



The Old Mining College Centre
Queen Street
BURNTWOOD
WS7 4QH

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Our Ref: SL/JM

28 June 2023

To: All Members of the Community and Partnerships Committee

Councillors P Taylor [Chair], D Evans [Vice Chair], Coe, D Ennis, R Ennis, Gittings, Kirkham, S Taylor, Tranter, Willis-Croft and Wittstock

Dear Committee Member

COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Community and Partnerships Committee in **The Meeting Room, The Old Mining College Centre, Queen Street, Burntwood** on **Wednesday 05 July 2023 at 6:00 pm** to consider the following business.

Yours sincerely

Steve Lightfoot
Town Clerk

PUBLIC FORUM

As part of the Better Burntwood Concept and to promote community engagement, the public now has the opportunity to attend and speak at all of the Town Council's meetings. Please refer to the end of the agenda for details of how to participate in this meeting.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

To consider any declarations of interests and consider requests for dispensations.

3. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 05 April 2023 [Minute Nos. 56-66] [**ENCLOSURE NO. 1**].

4. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee is asked to review the Terms of Reference [**ENCLOSURE NO. 2**].

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillors are invited to report to the meeting any updates or news from community groups within Burntwood.

7. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

To consider applications received from:

- i. Burntwood Lions [**ENCLOSURE NO. 3A**]
- ii. Burntwood Platinum Amateur Boxing Club [**ENCLOSURE NO. 3B**]
- iii. Burntwood Be A Friend – *The Committee is asked to refer to Minute No. 42.1 – 09 December 2022* [**ENCLOSURE NO. 3C**]

8. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND – RESIDENTS SURVEY

Councillors are asked to consider the results of the Better Burntwood Fund Residents Survey and agree up to three priority areas for community and voluntary sector organisations to apply to for funding [**ENCLOSURE NO. 4A and 4B**]

9. 2023 WAKES

To receive a verbal update.

10. 2023 PLAY IN THE PARKS

To receive a verbal update.

11. 2023 CHRISTMAS EVENTS

To receive a verbal update.

PUBLIC FORUM

30 minutes will be set aside at the beginning of this meeting for you to raise issues relevant to the remit of the meeting but are not already on the agenda. So that the Members of the meeting can be properly briefed in order to enable them to provide considered response to your question, please advise the Town

Clerk of the question[s] you wish to ask the Council at least three working days before the meeting. The Chair of the meeting has the right to reject any representations that he/she considers not to be appropriate for the particular meeting.

You will also now have the opportunity to discuss specific items on the agenda as the Chair now has the discretion to allow you to speak where you have a legitimate interest in the item. Again, you will need to give three working days' notice of your wish to speak. Where more than one person wishes to speak on a particular application the Chair may decide to limit the number of speakers or ask for a spokesperson to be appointed.

Generally, in respect of both speaking in the public forum and to specific agenda items you will have up to 3 minutes and can raise more than one issue. However, the Chair has the option to extend the time allowed to you if they think it is appropriate.

While audio and video recordings of this meeting are entirely legal, as a matter of courtesy to Town Council members who work for this town and this Council on a voluntary basis, we would be grateful if you would let the Clerk or the Chair know beforehand.
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**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

Community and Partnerships Committee

Terms of Reference

Composition: 12 Elected Members.

Purpose

1. To increase the level of community engagement with the work of the Town Council.
2. To ensure that the Town Council is fully engaged with the relevant organisations and groups working within the parish.

Responsibilities

1. To ensure all strategies, policies and procedures are undertaken in accordance with Statutory and legislative requirements.
2. To keep under review the use of resources and service delivery to ensure any opportunities to engage with the community are fully utilised.
3. To keep the Town Council informed of community and partnership issues and undertake appropriate monitoring and reporting where necessary.
4. To make recommendations to the Council on community and partnership matters which, notwithstanding that they fall within the powers and duties of one or more other committees.
5. To develop and review the strategy of the Council in relation to community and partnership issues particularly in respect of its vision, aims and objectives.
6. To provide a forum for the community groups and service providers to engage with the Town Council.
7. To consider and make recommendations to the Council on any policy documents received from other organisations and affecting the area.
8. To develop strong links with other organisations and oversee any partnering agreements.
9. To oversee the delivery and evaluation of any community or partnership events delivered or commissioned by the Town Council.

Governance

1. The Committee will make decisions by majority vote. In the event of a tie the Chair will have a casting vote. The quorum for the meeting is one third of the voting members (4).

2. The Committee Chair and Vice-Chair to be elected at the Annual Town Council meeting in May annually.
3. The Committee should meet at least four per year.
4. The Committee reports to the Full Council.
5. The Committee is authorised to incur expenditure on behalf of the Town Council (where provision has already been provided within the revenue budget) on matters connected to its community and partnerships responsibilities.
6. The Town Clerk is authorised to take the appropriate action(s) to implement the decision(s) made by the Committee.

Dated: 05 July 2023

Burntwood Town Council

Application for Grant [funding of up to £500]

Name of Organisation: BURNTWOOD LIONS

Ad

En

Ph

Objectives of organisation: To help local people, who are referred to us by social workers, schools or housing associations, who are in real hardship, & children without beds - continued ①

Relevance to area: We need to use the Lions Gazebo for outdoor fundraising events - continued ②

Amount requested: £169-98 + p+p- Could we ask for £200-00?

For what purpose: To buy weights, now required by law, for our Lions Gazebo from the Gazebo suppliers,

Other public/Council aid within the last 12 months: £3,000-00 continued ③

Please provide any other relevant additional information on a separate sheet.

Rules for consideration:

- Any amount given will be proportionate to the public benefit and must be relevant to the area.
- A recent balance sheet or reasonable explanation of the organisation's finances must be provided.
- By signing and submitting, it is accepted that all the above facts are correct and the funds will only be used for the stated purpose.

Signed: E. Wigg C. Higgs Burntwood Lions

Dated: 3-4-2023

Please return to: Burntwood Town Council, The Old Mining College, Queen Street, Burntwood WS7 4QH or email jayne.minor@burntwood-tc.gov.uk

Burntwood Town Council

Application for Grant [funding of up to £500]

Name of Organisation: _____Burntwood Platinum ABC_____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Registration Number [if applicable]: _____

Type of Organisation: _____Amateur Boxing Club_____

Objectives of organisation: _To have a positive impact on assisting individuals with changing their lives through boxing._____

Relevance to area: _Within the area the club is the only boxing club and attracts young people from varied backgrounds to exercise and develop life skills with discipline / commitment & respect for others. We are interested in engaging with young people and supporting them which is helping in reducing anti-social behaviour within the area.

Amount requested: _£500_____

For what purpose: ___to provide further equipment to enable more individuals to participate.

Other public/Council aid within the last 12 months: _____nothing over last 12 months_____

Please provide any other relevant additional information on a separate sheet.

Rules for consideration:

- Any amount given will be proportionate to the public benefit and must be relevant to the area.
- A recent balance sheet or reasonable explanation of the organisation's finances must be provided.
- By signing and submitting, it is accepted that all the above facts are correct and the funds will only be used for the stated purpose.
-

Signed : _____Steve Cadman_____

Dated : 22.05.2023_____

Please return to: Burntwood Town Council, The Old Mining College, Queen Street, Burntwood WS7 4QH or email jayne.minor@burntwood-tc.gov.uk



Better Burntwood Fund

Application for Significant Grants 2023

Name of Organisation	Post Address	Telephone number	Email Address
Burntwood Be A Friend	BBAF Office St. Anne's Church Church Close Chasetown Burntwood WS7 3QL	[REDACTED]	joannedodds@sparkburntwood.org

Main Contact

Name JOANNE DODDS	Phone 07514213695
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Organisation details

Type of Organisation	Registration Number	Annual Income (last complete financial year)	Reserves (last complete financial year)
Charity	1200409	£30,000	£15,000

What are the aims of your organisation?

- alleviate economic deprivation
- reduce isolation & loneliness
- promote wellbeing and positive lifestyle choices
- improve sense of community
- grow the volunteer cohort in Burntwood to support people of Burntwood
- have a positive effect of the local environment

Describe the project you want funding for and the reasons and benefits for Burntwood

We would like to continue to run the Community Store as a Community Hub/Support Centre so that it can be continue to help more local people through activities and signposting. By assisting more people, we hope to further improve our reach and help to create a more positive image and identity for Burntwood. We are sourcing funding that will go towards appropriate staffing levels to maintain our current high standard of signposting and support activities to reach more people of Burntwood (e.g. financial sinposting, wellbeing sessions, help with filling in forms/applications etc.) We are currently short staffed (due to finances) to provide the standard of cover we would like at the store. Our volunteers are great for the day to day running, but we need experienced and dedicated staff advisors.

In addition, we are also looking for funding to assist with the core costs of the store and our wellebing activities at St. Anne's (e.g. rent, utilities). We have been successful in halving our electricity bills at the store by applying for EDBS (Energy Bills Discount Scheme) and also obtaining VAT exemption in electricity bills, through our new charity status. We are also bringing electricity costs down by sourcing more energy efficient appliances for food preservation and embraking on good fixed rate terms with British Gas. We are confident that our previous issues with utility bills are now sorted and can plan ahead, knowing our monthly cost in this area.

Financial Information

Total Project Cost	Funding sought from Burntwood TC	Funding secured from other sources
£60,000 per year	£5,000	We Love Lichfield & Staffs Community Fund (total £3000)

Any other details that may be relevant

Signed Joanne Dodds Position in Organisation Project Coordinator
Date 15.11.22 (revised 6.5.23)

Burntwood Town Council

Community and Partnerships Committee

Wednesday 5th July 2023

Better Burntwood Fund

1. Purpose of Report

To request that Committee review the results of the Better Burntwood Fund Residents Survey to identify and agree up to three priority areas.

2. Background

Members previously agreed to change the larger grants within the Better Burntwood Fund from a conventional, annual grants programme to a 3-year commissioning model whereby three priority areas would be identified that would bring strategic change to the town. This opportunity will be put out to tender for local organisations to bid for up to £15k over three years for a project that meets the needs of the specific priorities set out.

To identify these priority areas, a survey has been conducted for 6 weeks throughout May and June, providing the opportunity for Burntwood residents to have their say in what they believe the priorities are.

3. Proposal

It is proposed that members review the results of the survey and agree what they believe the priority areas in Burntwood to be. Using the agreed priority areas, Officers will then invite applications from voluntary and community sector organisations for projects that will meet one or more of the priority areas.

4. Funding

£15k per year is currently allocated in the budget to provide three larger grants of up to £5k to local voluntary and community organisations via the Better Burntwood fund. The funding requirement for this scheme would not change. This funding would represent a £45,000 (over three years) investment in the Burntwood voluntary and community sector. A three-year commitment would give successful organisations the opportunity to develop services or projects with some certainty of funding and give Officers the opportunity to monitor and better understand progress and change.

5. Recommendation

That Members consider the results of the survey and agree up to three priority areas for community and voluntary sector organisations to apply to for funding to address.

Contact Officer

Kat Horner

Community Development and Engagement Officer

kat.horner@burntwood-tc.gov.uk

01543 677166

Better Burntwood Fund

Residents Survey

Results



Background:

Each year the Town Council sets aside £26k for the Better Burntwood Fund to provide a variety of grants for local voluntary and community organisations who work to benefit Burntwood.

The Town Council's budget is relatively modest, however members have demonstrated a commitment to using a significant proportion of it to invest in local voluntary and community organisations and wish to ensure that the grants we provide add the most value and address the priority needs of the town.

A survey was launched on 11th May for residents to complete to help members identify what those priorities are, and grants of up to £5k every year for three years will then be made available for local voluntary and community organisations to apply for based on those priorities, ensuring the project has the time and investment to deliver maximum benefit for our community.

Survey promotion:

The survey was conducted online using www.smartsurvey.co.uk and paper copies were available to pick up from the Old Mining College, Citizens Advice and Burntwood Be A Friend's community store.

The survey was promoted across Burntwood Town Council's social media pages, on other local social media pages, and in the Town Council's monthly E-newsletter in June.

A link to the survey was emailed to several local organisations including various voluntary and community sector organisations, Bromford Housing Association and Chase Terrace Academy.

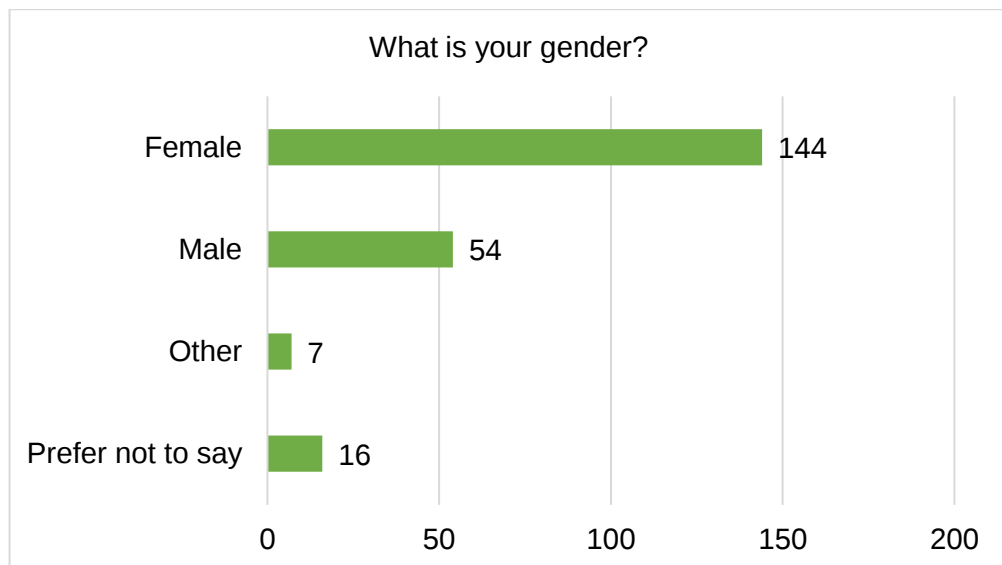
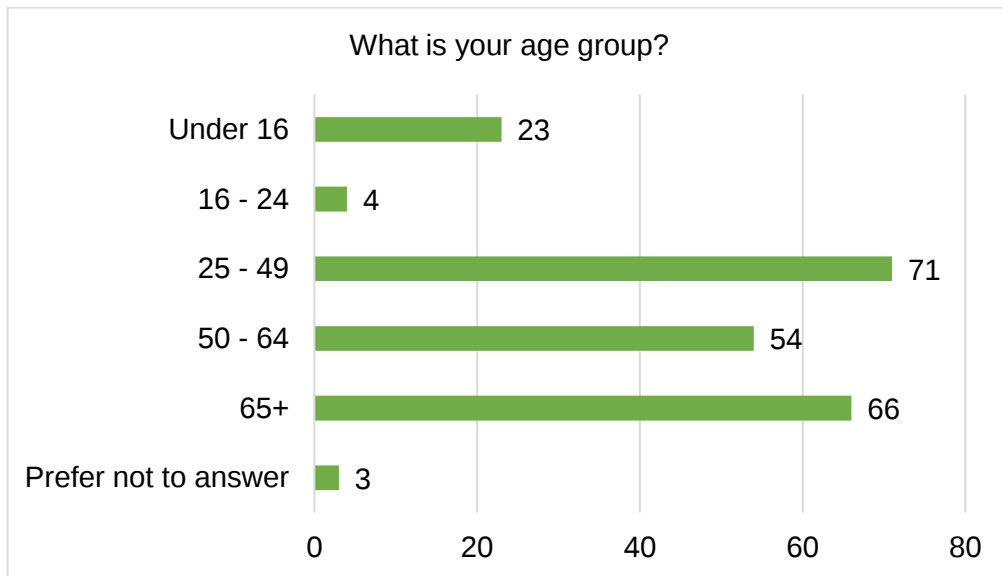
Face to face consultation was also undertaken at a local Carer's group, MHA's lunch club and Talk of the Town at Burntwood Be A Friend's Community Store to ensure the survey reached those who may not access the internet.

Responses:

The online survey received 155 responses, and an additional 66 paper copies were returned totalling 221 responses.

Of the 155 online responses, 8 represent 8 classes of students from Chase Terrace Academy ranging in ages from 11 - 16, and the answers given were agreed as a whole class following groups discussions. These 8 responses therefore represent up to 240 students.

Demographics:

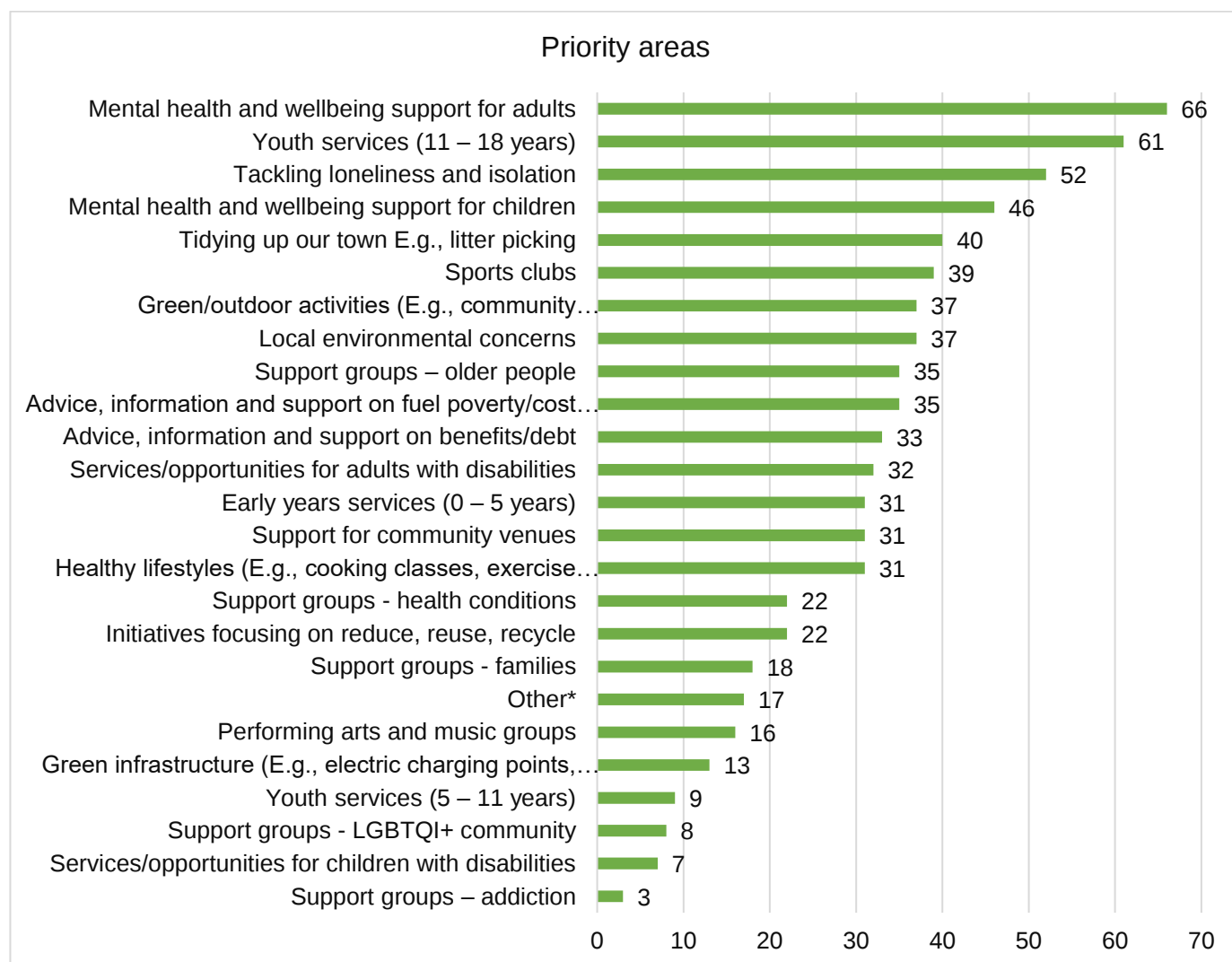


Priority areas:

Below are some broad areas that *could* become priorities for the town.

Please tick **THREE** that you consider to be most important for Burntwood.

This is not a complete list but some areas that we have come up with. Feel free to include your own ideas if you think there is something missing.



Other*:

1. Something for children to do
2. Groups for everyone any age, disability physical or mental, support, community or volunteering. Help with form filling, claiming benefits or sorting out any issues that people are struggling to deal with on their own. Activities during school holidays to help working parents finding childcare.
3. Support for people and their families who are living with dementia
4. Supporting the community shop
5. Gaming Clubs (RPG & Board)
6. Free Astro
7. Amenities
8. Community Store

9. Mental health Peer Group Support post discharge from Psychiatric/Psychology intervention
10. Deal with the dangers around the Burntwood leisure centre
11. Potholes
12. More Dementia & Alzheimer Awareness
13. Too many items to choose from ...I could tick most of them.
14. Adult drama clubs/adult acting clubs
15. Civic pride
16. Energy advice
17. Burntwood needs its own council run for Burntwood and not Lichfield!!!

Qualitative questions:

Three further questions were asked of participants and these questions generated 363 comments collectively. A sample of the comments for each question are included below and the full list can be obtained on request.

A proportion of the comments relate to priorities for residents that Burntwood Town Council cannot address through the Better Burntwood Fund, but this information will be used to assist with informing other areas of work.

Thinking about the three areas you've chosen, could you explain why you think those areas are most important in Burntwood?

The survey generated 167 responses to this question:

1. *As a helper with Foodbank, I see a lot of people who are struggling with the rising cost of everything. People could benefit from help with budgeting, dealing with debt etc. I know too that many people have mental health issues and need a bit of support, which is often not easily accessed from over-stretched mental health services. And there is not much provision for young people, which can lead to them hanging around, anti-social behaviour etc.*
2. *To enable young children to have the best start in life and families to receive support to help them thrive and build a community that will take them through life Families should be encouraged outdoors and to consider the planet and the consequences of their actions or there will be no world for future generations.*
3. *Need to prioritise healthy lifestyles and outdoor activities to reduce burden on NHS, also can help both mental health and loneliness. Reuse and recycling to help both environment and people with restricted budgets.*
4. *I think the young people of the area need further support as do adults with disabilities and mental health issues.*
5. *All of the areas are important - difficult to pick just three. However, one of the issues consistently raised by the community is antisocial behaviour perpetrated by young people. Improved youth services could address this. Chasewater appears under utilised and is the ideal location for green/outdoor activities and there are definitely areas across Burntwood that would benefit from input from a community gardening group. Isolation/ loneliness seems so endemic in our society tackling it must be a priority.*

6. *Sports Club not only engage with the local community and provide a welcome hub, they also promote and encourage Physical activity which in turn helps our wellbeing.*
7. *Mental health is a growing concern in all age groups, and being outside and taking part in sport/activities is massive part at helping improve health and wellbeing.*
8. *Mental health and wellbeing are two huge areas of concern, in particular since the pandemic. Empowering people to learn strategies and ideas to improve their mental health and wellbeing is highly valuable to the community.*
9. *All of the areas are worthwhile, but I've chosen: Mental health & wellbeing for adults - due to the lack of statutory local, dedicated groups or specialist care for those struggling to be referred on to Support for community venues - enabling meeting spaces to be resourced as a way of tackling loneliness, isolation & mental health wellbeing, as well as providing positive options for fun & socialising. - Civic pride - this could cover environmental concerns etc, but in general investment where possible in the appearance & interest in our town (e.g. SCAMP, Burntwood in Bloom, Heritage Trail etc) in order to improve a sense of belonging & pride in where we live.*
10. *To save green spaces like fields for football and outdoor activities , children need to feel that they are supported and older generation to have places that they can meet up to do activities , the vulnerable adults with disabilities to have a centre to feel safe and supported.*

Continuing to think about the three areas you've chosen, do you have any specific ideas, projects or initiatives that could benefit the town?

The survey generated 130 responses to this question.

1. *More investment in youth clubs. More activities for young people.*
2. *Perhaps a man shed Club or a club where the older generation could pass on skills to teenagers. Skills club, gardening, diy, cooking on a budget, sewing/up cycle clothes, that sort of thing.*
3. *It would be so useful if there were enough volunteers with appropriate skills to run a repair workshop e.g. one day each week where people could bring their items - rather than throw them away Could we bring more colour into our lives by planting low maintenance plants such as pieris, Hydrangea and Rhododendron, on the borders of the leisure centre for example.. Both the above suggestions could help to address the issue of loneliness and isolation.*
4. *A local group for people to chat about their experiences of mental health.*
5. *I think if the council were able to fund a staff member who could support some volunteers for an open door session in Burntwood to give advice, this would really benefit the community.*
6. *Sometimes lonely people don't know how to make the first step to become involved. Perhaps some sort of easing into becoming involved could help.*

7. *Isolation invites could be sent around asking to meet or transfer information with someone else so the feeling of loneliness lessens and can have someone to talk to.*
8. *More targeted groups to address issues in the community – More groups for isolated people of all ages – a good support database that people can access. More volunteers needed in all areas.*
9. *Health advice centre – maybe at the library – with advice on healthy menus etc. Surgeries do not have time to discuss these issues.*
10. *Loneliness, not just the elderly but young people without families, work or decent housing. A drop in place for young people ie youth club, music and advice to get jobs.*

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the Better Burntwood fund?

The survey generated 66 responses to this question.

1. *I would like to commend this initiative – I know groups who have benefitted in the past from these grants, and I think making some money available over a 3-year period will give more security to such groups.*
2. *It would be nice to see a breakdown of where it all goes.*
3. *This way of working could have a greater impact long term. Groups could be encouraged to work together towards a priority area.*
4. *Please publish a clear plan to deliver your “Better Burntwood” with defined initiatives, dates for implementation, funding sources and details of how BTC believes this will make Burntwood better!*
5. *It’s positive to have a Better Burntwood fund and consultation with the local community is, of course, extremely important. However, the community also need to see the impact of the spending. The BTC newsletter is a good new initiative and vehicle for illustrating concrete examples of what the Better Burntwood Fund achieves.*
6. *I would like to see more smaller organisations access the fund rather than the same, bigger organisations.*
7. *How is it communicated? Who are the recipients? Needs more publicity.*
8. *More agencies and charities working together would be stronger and simpler for the community.*
9. *The Better Burntwood Fund needs to be invested to improve the town for the next generation.*
10. *There are lots of older people on their own and isolated from people. Neighbours don’t always support or help. Loneliness can be a real problem.*