

**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 03 JULY 2024 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor P Taylor [in the Chair]

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

In attendance

Ms J Minor, Deputy Clerk

Ms K Horner, Community Development and Engagement Officer

PUBLIC FORUM

No questions were raised by members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor R Ennis [Work Commitments]

Councillor Evans [Prior Commitments]

Councillor Gittings [Personal Reasons]

Councillor Holdsworth [Work Commitments]

Councillor Kirkham [Ill Health]

The reasons for the apologies were approved.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Wittstock declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 – Better Burntwood Fund [Burntwood Swimming Club] as she had previously attended the Swimming Club and Agenda Item 13 – Burntwood Be A Friend and St Anne's Church Joint Commissioning Application as she had attended the counselling/bereavement sessions.

Councillor S Taylor declared an interest in any discussions relating to the Lichfield Garrick Theatre as she is a Trustee and Councillor P Taylor declared an interest as her spouse.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer, in the interest of transparency, declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 – Better Burntwood Fund [Burntwood Swimming Club] as a member of her family attends the Club.

3. 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 23 May 2024.

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

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 08 May 2024 [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 Coe MBE informed Members that as Chair of the Council she had attended the family fun day at Bracken House on 01 June; the D-Day 80th Anniversary service at Christ Church on 06 June; the Festival of Flowers at Chasetown Methodist Church on 22 June; Armed Forces Day outside Burntwood Library on 28 June and the Hello Velo event on 30 June.

Councillor D Ennis confirmed that he had attended on 12 June the community clean up on Cedar Road together with representatives from Bromford, Lichfield District Council and the BuRRT Team.

Councillor P Taylor confirmed that following the approval of the Better Burntwood Fund application submitted by the Burntwood Memorial Community Association on 29 January 2024 for the purchase of film projection and sound equipment to use for regular cinema afternoons, he confirmed that the Community Association were now in a position to purchase the said items having secured a grant from the Noel Sweeney Foundation. It was hoped that the equipment would be in place for the showing of The Colour Purple film on 16 July.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer confirmed that the Lichfield Garrick Theatre and Town Council partnership is developing well. The consultation phase of the project will finish at the end of July. The Garrick have received over 200 responses so far to the online survey, but they have not had many responses from the 25 – 45 age range, so they will be launching a prize draw offering a family ticket to the pantomime in January 2025 for completing the survey. The Garrick will be targeting families they already have on their mailing list who live in Burntwood, as well as announcing it on social media.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer and Jonny McClean from Lichfield Garrick have also been consulting with different organisations including a number of local primary schools and Burntwood Library staff, as well as the Garrick attending Town Council's monthly markets and speaking with residents.

In addition to the consultation, the two youth theatre groups that have been launched in partnership with the Town Council at Chase Terrace Academy and Erasmus Darwin Academy are now up and running and are both attended by between 15 – 20 students.

Since the last Community and Partnerships Committee, the Community Development and Engagement Officer confirmed that the Dementia Action Week went ahead with a number of activities running across the town. The Dementia Friendly Burntwood group are also in the early planning stages of another Memory Walk which will go ahead in autumn.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that the Town Council were key in setting up and establishing this group, however it is a community initiative rather than a Town Council initiative and so after supporting the group for a

number of years the Town Council will now be reducing the amount of officer time in supporting the group going forward. Susan Williams from the library will continue to Chair the group.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that she had met with Simon Jennings from Support Staffordshire to plan the next Volunteer Fair in Burntwood, and they are also exploring the option of a youth volunteer fair held in partnership with one of the local secondary schools.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that she had met with Jo Mann from the Tara Group/Noel Sweeney Foundation to discuss their sponsorship for the Wakes and Play in the Parks, and also to work in partnership to highlight local groups that may meet the Noel Sweeney Foundation's criteria for funding.

The Community Development and Engagement Office explained that the Community Safety Partnership at Lichfield District Council are organising a 'be proud of your community day' on Friday 30 August 10am to 3pm at Chasewater to highlight issues around ASB and the dangers of swimming. Lichfield District Council, Staffordshire County Council, the police and fire services and others will be in attendance. Due to staff holiday the Town Council are not planning to attend with our gazebo; however Councillors are welcome to attend the event and offer their support.

6. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

6.1 Burntwood Swimming Club

Councillor D Ennis referred to Minute No. 69 – Community Engagement [08 May 2024 refers] where he had informed the Committee of a meeting, he had had with representatives from Burntwood Swimming Club and he explained that the Club had recently appointed a new Chair who was open to engagement.

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £500 be awarded to Burntwood Swimming Club towards the purchase of flippers [equipment for community use] and training course.

7. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE 2024 WAKES

The Deputy Clerk gave an update on the current situation. She confirmed that there would be an underspend following receipt of sponsorship and that as in previous years Full Council is being asked on 16 July to approve a budget virement from the Wakes Festival budget [213 4390] to Christmas Events budget [213 4262]. Councillor P Taylor confirmed that there would be busker type acts who will perform within a stalls type gazebo.

Councillor D Ennis asked if on the next agenda this Committee could discuss the future of the Wakes. He explained that he would like to see some changes to how the Wakes is organised e.g. the setting up of a Sub-Committee which would include members from the community who would have more say in the decision-making process. Councillors would also sit on the Sub-Committee. It was proposed that the secretarial/administrative support would still be provided by Deputy Clerk.

8. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE PLAY IN THE PARKS EVENTS FOR 2024

The Deputy Clerk gave an update on the current situation and confirmed that all venues had now been confirmed and that we were within budget following receipt of sponsorship.

9. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR 2024

The Deputy Clerk gave an update on the current situation.

With regard to the suggested virement, Councillor D Ennis explained that perhaps instead of separate budget lines for events this could be incorporated into one and suggested that the Deputy Clerk should be included in the discussions regarding the budget to avoid any future virements as sponsorship may not always be forthcoming. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that she had already been asked by the Town Clerk regarding her input into the budget which is considered and approved by Full Council.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that she attends the Visitor Economy Network meetings and an officer from Lichfield District Council had mentioned that funding may be available [specifically targeted at more Christmas lighting]. Councillor D Ennis suggested that a meeting was needed at Sankey's Corner with the officer from the District Council to determine what additional lighting, if any, could be provided.

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

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained the background to the Student Award in memory of Stephen Sutton MBE. She confirmed that Members had approved a budget for one award of £1,000 for 2024/25 and asked if the Committee wished to review the process [e.g. last year a small panel had been set up comprising of five Members who had met on 29 November 2023 to discuss the applications received in detail]. Councillor D Ennis confirmed that as Full Council had approved the budget on 15 November 2023 [Minute No. 45] he was supportive of continuing with an annual bursary of up to £1,000 being awarded however he felt that a small panel was not needed and the applications should be considered in detail [in confidence] by the full Committee. However, when this was suggested previously, Councillor P Taylor felt that he had been criticised by Members at the Full Council meeting held on 21 September 2023 [Minute No. 35]. Councillor D Ennis stated that the Chair of a Committee [or a Sub-Committee] may convene an extraordinary meeting of the Committee or Sub-Committee at any time [Standing Order No. 18 [c]].

Councillor Tranter supportive the bursary however she felt that all Committee Members should have the same opportunity to discuss the applications received and all applications should be assessed on an equal footing. The Community Development and Engagement Officer confirmed that as part of the form there is a section on barriers.

Post Note

Barriers: Do you face any barriers to participation? Yes/No.

[Examples of some barriers could be but are not limited to physical health, mental health, neurodiversity, financial, language, gender, ethnicity, etc].

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

RESOLVED That the Burntwood Town Council Student Award in Memory of Stephen Sutton MBE be relaunched, that the applications received be discussed under Confidential by the Full Committee and the Community Development and Engagement Officer be directed to launch and promote the award.

11. 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.

12. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

See Confidential Minutes.

13. BURNTWOOD BE A FRIEND AND ST ANNE'S CHURCH JOINT COMMISSIONING APPLICATION

See Confidential Minutes.

[The Meeting closed at 7.05 pm]

Signed

Date