

**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 22 JANUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Evans (in the Chair)

Councillors Coe MBE, D Ennis, R Ennis, Gittings, P Taylor, S Taylor Tranter, and Willis-Croft

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.

39. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Kirkham (Family Commitments)

Councillor Wittstock (Unwell)

The reasons for the apologies were approved.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor P Taylor declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 - Better Burntwood Fund and in particular the application received from Revive Staffordshire CIC as he had offered advice to the applicant on how to set up a Community Interest Company and took no part in the decision.

41. 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 20 January 2025.

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 November 2024 (Minute Nos. 26-34) be approved as a correct record.

42. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

There was no information arising from the minutes.

43. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that she had met with the Active 60s group, Members of Burntwood (MOB) and Lichfield Repair & Share Café after feedback from the previous meeting from Members. She discussed alternative funding options, and gave advice and information on promotion, and available venues across the town. She explained that the Active 60s group have around 25 members and are operating a waiting list. They have met at the library for many years and are happy with this venue as it's a central location and convenient for those who attend.

Previously the Committee had asked for information about the Members of Burntwood's banking arrangements as their funds are currently held by Christ Church. Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that this is a historic agreement as MOB were originally set up by Christ Church, however they have their own separate budget line within the church's finances. The group is not religiously affiliated and is open to both men and women.

Burntwood Lions White Goods Scheme

Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that the Burntwood Lions continue to operate the White Goods Scheme successfully, however they have faced challenges with their budget running out quite quickly due to the cost-of-living crisis increasing demand for the service, and the cost of white goods also going up.

Working with the Burntwood Lions and Bromford, the Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that she has supported them to complete a funding application to one of Bromford's regular contractors community funds for £12,000 over 3 years, which alongside the Town Council's contribution of £4,000 per year, would double their funds for this scheme. The Lions are awaiting an outcome, and the Community Development and Engagement Officer will continue to support them to seek alternative funding should this bid not be successful.

Ecotherapy Group

Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that Burton and District Mind are tenants at the Old Mining College and as part of their commissioned project that Burntwood Town Council have funded, are looking to run an ecotherapy group for people with mental health conditions.

Mind have identified a space in the garden at the Old Mining College where additional raised beds could be installed and have received a small amount of external funding to cover their cost and have been working with the Community Development and Engagement Officer to plan this project.

The availability of ecotherapy in Burntwood will be an added provision for people experiencing mental health conditions, and the Community Development and Engagement Officer and Keri Lawrence from Burton and District Mind will also be meeting with Daniella Parker from Burntwood Be A Friend (BBAF) to ensure that there is a referral pathway from the ecotherapy group to BBAF's Community Garden project.

Burntwood Litter Heroes

The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that she has worked with the Burntwood Litter Heroes to assist them with creating some promotional material for their group. They are looking for more volunteers to help them keep the town tidy.

Annual Dementia Friendly Walk

The Community Development and Engagement Officer confirmed that the Dementia Walk which was postponed in the autumn has been rearranged with the Dementia Friendly Burntwood group and will now be held on Sunday 18th May. Plans for the walk are ongoing.

Defibrillators

Referring to previous discussions, Councillor D Ennis informed Members that a defibrillator had been installed at Housing 21, Smalley Court and following the Friends of Burntwood Park meeting held on 17 January 2025 he had been approached regarding the installation of a defibrillator in Burntwood Park. It was hoped that by the end of 2025 there would be 17 maintained Parish Council defibrillators.

Friends of Burntwood Park

Councillor P Taylor confirmed that he had attended the Friends of Burntwood Park meeting held on 17 January 2025. He informed Members that Burntwood Park had been submitted for Green Flag accreditation emphasising that 'consultation' was one of the steps. The next meeting will be held on 25 February 2025.

Burntwood Memorial Hall

Councillor P Taylor informed Members that the monthly cinema had seen a drop in members of the public attending by the end of 2024 however for the cinema showing in January the attendance had increased. He said that the monthly cinema could not afford not to be self-supporting. Councillor P Taylor informed Members that it was Burntwood Gardening Guild's 50th Anniversary Celebration in March 2025.

Magnolia Friends

Councillor Evans informed Members that she along with Councillor P Taylor had attended Magnolia Friends' 1st Birthday Celebration on 16 January 2025.

44. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

44.1 Burntwood Family History Group

Councillor P Taylor liked the fact that not just Burntwood residents would be benefiting from the grant as the Group had members throughout the world researching their ancestors.

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £349.98 be awarded to Burntwood Family History Group towards the purchase of Ancestry Worldwide Membership (18 April 2025 – 17 April 2026) and Find My Past UK 12 Month Premium Membership (29 April 2025 – 28 April 2026).

44.2 Chasetown Youth Section

Councillor D Ennis stated that he was supportive of grassroots football however there was currently 78 teams associated with Chasetown Football Club (all with separate bank accounts) and his only concern was what would happen if all of the teams applied for funding from the Town Council. What Chasetown Football Club do in the community is phenomenal.

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £500 be awarded to Chasetown Youth Section towards the purchase of bibs, cones, and footballs.

44.3 Revive Staffordshire CIC

Councillor P Taylor explained that he had worked with the applicant in the past and had offered advice on setting up a Community Interest Company. Having declared an interest Councillor P Taylor took no part in the decision.

Councillor D Ennis felt that it was good to see a business on the High Street and he was always supportive of new businesses.

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £500 be awarded to Revive Staffordshire CIC towards 12 weeks of yoga teacher salary and marketing flyers (design and Print).

44.4 Midland Soccer Academy

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £500 be awarded to Midland Soccer Academy towards the replacement of crossbars, 9 a-side goal nets and corner flags subject to the receipt of a copy of their constitution, recent statement of accounts and confirmation of where the equipment will be used.

44.5 Burntwood St Matthews Cricket Club

Members felt that the cricket club offered grassroots cricket compared to Hammerwich Cricket Club which were more semi-professional.

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £500 be awarded to Burntwood St Matthews Cricket Club towards the purchase of mobile cricket net.

44.6 Burntwood WI

Councillor P Taylor reminded Members of the previous grant given to Chase Terrace Academy and Burntwood Action Group to support Burntwood Action group in the production of poppies for the community Armistice display in Princes park (07 September 2023 refers).

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £350 be awarded to Burntwood WI towards the purchase of fabrics and banners.

45. WHITE RIBBON SUPPORTER ORGANISATION

Members referred to the Motion proposed by Councillor Coe MBE at Lichfield District Council on 10 December 2024, which was unanimously supported by LDC Members. As Chair of the Town Council she had raised the idea of the Town Council supporting this work by becoming a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation, enabling Members and Officers to raise awareness at a town level in support of the district's wider efforts.

Councillor Coe MBE revealed her own story of surviving domestic abuse and even though she can appreciate that things are very different now there is still a long way to go - there is still domestic and sexual abuse in the Lichfield District.

Councillor P Taylor confirmed that he was one of the District Councillors who voted for the Motion and he felt that the landscape had changed over the year however this was practical steps to take not just awareness.

Councillor D Ennis stated that he was massively supportive of this however we were not where we should be, there was work to be done.

Councillor Willis-Croft asked if there was examples of what we needed to be aware of and Councillor Coe MBE stated that there was many examples of domestic abuse e.g. misuse of alcohol and/or drugs, having grown up in an abusive household etc.

Councillor Coe MBE confirmed that following the Motion she had spoken to the Chief Executive regarding training for Councillors and staff and she was happy to offer this to Town Councillors and staff. Members were informed that Yvonne James, Principal Community Safety Officer, LDC was leading on this matter and had set up a Steering Group.

Councillor Gittings asked if this could be linked into schools and perhaps, we could reach out to them for Councillor Coe MBE to be a guest speaker. Referring to Erasmus Darwin Academy, Councillor R Ennis confirmed that every new term there is a safeguarding assembly for 7–13-year-olds.

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

RESOLVED That

- a. The content of the report be noted.
- b. Burntwood Town Council register as a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation and instruct the Community Development and Engagement Officer to start the process in junction with Councillor Coe MBE with a view to reporting back on progress made.
- c. A one-off fee of £175 be agreed.

46. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE WAKES FESTIVAL 2025

Members were informed that the Burntwood Wakes Festival Organising Group had met twice (10 November 2024 and 21 January 2025) to discuss the 2025 event. The Organising Group consisted of different partners e.g. LDC, Tara Group, Lichfield Garrick Theatre etc.

Following the Organising Group held on 21 January 2025, the Deputy Clerk explained that the quotations obtained have moved to items booked, charity and community groups have been contacted as well as food traders.

47. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE PLAY IN THE PARKS 2025

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that Platinum Boxing Club (Redwood Park) and Burntwood Leisure Centre have now agreed to host an event. She confirmed that she had emailed the scouts with regard to Burntwood Park.

Councillor D Ennis confirmed that the newly established Friends of Burntwood Park could be involved and suggested that, even though we had used St Matthews Cricket Club previously, this could be another opportunity to use the ground again.

48. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR 2025

The Deputy Clerk updated Members and Councillor P Taylor stated that the Bells Lane event held on Monday 25 November 2024 had been well attended and perhaps we could add an additional activity for this event in 2025.

49. BURNTWOOD MARKET

Councillor D Ennis felt that this was the right time to start the procurement process and the market provides the Town Council with a presence and a platform for community engagement .

Referring to VE Day 80th Anniversary, the Deputy Clerk suggested that the Burntwood Market to be held on Sunday 11 May could be themed accordingly. The themed event could include singing acts, bunting, Lichfield Garrick Theatre etc. It was **agreed** that the Deputy Clerk would liaise with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee following receipt of further quotations etc.

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

RESOLVED That the Town Clerk be instructed to start the procurement process for the Burntwood market.

50. 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.

51. CONFIDENTIAL 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 20 January 2025.

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

RESOLVED That the Confidential Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 04 December 2024 (Minute Nos. 35-39) be approved as a correct record.

52. FEEDBACK FROM THE 2023 RECIPIENTS OF THE BURNTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL STUDENT AWARD IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN SUTTON MBE

Members noted the content of the feedback forms.

(The Meeting closed at 7.45 pm)

Signed

Date