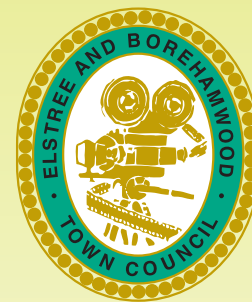


Annual Report 2016/2017



Mayor's Summary

Summing up at the Council meeting on 15 March 2017, the Town Mayor Cllr C Butchins said "Elaine and I attended over 90 Mayoral engagements since I took on the role last May and it has always been a pleasure and honour to meet a broad variety of friends at these events. They do so much for the local community! Particular projects of interest to me this year have been fundraising for my Museum charity and the Seniors' Drop In sessions at 96 Shenley Road on Wednesday mornings."

Community Services

Hall Bookings: Whilst Fairway Hall is much in demand by community groups for regular hire or as a place of worship, the Council continues to seek new mid to long term bookings for activities that serve the community such as keep fit, dance, yoga, mindfulness classes, arts and crafts or local clubs. New initiatives in the year included a new home for the Borehamwood Women's Institute, alternative fitness classes and the Borehamwood Islamic Society.

Allotments (Allum Road, Melrose Avenue and Stapleton Gardens): Plot occupancy was at 95% (139 tenants and 147 plots) with 50 new plots being opened in the north of Borehamwood (Stapleton Gardens) from 1 May 2017. Potential applicants for the Stapleton Gardens site waiting list are encouraged to contact the Council (currently 25 names are on the list).



Planning and Consultations: The Council considered a total of 324 planning applications referred to it by Hertsmere Borough Council as a statutory consultee. Comments were made on 103 of these with concerns including issues of tower block developments, problems with smaller unit developments failing to meet local needs for family sized homes, highways infrastructure and potential basement developments negatively impacting the water table. Consultation responses were made on Sustainable Development Planning Guidance, taxi licensing policies and an Electoral Review of wards in Hertsmere.



Site and Street Maintenance: In partnership with local businesses, the Council maintains the film plaques in Borehamwood, 47 benches and 9 notice boards (with plans for a new board at All Saints Church). Both war memorials, St Nicholas and All Saints Churchyard (and Church Clock) are maintained by the grounds team and the high street planter cost is shared with Hertsmere Borough Council.

Grants: With three tranches of grant applications, the following awards were approved by the Council to assist local organisations or organisations serving a particular local need:

• Herts Inclusive Theatre	£380
• Elstree Screen Heritage	£1,250
• Woodcock Hill Village Green	£500
• Borehamwood Women's Institute	£300
• Elstree & Borehamwood Light Operatic Society Musical Theatre	£500
• All Saints Church	£558
• Young Carers at Hertswood School (with £500 from Youth Council)	£500
• Elstree & Borehamwood Community Charity	£300
• DR96 Over 60s club	£250
• Funky Friends	£316.46
• Hertsmere MENCAP	£500
• Borehamwood Drop In	£400
• Hotshots Flyball Team	£300
• St Albans Educational Partnership (Foodbank)	£375
• Aldenham Renaissance	£272

In addition budgeted grants were made to Borehamwood & Elstree Town Twinning Association (£1,000) and Boreham Wood Football Club (£1,000) with the Residents Association also receiving no cost advertising space in the Town Crier magazine.

Transport Forum: Four well attended meetings of the Forum took place with lively discussions on topics including specific traffic problems on Bullhead Road, unmanned ticket dispensing at Elstree and Borehamwood railway station, bus service changes, police updates and traffic flow in Borehamwood and Elstree.

Business Forum: Five well received meetings of the newly formed group took place in the year, providing networking and sponsorship opportunities for local businesses of varying sizes. The Forum also provided a platform for guest speakers to offer advice on relevant issues (e.g. internet security) or to showcase their own business services or products.

China Sister Town: The Council agreed to enter into a relationship with Huainan in China in order to promote business links and for cultural and friendship contacts to be formed. A sub-committee was established to oversee the arrangements leading to the signing of the agreement.

Leisure and Entertainment

Coach Trips: The twelve subsidised summer coach trips for the over 60s included new destinations of Margate and Stratford upon Avon. In addition, two Christmas Market Winter trips visited Winchester and Rochester, a first for the Town Council. Questionnaire feedback indicated high levels of satisfaction by the users of this service and a desire for it to be rolled out as an annual activity.



Civic Festival: The Festival fortnight began with a civic parade dedicated to 90 years of the life of HM The Queen with the Town Council float celebrating the Coronation. The James Bond themed Classic Car show on the following Saturday displayed 16 vehicles (including 007's Aston Martin) with indoor and outdoor films of The Spy Who Loved Me and Goldfinger in Maxwell Park Community Centre. After the show, to commemorate the life of David Bowie, the Elstree Studios fantasy classic Labyrinth was also screened. Families Day included 45 community stalls with the addition of a traditional seaside Punch and Judy show (suitable for audiences of all ages). The live music concert got into full swing with talent show winner, Romario Faldes, followed by Elstree Productions with songs from their Festival show



and culminated with headliners The Poppets (1960s cover band) and Michael Jackson impersonator (David Boakes) on a fixed stage erected in Meadow Park. Other events in the fortnight included the new Festival Park Run around Aldenham Reservoir, a guided Teddy's Trail walk, allotment open day, the annual Festival Flower show, Primary School Performing Arts and Royal British Legion Festival Quiz. 'Elstree and Borehamwood's Got Talent' was held at its new home of Fairway Hall. The Pre-Festival event held in May each year continues to help with ticket sales and to highlight many of the attractions to come.



Fireworks Display: This was the 26th free entry fireworks display, choreographed this year to Motown music to tie in with the concert held on Families Day. Over 5,000 spectators enjoyed a safe and well organised show. The pyrotechnics were sponsored by Spire BMW.





Musical Concerts and Film Nights: The BBC Band returned to Allum Hall for a Christmas concert in December paying tribute to Jimmy Perry OBE, former Honorary President of the Band with a rousing rendition of the Dad's Army theme. Youth Councillors welcomed guests to the evening which included a book signing session by Writers In the Wood. As part of a new entertainments programme, in March a film night was held in partnership with The REEL Cinema screening the rarely seen American extended edition of Stanley Kubrick's horror classic The Shining, filmed in Elstree Studios.

Christmas Switch On Display: For the second year in a row, the lights were switched on by a celebrity. This year, Dame Barbara Windsor (Carry On and Eastenders legend) performed the role, adding in a little humour to the occasion as well. In view of the increasing popularity of this event, the Council will be reviewing future options for hosting this special occasion.



Children and Young People

School Swimming: The Council supported local schools in meeting the cost of travel to The Venue swimming pool for lessons (£33,000). This much appreciated service is applauded by head teachers and students alike.

Youth Council: With 18 active Youth Councillors, this group continues to represent and be a voice for young people in the local area and carries out community service work and environmental improvements. The Council has been pleased to involve a project worker in helping to shape the future of the Youth Council in raising its profile and attracting new membership with opportunities for the young people to grow and learn new skills. An up-to-date safeguarding policy has also been adopted to ensure that the very best practice is followed.

Public Access Report and Communications

The report's contents were approved by Full Council on 15 March 2017 and the report is available for inspection by any elector in the Parish by contacting the Town Council Offices or viewing on the Council website (www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk) and social media pages. The report is published in the quarterly Town Crier publication distributed to every resident in Elstree and Borehamwood (16,000 copies). Copies are available at the Town and Borough Council offices and at Borehamwood Library.

Finances

The summary of Council Finances at Year End is as follows:

	Actual year to date	Current annual budget
General Management		
Expenditure	£289,937	£304,625
Income	£520,893	£495,647
Net Expenditure	-£230,956	-£191,022
Environment and Planning		
Expenditure	£8,203	£31,430
Income	£12,128	£6,467
Net Expenditure	-£3,925	£24,963
Leisure and Entertainment		
Expenditure	£96,270	£110,125
Income	£8,918	£13,403
Net Expenditure	£87,352	£96,722
Community Support		
Expenditure	£35,878	£46,940
Income	0	0
Net Expenditure	£35,878	£46,940
TOTALS		
Expenditure	£430,287	£493,120
Income	£541,938	£515,517
Net Expenditure	-£111,651	-£22,397

General Reserve Fund at Year End: £158,074

Earmarked Reserves at Year End: (Van: £4,451, Capital Projects: £215,640, Election: £4,450, Car Park: £40,000 and Allotments: £31,950)

Town Councillors

2016/17 Mayor: Cllr Clive Butchins
2016/17 Deputy Mayor: Cllr Eric Silver

The new Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be appointed at the Annual Council meeting on 24 May 2017 along with Committee Chairmen and representatives on outside bodies.

Borehamwood Hillside



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Elstree

Information on local groups is available at <http://www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk/index.php/yourtown/local-groups>

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council meetings

For a full list of our forthcoming meetings, please see the website.

All meetings now take place at Fairway Hall.

25 April	Environment & Planning	Meeting Room	7pm
27 April	General Management	Meeting Room	7pm
10 May	Transport Forum	Main Hall	7pm
23 May	Environment & Planning	Meeting Room	7pm
24 May	ANNUAL COUNCIL MAYOR MAKING	Main Hall	7pm
25 May	General Management	Meeting Room	7pm
6 June	Entertainments	Meeting Room	7pm
7 June	Business Forum	Main Hall	7pm
14 June	FULL COUNCIL	Main Hall	7.30pm
20 June	Environment & Planning	Meeting Room	7pm
5 July	Transport Forum	Main Hall	7pm
11 July	Entertainments	Meeting Room	7.30pm
13 July	General Management	Meeting Room	7pm
18 July	Environment & Planning	Main Hall	7pm

Note: Times and venues of meetings may be changed at short notice. Meetings listed are open to the press and public.

Contacting the Council staff

Phone: 020 8207 1382 (all staff)

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For information on the Town Crier, contact the editor below or for FAQs and guidelines visit our website

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