

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

PRESENT

Councillor Evans (in the Chair)

Councillors Bishop (from 6.06 pm), D Ennis, R Ennis, Gittings, Kube, P 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 members of the public were present.

Councillor Evans welcomed Councillor Kube to her first meeting of the Community and Partnerships Committee.

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor Coe MBE and Councillor Kirkham.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Kube declared an interest in Agenda Item 5 ix Better Burntwood Fund as she is a member of Burntwood Rotary Club and 5 vii Better Burntwood Fund – Cogs Prepares 4 Life CIO.

As Chair of Trustees of Burntwood Memorial Association and by way of transparency, Councillor P Taylor confirmed that in respect of Agenda Item 5 iv Better Burntwood Fund – Burntwood Breast Care and 5 viii Better Burntwood Fund – Burntwood Gardening Guild he confirmed that these groups hire a room at the institute and 5 vii Better Burntwood Fund – Cogs Prepares 4 Life CIO operate their business out of the grounds at the institute.

Councillor Evans declared an interest in Agenda Item 5 ix Better Burntwood Fund as she knows a member of Burntwood Rotary Club.

22. MINUTES

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

It was proposed by Councillor R Ennis and seconded by Councillor Gittings and following a unanimous show of hands it was

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Community and Partnerships Committee held on 08 September 2025 (Minute Nos. 10-19) be approved as a correct record.

23. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Councillor Evans informed Members that she, together with other Councillors, had attended on 22 October 2025 Burntwood Library's 70th Birthday Celebration and that she, together with other Councillors, had attended Remembrance Parades and Services which had taken place around the town on Sunday 09 November as she felt that it was important to remember those who gave their lives for us and thanked all of the young people who attended and particularly the uniformed brigades who participated in the services around Burntwood.

Councillor D Ennis informed Members that on 18 October 2025 he had attended the 1st AGM and presentation evening of 2nd Chasetown Scout Group. He explained that the Chair of Council had handed out the awards and talked about the winners amazing achievements. Councillor D Ennis confirmed that on 09 October 2025 he together with the Chair of Council had attended St Anne's 160th Anniversary which had also included the launch of the Friends of St Anne's. Councillor D Ennis informed Members that on 14 October 2025 he had had the privilege of attending and speaking at an event held at Chasetown Football Club. It was a great opportunity to engage with community leaders, local stakeholders, and passionate individuals committed to making a difference through sport and community initiatives. He stated that it was exciting to see the positive impact of Chasetown Football Club within our community and their dedication to inclusivity, youth development, and community engagement. He looked forward to supporting their future projects and continuing our collaborative efforts to boost local wellbeing and opportunities for all.

Councillor P Taylor referred to Creative Burntwood (an initiative financially supported by the Town Council). As Chair of Trustees of Burntwood Memorial Association, he confirmed that he had attended the Creative Burntwood Steering Group on 06 November 2025. He also confirmed that the Community Choir taster session was taking place tonight at St John's Community Centre (the next one is on 08 December 2025). Councillor P Taylor also confirmed that as part of Creative Burntwood Jonny Cole would be appearing at Burntwood Memorial Hall on 13 May 2026.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer highlighted the upcoming joint event that would be held with Pathway on White Ribbon Day (Tuesday 25 November), as part of the Town Council's commitment as a White Ribbon Supporter Organisation. Members were invited to attend by registering using the link that was sent to them via email.

The Community Development and Engagement Officer informed Members that she, along with Councillor L Ennis and Councillor D Ennis, had met with members of Burntwood and District u3a to officially open the newly installed defibrillator on Oakdene Road that u3a gifted to the town in recognition of their 10th birthday. She also referred to the Burntwood Skatepark's official opening on 31 October 2025.

The Community Development and Engagement informed Members that Councillor L Ennis' 24 hour fundraising walk for the British Wildlife Rescue Centre will be going ahead on 28 – 29 November and this is now being publicised. Members were asked to support by sharing information about the walk online, with their contacts and by putting up posters which were provided.

The Community Development and Engagement confirmed that she together with Councillor Evans had met with two of the commissioning projects, Burton and District Mind, and Burntwood Be a Friend and St Annes (joint project) for an informal

discussion about the projects and both meetings reported positive outcomes and further anecdotal information about the success of the activities on offer. She explained that a date to meet with Platinum Boxing, the third commissioning project, is in the process of being arranged.

24. BETTER BURNTWOOD FUND

Councillor Evans informed Members that there was £7,126 left in the Better Burntwood Fund application budget for 2025/26.

Members referred to each of the applications received in depth.

24a. Mind Matters Burntwood (MMB)

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

RESOLVED That Mind Matters Burntwood (MMB) be awarded £450 towards the cost of room hire, administrative expenses and publicity.

24b. Mindfulness, Awareness and Martial Arts (MAMA UK)

Councillor Wittstock referred to other sources of funding received within the last 12 months by MAMA UK from We Love Lichfield and Lichfield District Council and Councillor Tranter, which was seconded by Councillor Wittstock, suggested that the amount awarded could be reduced to £300.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Councillor P Taylor and seconded by Councillor Kube and following a show of hands it was

RESOLVED That Mindfulness, Awareness and Martial Arts (MAMA UK) be awarded £500 towards a dumbbell rack, weights, and bench.

24c. Active 60s Group

Referring to Minute No. 31.1 (07 November 2024 refers), Councillor P Taylor felt that this application was similar to last years. Following the previous resolution, the Community Development and Engagement Officer confirmed that she did speak to members of Active 60s. She explained that traditionally they had always been based at Burntwood Library and were reluctant to move (there is cheaper room hire at another venue in the town).

Councillor D Ennis felt that the situation had now changed (for example there was now no car parking at their current venue) and felt that alternative, cheaper venues could be explored. Councillor Willis-Croft felt that an invitation could be extended to the group to visit the Chase Terrace Community Centre.

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

RESOLVED That Active 60s Group be awarded £500 and that the Community Development and Engagement Officer speaks to the Group to offer support on other sources of funding and more cost effective ways of running.

24d. Burntwood Breast Care

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

RESOLVED That Burntwood Breast Care be awarded £300 towards the cost of room hire.

24e. Burntwood Family History Group

Referring to Minute No. 44.1 (22 January 2025 refers), Councillor Wittstock highlighted the fact that this was the same application as previously submitted (i.e. for membership fees). Councillor P Taylor stated that the Council may look to fund this separately because it helps to publicise the town (helps with attachment to the town). Councillor D Ennis suggested that there could be a line in the budget for heritage which could be reviewed annually by the Community and Partnerships Committee and which could be ratified by Full Council when setting the budget.

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

RESOLVED That Burntwood Family History Group be awarded £349.98 towards the purchase of Ancestry All Access Membership (18 April 2026 – 17 April 2027) and Find My Past UK 12 Month Premium Membership (29 April 2026 – 28 April 2027).

24f. Chasetown Football Club – Care & Compassion Project

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

RESOLVED That Chasetown Football Club – Care & Compassion Project be awarded £500 towards the 18 week programme (1 hour a week delivery), equipment and blankets.

24g. Cogs Prepares 4 Life CIO

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

RESOLVED That Cogs Prepares 4 Life CIO be awarded £360 towards the purchase of 18 sleepers.

24h. Burntwood Gardening Guild

It was proposed by Councillor Tranter and seconded by Councillor Evans and following a show of hands it was

RESOLVED That Burntwood Gardening Guild be awarded £149 towards the Royal Horticultural Society Affiliation (01 April 2026 – 31 March 2027); NFU Mutual Insurance (through RHS) (01 February 2026 – 31 January 2027) and National Vegetable Society Affiliation (01 January 2026 – 31 December 2026).

24i. Burntwood Rotary Club

Referring to Minute No. 14 (08 September 2025 refers), Councillor P Taylor referred to previous discussions thereon and confirmed that even though the application was dated 05 September 2025 it had been received too late to be formally considered at the last Committee. Even though the application had indicated that they had not received any other funding within the last 12 months, Councillor P Taylor confirmed that they had applied for funding via Lichfield District Council's Councillor Community Fund and had also secured a local business as a sponsor for the event. It was noted that the funding breakdown and total amount requested on the application had been £3,000 however if a grant were awarded it could not exceed £500.

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

RESOLVED That Burntwood Rotary Club be awarded £500 towards the Burntwood Community Christmas Event at Burntwood Island on Sunday 23 November 2025. As the grant awarded will not cover the full costs associated with the event, Burntwood Rotary Club to confirm where the rest of the money is coming from.

25. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS EVENTS FOR 2025

Referring to the informal update relating to the Christmas Events for 2025, Councillor Evans asked if Members had any questions. The content of the informal update was received and noted.

Councillor D Ennis referred to the email which had today been sent by the Deputy Clerk asking for Members help and support at the Sankey's Corner Christmas Event to be held on Saturday 29 November. He asked if Members could respond promptly and confirmed that he would be on site all day.

26. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE BURNTWOOD WAKES FESTIVAL 2026

Referring to the summary of the Burntwood Wakes Festival Organising Group Meeting held on 16 October 2025, Councillor Evans asked if Members had any questions. The content of the summary was received and noted.

27. INFORMAL UPDATE ON THE PLAY IN THE PARKS EVENTS 2026

Referring to the informal update relating to the Play in the Parks events for 2026, Councillor Evans asked if Members had any questions. The content of the informal update was received and noted.

Even though it may appear to be a bit late in the day, Councillor P Taylor suggested a de-brief from the event management company who helped on the day of the events would be useful. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that she had already discussed this in depth and received a de-brief on 01 September 2025 from the event management company.

28. COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME UPDATE

Councillor Evans informed Members that the report was for information purposes only and no decision was required by the Committee. The Community Development and Engagement Officer gain a project update summary.

29. BURNTWOOD LIONS WHITE GOODS SCHEME UPDATE

Councillor Evans informed Members that the report was for information purposes only and no decision was required by the Committee.

Councillor Tranter asked if the funds provided by the Town Council stop the same every year. The Community Development and Engagement Officer confirmed that the funds provided were £4,120 for 2025/26 whilst the funds provided in 2024/25 were £4,000 (a 3% increase in line with the precept agreed by Full Council on 20 January 2025 (Minute No. 73 refers).

30. 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.

31. REVIEWING APPLICATIONS FOR THE BURNTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL STUDENT AWARD IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN SUTTON MBE

See Confidential Report.

(The Meeting closed at 7.55 pm)

Signed

Date