

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM, THE OLD MINING COLLEGE CENTRE, QUEEN STREET,
BURNTWOOD ON MONDAY 10 MARCH 2025 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Evans (in the Chair)

Councillors D Ennis, Gittings, P Taylor, 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.

53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Coe MBE (Unwell)

Councillor R Ennis (Unwell)

Councillor Kirkham (Work Commitments)

The reasons for the apologies were approved.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None declared.

55. MINUTES

The Chair reminded Members that they were being asked to comment solely on the accuracy of the Minutes.

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 22 January 2025 (Minute Nos. 39-52) be approved as a correct record.

56. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

There was no information arising from the minutes.

57. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Pump Track, Chasewater

Councillor D Ennis informed Members that he had attended an event at Chasewater on Saturday 08 March relating to 'Let's Get A Pump Track' and stated that a representative was there from the Express and Star Newspaper. He explained that a pump track is a trail for bikes, scooters, BMXs etc to ride round with curves, small hills and drops.

Carer's Celebration Afternoon Tea and Carer's Drop In Event

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that Councillor Coe MBE's Carer's Celebration Afternoon Tea went ahead in January with support from Friends of Burntwood Library, Burntwood Library, MHA Communities, the Burntwood Lions and Tesco Extra Lichfield. The event was well attended and Councillor Coe MBE spoke about the important role that carer's play and thanked them. The event highlighted the need for a carer's peer support group in the town, and so MHA Communities will be launching a carer's drop in event at the library on the 1st Tuesday of every month from 10.30am - 12pm, starting on Tuesday 1st April.

Members of Burntwood

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that together with herself, Councillor Evans and Councillor P Taylor had attended a meeting of the Members of Burntwood (MOB) to see first-hand how their Better Burntwood grant had supported their group. MOB had purchased a PA system with a hearing loop so their members could better hear their guest speaker, and a Press Release was sent out highlighting the grant and efforts for the group to be more inclusive.

Burntwood Town Council Award in Memory of Stephen Sutton MBE

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that together with herself, Councillor Evans and Councillor P Taylor had met with this year's BTC Student Award winners to talk to the students about their talents and future plans in more detail, and a Press Release was sent out sharing the news of the two students who were in receipt of the Award.

White Ribbon Supporter Organisation

Further to Minute No. 45 – 22 January 2025 refers, the Community Development and Engagement Officer confirmed that the Town Council had now registered as a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation, and Councillor Coe MBE, Councillor Evans and herself had met to begin to discuss an action plan. As a supporter organisation, the Town Council are required to have a White Ribbon Champion and a White Ribbon Ambassador and these roles will be taken up by Councillor Coe MBE as Champion, and Councillor D Ennis as Ambassador. The definitions for both roles provided by White Ribbon are as follows:

- **White Ribbon Champions** are women, and people who do not identify as being a man, who promote the White Ribbon message and encourage and challenge men to get involved by finding opportunities to inspire and inform. Our Champions can hold us to account and ensure that women's voices are heard in our work.

- **White Ribbon Ambassadors** are men and people who identify as a man who take on this responsibility. They take the White Ribbon message into their workplaces, communities and among their friends, family, and colleagues.

Lichfield District Council's Community Safety Partnership

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that Lichfield District Council's Community Safety Partnership are looking to place bleed kits within defibrillator cabinets in Burntwood. Bleed kits can be lifesaving and are used

for any arterial bleed injury. There is free training available for organisations, staff, and volunteers in Burntwood, and Members are welcome to attend. Details of the training can be provided by the Community Development and Engagement Officer.

Councillor D Ennis queried whether the bleed kits contained any perishable items and who would be responsible for replacement of such items. It was suggested that whilst the Burntwood Repair and Response Team undertake their monthly checks regarding the defibrillators, they could also check the bleed kits but any items needed for the bleed kits would not be paid for by the Town Council.

58. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

a. MHA South Staffs Communities

It was noted by Members that the description of the project/support needed included both Volunteers Week 1-7 June 2025 and the Carers Group referred to previously by the Community Development and Engagement Officer.

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 MHA South Staffs Communities towards refreshments and entertainment in respect of Volunteers Week and providing staff in respect of the Carers Group.

b. Phoenix Counselling Service

Members raised concerns. Councillor D Ennis asked for clarification regarding how many sessions would be provided as he felt that it was unclear in the application and potentially if the service offers an initial 7 sessions it could mean that only 3 people could benefit from the grant. Councillor D Ennis asked how do Phoenix Counselling Service decide who has free sessions and who has to pay. The Community Development and Engagement Officer explained that they offer affordable/free counselling sessions and ask the individual accessing the sessions to make a contribution (if they can).

Councillor P Taylor felt that the counselling sessions dovetailed both Burntwood Be A Friend and Burton & District Mind and asked how the grant would be spent in Burntwood (as the grant needs to be ring fenced for Burntwood residents).

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

RESOLVED That a grant of £500 be awarded to Phoenix Counselling Service towards counselling sessions. The grant is subject to the Community Development and Engagement Officer (in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee) obtaining the information/clarification raised by Members.

57.3 Fun Club Hub

Councillor D Ennis explained to Members that at the Christmas Event held on Saturday 30 November 2024 we had some young people in their mid-teens that needed engaging with and we did not have the staff to do this. If they were engaged with, he did not think we would have had some of the issues e.g. throwing a few chips off the roof of the newsagents and kicking down some barriers. Risk to the public was

low. Councillor D Ennis explained that a suggestion put forward had been to work in partnership with Fun Club Hub through a small grant that could help to levitate the issue, raise the profile of Fun Club Hub, and show team work. Councillor D Ennis stated that this would be a trial and supported Councillor P Taylor's suggestion that this expenditure could come from the All Community Events (excluding markets) budget in the future.

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 Fun Club Hub towards staffing, volunteers expenses and resources in respect of the Christmas Event to be held on Saturday 29 November 2025.

59. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE WAKES FESTIVAL 2025

Councillor Evans updated Members on the current situation. In respect of the Burntwood Wakes Festival Organising Group meetings Councillor P Taylor asked if we could please try and avoid the 3rd Tuesday of the month for these meetings, because he is busy on everyone of them with the Afternoon Cinema held at the Burntwood Memorial Hall. He stated that he was keen to play an active role in the Organising Group but will be unable to if they are always on this day of the month.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that all of the Informal Updates relating to the events were living documents and are continually edited and updated between Committee meetings.

60. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE PLAY IN THE PARKS 2025

Councillor Evans updated Members on the current situation. In respect of Monday 18 August – St Matthews Cricket Ground, Members asked if we could engage with Busy Bees Nurseries as they are in close proximity to ascertain if they wanted to be involved.

61. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR 2025

Councillor Evans updated Members on the current situation. In respect of the Christmas tree at Sankey's Corner, Councillor P Taylor asked if the Town Council could look at hiring some outdoor Christmas lights/laser projector lights. Councillor D Ennis referred to the Christmas light display at Haywoods Blinds and felt that "similar" could be provided at other shops at Sankey's Corner. It was **AGREED** that the Leader together with the Town Clerk would engage with local businesses to ascertain what additional Christmas lighting could be provided.

(Councillor D Ennis left the meeting at 6.43pm)

62. BURNTWOOD LIONS WHITE GOODS SCHEME UPDATE

Councillor Evans informed Members that the Community Development and Engagement Officer will be setting up an agreement with Burntwood Lions to make the arrangement more formal as there had been a misunderstanding on where the Town Council's grant could be spent as the updated report referred to a postcode in WS11. The Community Development and Engagement Officer referred to the

previous report provided by Burntwood Lions and explained that the total spend from the current financial year (April 2024 until the end of December 2024) is £3,898 however the Lions also incurred retrospective costs from the previous financial year on top of this amount when placing orders for white goods in quarter 4 of 2023/24 but making payment in quarter 1 of 2024/25. She also confirmed that the Lions had been successful in receiving additional funding from Lichfield District Councillor's community funds.

63. COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Community Development and Engagement Officer updated Members. Members felt that it was good to note that the organisations were fulfilling their briefs.

(The Meeting closed at 6.54 pm)

Signed

Date