

**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 07 MAY 2025 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Evans (in the Chair)

Councillors Bishop, Coe MBE, D Ennis, R Ennis, Gittings, Kirkham, 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.

64. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None as all Members were present.

65. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Evans declared an interest in Agenda Item No. 6i. Better Burntwood Fund – Fulfen Primary School as the applicant is known to her and took no part in the discussion thereon.

66. 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 24 March 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 10 March 2025 (Minute Nos. 53-63) be approved as a correct record.

67. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

There was no information arising from the minutes.

68. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillor Willis-Croft referred to a training session which he had recently attended at Chase Terrace Academy relating to bleed kits and the need for bleed kits within Burntwood.

Councillor Coe MBE referred Minute No. 57 – Community Engagement (10 March 2025 refers) and in particular the Carer's Celebration Afternoon Tea and Carer's Drop In Event held in January at Burntwood Library. She explained that the event highlighted the need for a carer's peer support group in the town and that MHA Communities had launched a carer's drop in event at the Library on the 1st Tuesday of every month from 10.30am – 12pm.

Councillor Coe MBE referred to the Chair's Quiz which had taken place last Saturday. The event had been a great success raising £868 for Pathway Project. She thanked everyone who came out to support on the night.

Councillor Coe MBE referred to the Temporary Road Closure Order – Cannock Road and Bridge Cross Road and asked if this would affect the market on 11 May. Councillor D Ennis confirmed that Staffordshire County Council's Highway Maintenance and Network Management Team have been contacted. They are aware of the market on the 11 May and have asked for the no works to take place on Sunday the 11th due to the clash with the market.

Councillor Coe MBE also mentioned that she had recently attended Fulfen Primary School to highlight the dangers caused by poor car parking around the school.

Councillor S Taylor informed Members that she had attended a Food Partnership meeting last week where the Young Farmers Union were present. She thought it would be a good idea to try and engage with them and perhaps they could attend the Wakes Festival and a future market.

Councillor D Ennis referred to bleed kits, which had previously been mentioned by Councillor Willis-Croft. He confirmed that the Policy and Resources Committee on 14 May 2025 will consider agreeing to the installation of 7 bleed kits within the Burntwood Town Council's defibrillator cabinets, funded by Lichfield District Council's Community Safety Partnership, and take ownership of the kits and ongoing costs associated with replacing kits or items within them as and when required. Councillor D Ennis also referred to training in bleed kits and thought it would be a good idea to have training specifically for Town Councillors.

Councillor D Ennis referred to the Community Centre and confirmed that it is almost ready to open to the public and has generated considerable interest and offers numerous benefits to our town. We have various groups interested in providing a range of activities, support, and opportunities. The essence of acquiring this building was to make Burntwood a wonderful place to live and to provide a space for those groups to grow and develop. He stated that we are going through the 'snagging' period, identifying, and reporting any defects to the builder for rectification. Councillor D Ennis invited all Members to go and have a look at the refurbished Community Centre as staff are usually on site most days.

Councillor D Ennis informed Members that there were various events going on in Burntwood to celebrate VE day e.g. The Crown Inn in Chasetown were holding a coffee morning on Thursday 08 May between 11am and 4pm and will be raising funds for Combat Stress; Friends of Burntwood Library are organising a coffee morning tea party on Thursday 08 May between 10am and 12 noon. He stated that there is also

the Town Council's VE themed market on Sunday 11 May which ties in with the Stephen Sutton Ride Out.

Councillor Evans referred to the Dementia Walk which is taking place on Sunday 18 May meeting at Chasewater Innovation Centre at 10am, two routes are available and participants will be raising awareness of dementia, and funds for Alzheimer's Society.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer recently attended a Community Safety Research workshop at Lichfield District Council. The aim of the workshop was to provide feedback which will be used to inform a new Community Safety Partnership (CSP) strategy.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer met with a representative of Burntwood and District U3A who are celebrating their 10th birthday this year and would like to provide a gift for the town. They have selected to support the campaign to install defibrillators across the town and so will be fundraising to supply one to be placed in the disused telephone box on Oakdene Road in the summer.

Councillor Evans, Councillor Coe MBE and the Community Development and Engagement Officer recently attended the new Carer's drop in group at the library which is being hosted once a month by MHA Communities. This group has been established in response to Councillor Coe MBE's carer's celebration event in January and has been supported by a Better Burntwood grant from the Town Council. It was well attended and the feedback shared by MHA Communities has been very positive.

Councillor Coe MBE, Councillor Evans and the Community Development and Engagement Officer also attended Lichfield District Council's first White Ribbon steering group. Information was shared about LDC's action plan, and this information will assist in Burntwood Town Council's own action plan and next steps as a White Ribbon supporter organisation.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer provided feedback on items raised at the last Community and Partnerships Committee meeting, and she has met with representatives from Phoenix Counselling to seek further clarity on their Better Burntwood application and the information shared satisfied the conditions for the grant. The Community Development and Engagement Officer also provided an update that an agreement had been drawn up, agreed, and signed with the Burntwood Lions providing clarity on the White Goods Scheme.

6.20pm

Having declared an interest in Agenda Item 6i. – Fulfen Primary School, Councillor Evans vacated the chair and took no part in the discussion thereon. Councillor P Taylor took the chair

69. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

69a. Fulfen Primary School

Councillor P Taylor informed Members that according to the Guidance Notes and Conditions of Funding (11. Education, health, or social services establishments for whom the Central Government, Health Authority, District or County Council are the appropriate funder will not be grant aided) means that as Fulfen Primary School is a County Council funded school (and not an academy) is it not eligible for funding through the Better Burntwood Fund.

Councillor D Ennis suggested that the school be directed to the County Councillors as the County Councillors have funding available to support a huge range of community activities.

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 £456 plus VAT be refused as the school is not eligible for funding under the Guidance Notes and Conditions of Funding. However, the Community Development and Engagement Officer explores other options available to the school e.g. County Councillors Community Fund.

6.25pm
Councillor Evans in the chair

69b. Burntwood Litter Heroes

Members felt that the impact of this group was already visible to all, the town is becoming clean and presentable. Members were informed that they have a constitution in place and application for a bank account.

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 Burntwood Litter Heroes towards insurance (£250) and equipment (£250).

70. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE WAKES FESTIVAL 2025

Councillor Evans updated Members on the current situation. At the request of a Member, a summary of the Wakes Festival Organising Group meeting held on 08 April 2025 had also been provided. Councillor P Taylor confirmed that Des Coleman (an English actor, singer (tours the UK as Sammy Davis Jnr in The Rat Pack), and weather presenter (for ITV News Central) would be performing and the compere for the event. He explained that the only issue was the location of Hello Velo. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the Town Clerk had emailed the officer at Lichfield District Council on 06 May 2025 explaining that following concerns raised the best location would be on the car park in the same spot as last year.

71. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE PLAY IN THE PARKS 2025

Councillor Evans updated Members on the current situation. Councillor S Taylor suggested that perhaps the Young Farmers Union could also attend the events.

Councillor D Ennis mentioned that some of the events included partnership working and others did not. The Deputy Clerk explained that some events included partnership working e.g. St John's Community Church & St Anne's Church who had already confirmed what they will be offering in addition to the Town Council others had not e.g. Platinum Boxing and St Matthews Cricket Ground have agreed to open up their buildings for toilet purposes but are yet to provide further details of what they can offer, if anything. Councillor Evans stated that she, together with Councillor P Taylor and the Community Development and Engagement Officer are due to meet shortly with Platinum Boxing and will ask the question. Councillor D Ennis stated that he, together with Councillor P Taylor will have a conversation with St Matthews Cricket Ground to see what they could offer. Councillor D Ennis felt that community partnerships were key to the success of these events.

72. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR 2025

Councillor Evans updated Members on the current situation. Councillor Evans stated that as Chair of Governors at Chase Terrace Primary School she would again try and engage the school and hopefully this year they can attend. Councillor D Ennis suggested that we should try and engage/encourage all primary schools to be involved in the event. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to the Boney Hay Squirrels regarding their attendance at the Boney Hay Event and was awaiting a response.

Members were referred to Minute No. 49 – Burntwood Market (22 January 2025 refers) where it was resolved that the Town Clerk be instructed to start the procurement process for the Burntwood Market. It was **AGREED** that the tenders received would be considered at the next meeting of this Committee scheduled for 02 July 2025.

It was **AGREED** that the Deputy Clerk would contact the current market supplier with options (the supplier to provide 10 or 20 stalls only and we find traders OR the supplier provides the stalls and traders).

RESOLVED That comments made be followed up and reported back to the Committee.

73. BURNTWOOD LIONS WHITE GOODS SCHEME UPDATE

The Community Development and Engagement Officer updated Members and explained that the Lions had provided goods for 16 residents between April 2024 to March 2025 using the Town Council's funding, and additional residents using their own funding or funding donated from other sources.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that in order to reach more families and continue to provide the scheme throughout the year, the Lions have worked to seek additional funding for this service which they have been successful in gaining, and they will receive an additional £5,000 from an external funder for the 2025/26 financial year.

74. COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME UPDATE – BURNTWOOD BE A FRIEND AND ST ANNE'S CHURCH CHASE TOWN

The Community Development and Engagement Officer reminded Members that in February 2023 Members had agreed to change the Town Council's existing larger grants of one-off payments of up to £5,000 to a commissioning model, providing £15,000 over three years for projects delivering outcomes related to specific priorities. Following a public consultation, two priority areas were selected, adult mental health and wellbeing and youth services (11-18 years). She explained to Members that Platinum Boxing and Burton & District Mind are on different 'schedules', and the updates relating to them went to this Committee in November 2024 and March 2025.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer stated that the case study supplied is available only on request due to confidentiality.

Councillor P Taylor stated that as this is a three year project/cycle has consideration been given to how do we do the commissioning programme again. The Community Development and Engagement Officer thought that she would start the process half way through the three year programme.

(The Meeting closed at 6.46 pm)

Signed

Date