of the understanding that the grant had now been allocated. She asked if the updated information could be shared with Councillors so that they are aware of the project e.g. for signposting purposes.

Councillor Woodward referred to Minute No. 53 – His Majesty King Charles III Coronation – Gifts to School Children and asked for an update. The Town Clerk confirmed that schools had been offered a tree. Members were informed that one school had declined due to the fact that they already have a large number of trees on site and inspection/maintenance issues. Members suggested offering them a planter. The Town Clerk confirmed that the bookmarks were currently been designed. The Town Clerk referred to the £1,000 which had been agreed for the re-cyclable bookmarks and English bareroot oak sapling and asked if any remaining budget could be spent on a flag and bunting. The bunting could be erected at Princes Park, Swan Island, Sankey's Corner, and the Old Mining College. This was **AGREED**.

Councillor Taylor referred to Minute No. 54 – Email Newsletter Review and confirmed that the production of the monthly newsletter had been handed over to Council staff.

Councillor Woodward referred to Minute No. 55 – 2023 Wakes and asked what support the District Council was going to offer. The Town Clerk confirmed that the District Council had offered £5,000. Councillor D Ennis confirmed that he was currently in talks with the Chief Executive Officer of Lichfield District Council in the hope of working in partnership rather than customer and a supplier as the Leisure Centre has now been brought back in-house.

60. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillor Taylor referred to Minute No. 42.1 – Burntwood Be A Friend and asked what the current situation was in relation to the resolution. Councillor Woodward stated it was her understanding that they had not heard back from the Housing Ombudsman and that there was a lot of detail to work through to bring two organisations together if that was the way forward.

Members were informed that the Community Development and Engagement Officer had delivered a Dementia Friends session for Chasetown FC staff on Saturday 01 April, the Children's Sunflower Competition had been launched and was currently in the process of re-launching the Community Seed Share. She confirmed that she had had meetings with Lichfield Pride who were looking at ways to expand into the District and Lichfield Garrick Theatre who were looking at ways to engage more with the community, in particular Burntwood, and who were looking at recruiting a Trustee from Burntwood.

Councillor Woodward stated that she was involved in talks with Friends of Chasewater relating to Dementia Action Week [15-21 May 2023] and a suggestion had been to create a “collage”.

Councillor Coe referred to the pedestrianisation scheme of Lichfield City Centre in particular the Market Square and Bore Street. Councillor Ho confirmed that additional disabled parking had been provided in other car parks around the City.

Councillor Woodward referred to the closure of the Burntwood Health and Wellbeing Centre. The current GP provision is set to end early next year when the current contract with the GP provider ends, even though a replacement facility will not be built until 2025. Councillor Woodward stated that concerns had been raised as there currently is only a small number of referral from Burntwood residents relating to drug and alcohol services, dementia services, mental health issues etc.

Councillor Ho confirmed that questions had been raised by Members when members of the ICB's management had attended a Lichfield District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 16 March 2023. Members had been told that a lot of the patients registered at the Health and Wellbeing Centre lived outside of Burntwood.

Councillor Evans felt that access to mental health services for young people needed to be addressed.

61. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

61.1 Burntwood Dragons and Phoenix FC

The Town Clerk confirmed that the purpose of the grant was to help with purchasing of football training equipment including footballs, bibs, cones etc to enable the development and progress the childrens abilities. He confirmed that over the last 12 months the Club had received funding from the District Council from their Climate Change Fund.

Councillor Woodward referred to the rules for consideration and in particular a recent balance sheet or reasonable explanation of the organisation's finances must be provided and the Town Clerk confirmed that this information was obtained.

Councillor D Ennis supported the application and confirmed that some of the training sessions do take place at Burntwood Leisure Centre. Councillor Ho also supported the application and stated that the majority of players live within the Parish of Burntwood and that the Club also have a good working relationship with Hammerwich Parish Council. Councillor Evans said that it was also important to recognise the health benefits.

Members discussed concerns about some of the activity around Coppy Nook Lane on match days including problems with litter and parking and some occasional misbehaviour [quite possibly from visiting supporters]. The Town Clerk stated that he would be happy to talk to the Club about mitigating some of these concerns and offer help where appropriate.

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

RESOLVED That £500 be awarded to Burntwood Dragons and Phoenix FC from the Better Burntwood Fund towards the purchase of football training equipment and that the Club also apply for a grant from Hammerwich Parish Council, as the Club's

base is located in Hammerwich, although it was fully recognised the support and opportunities the Club offers to residents of Burntwood.

61.2 Midland Soccer Academy

The Town Clerk confirmed that the purpose of the grant was to purchase a portable defibrillator for the walking football sessions.

Councillor D Ennis confirmed that the purchase of the Cherry Close Youth Centre had gone through and that the Club had been offered facilities at Redwood Park however the Club have declined this offer due to the number of pitches available. He confirmed that there is currently a defibrillator in situ on the building.

It was proposed by Councillor Taylor and following a unanimous show of hands it was

RESOLVED That the application be deferred until a clearer understanding of the following issues are received:

- The maximum value of the grant would be £500. A defibrillator would likely cost over £1,000. Where is the Club going to secure the rest of the funds from?
- Why a mobile defibrillator? The Town Council understands that there is a unit in place at Open House.
- What are the Club's plans after Open House is no longer available? Have the Club had any conversations about a new location? Is there anything the Town Council can do to help.

61.3 Lichfield Pride

Members were informed that the purpose of the grant was to design and purchase window stickers for the businesses of Burntwood [to incorporate into the design "Burntwood supports Lichfield Pride". Any remaining funds would be spent on, i.e. flags, bunting, banners etc.

Councillor Gittings referred to the organisation called Stonewall [a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights charity in the UK] whose campaigns drive positive change in public attitudes and public policy not just a one-off yearly event and some stickers.

Councillor Woodward stated that the Town Council was looking at forming long term partnerships and raising awareness.

Councillor Ho raised concerns about the amount requested as this seemed a lot for stickers however, Councillor Taylor explained that the costs included the administration and vetting of businesses before handing out stickers.

Councillor D Ennis thought that better wording for the purpose of the grant would have been "marketing". Councillor Ho stated that it may be a little naïve of him but he hoped that all businesses would already demonstrate/show their support for Lichfield Pride and the LGBTQ+ community.

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

RESOLVED That £500 be awarded to Lichfield Pride from the Better Burntwood Fund to design and purchase window stickers, flags, bunting, banners etc to incorporate the Town Council logo.

61.4 Fun Club Hub

Members were informed that the purpose of the grant was to organise and deliver a Big Lunch.

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

RESOLVED That £500 be awarded to Fun Club Hub from the Better Burntwood Fund towards a Big Lunch at Chasetown Football Club.

61.5 Pathway Project

Members were informed that the purpose of the grant was to raise awareness of The Staffordshire Pathway Project.

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

RESOLVED That £500 be awarded to Pathway Project from the Better Burntwood Fund towards raising awareness of Pathway's work in Burntwood.

61.6 Chasetown Football Club

Councillor D Ennis referred to Minute No. 50.1 and in particular the resolution.

Councillor Taylor sought confirmation that, despite the Town Council having moved away from this sort of grant process for the year 2023/24, funds were still available for this request. The Town Clerk confirmed that for 2023/24 there was still enough grant money for the commissioning process, Burntwood Lions and approximately 14 up to £500 Better Burntwood Fund applications.

Councillor Ho thought the Club was an important pillar of the community.

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

RESOLVED That £5,000 be awarded to Chasetown Football Club from the Better Burntwood Fund towards providing a new 3G pitch and other associated development.

62. WARMER WELCOME FUNDING

The Community Development and Engagement Officer showed Members a detailed presentation/slides which had been prepared by Mrs Esther Allen from Spark. It was **AGREED** that the presentation would be emailed to Members. It was hoped that the initiative would continue during the summer as Members felt that social isolation does not disappear during the warmer months. It was suggested that the initiative could possibly be rebranded.

Members discussed the process of allocating the funding and Members felt that the Town Council needed to be pro-active and able to move quickly and would hate to see it die down during the summer month. However, Councillor Woodward stated that the applications needed to be for future projects [i.e. new board games] and not for items already purchased. She also mentioned the need to think about sustainability and perhaps look at other venues.

Councillor Woodward said that she was personally very proud of this initiative and this is something we could build on and learn from.

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

RESOLVED That Option 1 – the Town Clerk in consultation with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Leader of the Opposition Group via email be agreed for processing of allocating funding to Warmer Welcome host organisations.

63. STEPHEN SUTTON BURSARY UNDERSPEND

The Community Development and Engagement Officer stated that since writing her report about the Stephen Sutton underspend, that had accompanied the agenda, things had evolved slightly. She explained that she had had conversations with a number of people who provide opportunities locally for young people, as well as visiting Fun Club, and on reflection she was not sure an open grant scheme as she initially suggested in the report was the way to go.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that a better option may be to develop a project in partnership with identified youth service providers, so that the Town Council can take the advice and experience of those we know who work with young people in Burntwood and therefore know what works and what may have been tried before unsuccessfully, and use that to agree how this money should be invested:

- Any scheme would be intended to improve opportunities for local young people, promote engagement, and increase a sense of citizenship.
- Any scheme would be co-produced with young people, local groups and other stake holders.
- It may be possible to work in collaboration with other organisations to potentially lever in more funding.
- The Committee is requested to delegate authority to deploy this funding at the discretion of the Town Clerk, with the agreement of the Leader and Chair of this Committee.

The Town Clerk confirmed that he was to hold a zoom meeting with Karen Creavin, Chief Executive of The Active Wellbeing Society with regard to reducing anti-social behaviour.

Councillor Ho stated that better communication was needed when re-launching the Stephen Sutton Bursary and referred to Minute No. 52 – Stephen Sutton Bursary and in particular the resolution and asked if Jane Sutton had been contacted. The Town Clerk confirmed that this was on his agenda.

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000 be allocated to fund a partnership with a youth organisation and that a report be brought back to the Committee in due course.

64. UPDATE ON WHITE GOODS SCHEME – BURNTWOOD LIONS

Members were referred to Minute No. 22 – White Goods Scheme [10 August 2022] where the Scheme had been discussed in depth.

Councillor Evans stated that the organisation does a tremendous job and are really important and Councillor Taylor felt that this was a good example of maximisation of Town Council funds.

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

RESOLVED That £3,000 be awarded to Burntwood Lions from the Better Burntwood Fund towards the White Goods Scheme.

65. 2023 WAKES

Members were informed that a quotation had been received today from Cannock Chase Radio relating to the "music" part of the event but Members and Staff had not had time to unpick it in detail.

With regard to the Wakes Working Group, Councillor Woodward suggested membership could be from people who bring something to the table i.e. marketing, event management advice etc.

Videographer/Photographer

The Town Clerk asked if the Committee would consider employing a videographer/photographer to record this year's Wakes and produce a brief promo film. The cost of £500 would include 1 day shoot [camera operator]; camera, lens, motorised gimble; drone; edit and digital copy of finished video. He confirmed that the expenditure could come from the £16,000 Wakes budget.

Councillor Taylor stated that with marketing of the event going forward a drone of the whole field would be excellent.

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

RESOLVED That £500 be allocated from the £16,000 Wakes budget for a videographer/photographer.

66. 2023 PLAY IN THE PARKS

The Town Clerk confirmed that Keon Homes and Chasetown Civil Engineering had provided sponsorship to cover two of the events which would now enable the Town Council to provide a packed lunch.

The Town Clerk confirmed that Redwood Park and Burntwood Leisure Centre venues were still to be firmed up.

Councillor Woodward thanked the Chair and Vice-Chair for chairing this community driving forward committee.

[The Meeting closed at 7.45 pm]

Signed

Date