

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM, THE OLD MINING COLLEGE CENTRE, QUEEN STREET,
BURNTWOOD ON TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor P Taylor [in the Chair]

Councillors Coe MBE, D Ennis, R Ennis, Evans, Holdsworth, S Taylor, Tranter, Willis-Croft and Wittstock

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.

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Kirkham [Personal Commitment]

Councillor Gittings [Personal Reasons]

The reasons for the apologies were approved.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Tranter declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 – Better Burntwood Fund and in particular the application referring to Grangemoor WMC Over 50's Lunch Club as she attends the Lunch Club.

Councillor D Ennis declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6 – Better Burntwood Fund and in particular the application referring to Grangemoor WMC Over 50's Lunch Club as he is Treasurer of the Grangemoor WMC.

27. 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 21 September 2023.

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

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 07 September 2023 [Minute Nos. 12-24] be approved as a correct record.

28. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

There was no information arising from the minutes.

29. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Afternoon Cinema Showing – 14 November 2023

Councillor P Taylor referred to the afternoon cinema showing of “Mrs Harris Goes to Paris” which had taken place at the Memorial Hall on 14 November at 2pm and had attracted approximately 50 people. He explained that this had been a test event for this project. This had been a free event for invited groups with the intention to [a] test the kit and the concept and [b] generate interest and desire ahead of running the full events in 2024. Councillor P Taylor stated that the Burntwood Memorial Community Association was looking to set up a weekday afternoon cinema project with the aim of decreasing isolation and increasing community cohesion in Burntwood. He explained that if this event was successful and people seemed interested in the concept, the Association would aim to run a monthly event starting in January 2024 with a ticket price of around £5.

Councillor Tranter referred to young teenagers and the possibility of showing films suitable for that age group and she asked how these events would be advertised.

Councillor P Taylor explained that this may be possible in the future however these events would need more volunteers to manage. He stated that as this was a free-to-attend, invite-only event, it was not publicised on social media, however, in future the events would be advertised on social media, flyers etc.

Remembrance Sunday

The Committee were informed that several Members had laid wreaths for Remembrance Sunday on 12 November at various locations around the town. Despite the weather, events had been well attended by members of the public.

Policing

Councillor D Ennis referred to the departure of Chief Inspector Matt Morgan, Lichfield LPT Commander on 23 October 2023. He explained that Chief Inspector Morgan had been in post for 5½ months, the rotation of his predecessors and the impact that can have in terms of consistency of leadership. Members were informed that Karen Green will continue to provide consistency of leadership and will step up until a replacement is appointed.

Burntwood Dementia Friendly Walk

Councillor P Taylor felt that, despite the weather, the event held on Sunday 01 October had been well attended.

Burntwood Cultural Strategy for 2023-2026

Councillor P Taylor explained that he together with the Community Development and Engagement Officer had met with representatives from the Lichfield Garrick on several occasions. He suggested that Councillors read the Strategy [which had been sent to them together with the Town Council meeting papers] so that they can ask any questions at the Town Council meeting as representatives from the Lichfield Garrick are due to give a presentation at that meeting on 15 November.

30. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

The Town Clerk informed Members that for 2023/2024 the Better Burntwood Fund budget started off at £30,110.38. This was due to an underspend in 2022/2023 of

£4,110.38. It currently has £9,800.38 still to be allocated. He explained that as the commissioning process had a closing date of 31 December 2023 it was more than likely that the commissioning part of the Better Burntwood Fund would commence from April 2024. The Town Clerk stated that Members may be mindful, if there is any underspend in 2023/2024 doing a virement to 2024/2025.

Members considered in depth each application.

30.1 Active 60's Group

The Town Clerk informed Members that the Active 60's Group was a small friendship club who meet at Burntwood Library on a regular basis. One of the objectives of the group was to reduce social isolation. He explained that the amount requested would be spent on purposes outside of the Burntwood area for example day trips, hire of transport etc.

Councillor Evans asked if the Group was constituted and the Town Clerk confirmed that they had a bank account in the name of Active 60's Group. Councillor Coe MBE asked what kind of support is offered to the Group for example filling in the application form.

Councillor D Ennis agreed with Councillor Coe MBE in that the Group may need help with encouraging new members to join. He stated that the bank statement showed no income and the application form does not include how many members they have and/or how many members live in Burntwood Parish.

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

RESOLVED That £250 be awarded to the Active 60's Group and that help and support be offered to them.

30.2 Grangemoor WMC Over 50's Lunch Club

The Town Clerk informed Members that one of the objectives of the Over 50's Lunch Club was to tackle isolation. He informed Members that the Club has no bank account and is not constituted.

Councillor Tranter explained how the Club is run for example the entrance fee and raffle takings are payable to the Grangemoor WMC to cover their overheads. At present there are approximately 76 people who attend, however, prior to Covid-19 there was over 100 people in attendance.

Councillor D Ennis explained that the Grangemoor WMC opens for the purpose of the Club on that day and there is overheads associated with that. There is lots of clubs operating out of the WMC which run independently.

Councillor P Taylor pointed out that if granted, the money would be paid to the Grangemoor WMC.

Councillor Holdsworth asked whether this was an appropriate use of the fund and felt that the Club should be self-financing in a better way [forward planning].

It was proposed by Councillor Evans and seconded by Councillor P Taylor and following a show of hands [7 For, 3 Abstentions] it was

RESOLVED That £460 be awarded to the Grangemoor WMC Over 50's Lunch Club [payable to Grangemoor WMC].

30.3 Burntwood Family History Group

The Town Clerk explained that the grant would go towards the Ancestry Worldwide subscription and Find My Past subscription. He stated Ancestry Worldwide and Find My Past facilities were available to members of the public who are seeking help and support with their research not just group members. The Group helps to promote the heritage of Burntwood.

Councillor D Ennis stated that he had attended a few events organised by the History Group and they were keeping Burntwood heritage alive.

Councillor Holdsworth explained that he had previously been a member of the Group when he first moved to Burntwood. Membership of the group is far and wide as people may live elsewhere and have connections to Burntwood for example researching ancestors.

Councillor Evans referred to the quarterly journal which is produced by the Group and felt that it would be nice to have sight of this.

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

RESOLVED That £349.98 be awarded to Burntwood Family History Group.

30.4 Burntwood Gardening Guild

The Town Clerk explained that the Guild's objective was to promote a widespread interest in and love for the growing of different types of plants, investigating and promoting their usages. He explained that the amount requested would be to support/subsidise members' visit to a renowned national garden of special interest, for example, one of the RHS gardens [which is outside of the Burntwood area].

Councillor P Taylor queried membership of the Guild and Councillor Evans stated that they did have 40 members.

Councillor D Ennis raised concerns and queried whether the grant would subsidise a trip for one or a trip for forty. He stated that he would have preferred to see an application for tools, seeds etc and for the Guild to fund the trip themselves.

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

RESOLVED That the application be resubmitted to the next Community & Partnerships Committee on 29 January 2024 as Members raised the following questions:

- a. How many members in total
- b. How many members live in the Burntwood Parish
- c. How many trips will the grant support/subsidise [cost per trip]

30.5 Midland Soccer Academy

The Town Clerk explained that it had been well publicised that the former Burntwood Youth Centre in Cherry Close was being demolished in the near future but this would also lead to the loss of two football pitches, a skate park and parkour equipment with no plan to replace them. He pointed out that there was no breakdown of costs however the purpose was to fund the cost of equipment and coaching fees to send FA qualified, DBS checked coaches to offer coaching sessions in local primary schools

for example Chase Terrace Primary. Councillor Evans declared an interest as she is Chair of Governors at Chase Terrace Primary.

Councillor D Ennis in essence was supportive of the application however Mr Newey is already a trained coach and was not exactly sure what the grant would be used for as Midland Soccer Academy already have equipment [overheads already paid for].

Councillor P Taylor queried whether or not Midland Soccer Academy was bringing in external coaches.

Councillor D Ennis felt that a breakdown and further information was needed.

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

RESOLVED That the application be resubmitted to the next Community & Partnerships Committee on 29 January 2024 as Members asked for a breakdown of costs and further information.

30.6 Chasetown & District Horticultural Society

The Town Clerk explained that the purpose of the grant was to improve the safety and security of the Norton Lane allotment site. He felt that the Horticultural Society had thought about the process and were contributing towards some of the costs themselves.

Councillor Willis-Croft felt that firm quotations were needed not just estimates.

Councillor D Ennis explained that there are limited allotment sites in Burntwood and that there is currently 7 people on the waiting list for the allotment site in Norton Lane.

Councillor P Taylor queried whether or not the Town Council should be paying for something that is owned by Lichfield District Council.

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

RESOLVED That £400 be awarded to Chasetown & District Horticultural Society.

Following an in-depth discussion on each of the applications and in view of the comments made by Members for example what support is on offer to organisations when filling in the form, and whether applicants are properly constituted i.e. have a constitution or audited accounts and how many members, in each organisation, live in Burntwood Parish, a more detailed breakdown of costs is needed, it was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk would look again at the application form. The form had been simplified in recent years. Councillor D Ennis pointed out that the rationale in making the form smaller and more condense was so voluntary groups would find it easier to fill in. The Town Clerk pointed out that the applications are presented "raw" so that Members can make the decision.

Community Engagement

Councillor D Ennis felt that the Town Council does not get enough recognition and we should be encouraging organisations who obtain funds from the Town Council to recognise this on their social media pages.

Councillor Tranter suggested a grant aid evening, however, Councillor D Ennis explained that the grants are fluid and are available throughout the year [until funds run out]. Councillor Holdsworth felt that the Town Council could still have an event to celebrate.

Councillor Evans suggested asking for feedback from the organisations which could then feed into and provide content for the Town Council's newsletter.

31. CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The Town Clerk reminded Members of the Town Council's events which are being run on Monday 20 November from 6pm to 7pm on the corner of Bells Lane/Longfellow Road and on Saturday 25 November from 4pm to 7pm at Sankey's Corner. He asked for volunteers to wrap the presents. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Chair [Councillor Evans] would be switching on the Christmas lights at both events.

Councillor D Ennis asked if the Town Council could create an event on their social media page for Saturday 25 November.

32. BURNTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL STUDENT AWARD IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN SUTTON MBE

Members were informed that 10 applications for the BTC Student Award had been received and Councillor P Taylor thought that this was possibly too many for the whole of the Community and Partnerships Committee to review.

RESOLVED That a 5-person panel consisting of Councillors P Taylor, Evans, Tranter, Wittstock and Coe MBE be set up to consider the 10 applications for the BTC Student Award.

The meeting will be held on 29 November 2023 commencing at 6pm.

33. WAKES FESTIVAL 2024

RESOLVED That a Sponsorship Working Group be set up consisting of Councillors P Taylor and D Ennis and the Town Clerk.

34. ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE WHEN REVIEWING BETTER BURNTWOOD COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME APPLICATIONS

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that they had previously agreed to change the Better Burntwood larger grants programme to a 3-year commissioning model. Two priority areas had been identified and agreed, Youth Services [11-18 years] and Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Support, and this opportunity was currently being advertised for local organisations to apply for. Members were informed that the deadline for applications was 31 December.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that students from Erasmus Darwin Academy and Chase Terrace Academy would be asked to review the applications received for projects delivering youth services. Students would provide written feedback which would be provided to Members for consideration ahead of reviewing the applications.

Councillor Evans felt that it was important to engage and listen to young people.

Councillor D Ennis referred to Lichfield District Council's Youth Council which gives a forum for discussion of issues that matter to them. This is aimed at young people aged between 11 to 18. He informed Members that the Youth Council is receiving £60,000

in funding over three years [£10,000 in 2022/23, £20,000 in 2023/24 and £30,000 in 2024/25] to support its development. Councillor D Ennis thought that Burntwood Town Council should have its own Youth Council. This matter had been discussed previously and it was **AGREED** that this would be looked at again in the New Year.

Councillor R Ennis agreed that students from Erasmus Darwin Academy and Chase Terrace Academy should be included however each year group should be included.

Councillor Coe MBE stated that it can be frustrating when you are asked for your opinion and do not hear the outcome and felt that it was vital that feedback should be given back to the students when the applications have been considered.

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

RESOLVED That the Committee authorises the Community Development and Engagement Officer to organise with both Erasmus Darwin Academy and Chase Terrace Academy an approach to gather student feedback in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee.

35. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED That under the Public Bodies (Admissions of Meeting) Act 1960 (Section 2) (and as expended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

36. PRODUCERS MARKET

See Confidential Minutes.

[The Meeting closed at 7.55 pm]

Signed

Date