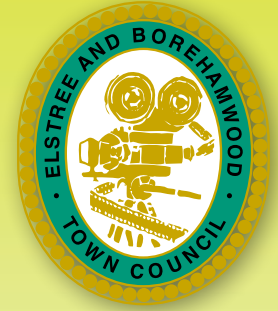


Annual Report 2018/19



Mayor's Summary

Summing up at the Council meeting on 13 March 2019, the outgoing Town Mayor Cllr V Eni said *"Martine and I attended a great number of Engagements since I became Mayor. This was a great honour for both of us and I particularly enjoyed the occasions here at Fairway Hall, raising funds for Hertsmere MENCAP my chosen charity and during Black Awareness Week when we had our Diversity Festival. Trips to Offenburg and Fontenay-aux-Roses (our twin towns) enabled us to renew our friendships overseas. The Festival Fortnight was a very busy time for everyone at the Town Council and Martine and I really enjoyed participating in all of the events from the Parade to Families Day. I wish the Council (members and staff) a successful year after the May elections."*



Community Services

Hall Bookings: Fairway Hall was booked for 1,768 hours for casual hire such as party bookings, amateur dramatics and shows. Regular hirers for the year were:

- Ballet: Hertsmere Academy of Performing Arts
- Sports and Youth Development
- Drop In Centre (Over 60s)
- Dementia Support Group
- Born to Move
- Weight Watchers
- Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association

- Yoga
- Arts XP Classes
- MENCAP Keep Fit to Music
- Taekwondo
- Borehamwood Islamic Society

Improvements to Fairway Hall during the year included the installation of an air conditioning unit, new blinds, curtains and repairs to the maple sprung flooring.

Allotments

Site	Managed	Occupied	Occupancy
Allum Lane	47	42	89%
Melrose Avenue	99	98	99%
Stapleton Gardens	54	52	96%
Total	201	193	96%



Planning and Consultations: The Council considered a total of 388 planning applications referred to it by Hertsmere Borough Council as a statutory consultee. Comments were made on 67 of these with concerns including issues of smaller unit developments failing to meet local needs for family sized homes and concerns over the high levels of retrospective applications locally. Consultation responses were made on the Hertsmere Local Plan (Planning for Growth) and Hertsmere Borough Council's Revised Statement of Licensing Policy.

Site and Street Maintenance: In partnership with local businesses, the Council maintains the film plaques in Borehamwood, 47 benches and 10 notice boards. Both War Memorials, St Nicholas and All Saints churchyards (and church clocks) are maintained by the grounds team and the High Street planter cost is shared with Hertsmere Borough Council. Using Community Infrastructure Levy monies, the Town Council initiated an ambitious project to rejuvenate and standardise all benches and noticeboards in the Town.



Grants: In 2018/19 the Town Council was proud to have assisted the following organisations with grant awards to contribute to the cost of local activities which are of benefit to the community (or a section of it).

The total sum granted in Budgeted and Community grants was £7,150 as follows:

- BETTA (Twin Town Association) £1,500 for admin costs;
- Boreham Wood Football Club £1,600 for advertising (with an additional award of £150,000 from Community Infrastructure Levy monies to help build a new North Stand);
- The Jewish Life Centre £1,800 for security costs;
- Elstree Mozart Players £500 for performance costs;
- Otters Swimming Club £250 for a swimming teacher (for children with disabilities);
- Elstree Productions £500 for production costs; and
- EBLOS (Operatic Society) £1,000 for production costs.

Transport Forum: The Council hosted four Transport Forum meetings open to the public and those with an interest in transport and road safety issues (topics included train and bus services, police updates and ongoing problems of traffic flow in Borehamwood and Elstree).



Community Safety Meeting (CSM): A new Forum was established (at a Town level) to promote services and share information on community safety with representation from Hertsmere Constabulary, Herts Fire and Rescue, Neighbourhood Watch, Clarion Housing and other interested parties.

China Sister Town: The Council continued to investigate ways of forging links and friendship with Huainan in China (Sister Town) and a delegation visit from China took place (including a visit to the Houses of Parliament).

Leisure and Entertainment

Coach Trips: The 12 subsidised Summer coach trips for the over 60s included an extra trip to Eastbourne and the new destination of Portsmouth. Christmas Market Winter trips were enjoyed to the South Bank and Canterbury. Residents completed a satisfaction questionnaire with new destinations mentioned for future consideration.



Civic Festival: The Festival fortnight began with a civic parade to the theme of 150 Years of the railway line coming to Elstree and Borehamwood. Highlights included a BBC Band Concert (A Night at the Movies) at Allum Hall, Festival Park Run at Aldenham Reservoir (159 runners competed and each received a participant's badge – the event has grown over the past two years to be an integral part of the Festival schedule), outdoor Bandstand Concert with Borehamwood Brass and local band 'Soul Jump', the ever popular Teddy's Trails guided walk (from Arkley this year) and Elstree and Borehamwood's Got Talent. Families Day included 42 community stalls. Arena events were Clown Time Stunt Show and Lamb and Sheep Dog Display.

Fireworks Display: This was the 28th free entry fireworks display, choreographed this year to music inspired by trains and the railway, enjoyed safely by over 5,000 spectators.



Remembrance Sunday: This year the Council organised a special event to commemorate the end of World War I with a “Battle’s Over” event and Beacon Lighting at Woodcock Hill.



Christmas Switch On Display: The BBC Band performed its annual Christmas concert at Allum Hall. The Switch On ceremony was conducted by Town Mayor, Cllr V Eni with the help of Wembley stars Boreham Wood Football Club. Activities included free Santa’s Grotto, ice skating and children’s rides. Borehamwood Brass Band, Community Choir, Elstree Productions and local musician James Stowell helped to generate a festive mood. Four schools performed concerts at All Saints Church.



Children and Young People

School Swimming: The Council supported local schools in meeting the cost of travel to The Venue swimming pool for lessons (£32,000). This much appreciated service is applauded by head teachers and students alike.

Youth Council: Work undertaken during the year included a visit to St Pancras station (as part of the 150 years of the railway project), a presentation from a local Rotary Club and a competition at the Museum initiated by the Youth Councillors.



Public Access Report and Communications

The report contents were approved by Full Council on 13 March 2019 and the report is available for inspection by any elector in the Parish area by contacting the Town Council Offices or viewing on the Council website (www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk). 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 Councils 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	£467,630	£350,600
Income	£551,196	£502,532
Net Expenditure	-£83,566	-£151,932
Environment and Planning		
Expenditure	£17,533	£26,460
Income	£8,198	£7,189
Net Expenditure	£9,335	£19,271
Leisure and Entertainment		
Expenditure	£108,410	£116,314
Income	£10,516	£10,544
Net Expenditure	£97,894	£105,770
Community Support		
Expenditure	£40,662	£48,060
Income	Nil	Nil
Net Expenditure	£40,662	£48,060
TOTALS		
Expenditure	£634,235	£541,434
Income	£569,910	£520,265
Net Expenditure	£64,324	£21,169

General Reserve Fund at Year End: £15,178 (plus 3 savings vehicles £300,000).

Earmarked Reserves at Year End: (Van: £6,451, Capital Projects: £205,527, Election: £18,000, Future Planning: £40,000).

Incoming Town Councillors 2019/2020

2019/20 Mayor: Cllr Simon Rubner

2019/20 Deputy Mayor: Cllr Sandra Parnell

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Local Council Award Scheme – Quality

Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council has become the first of over 100 parish and town authorities in Hertfordshire to be rated “Quality” level in the Local Councils Award Scheme, run by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).

The council received the prestigious award for demonstrating best practice in governance, community engagement and administration.

According to town clerk Huw Jones, elements of its performance highlighted by NALC included, it’s quarterly Town Crier magazine, its involvement in clubs and local organisations and its well thought out policy documents, together with its commitment to seek new opportunities to improve and develop further.

The scheme celebrates the successes of the very best local councils and provides a framework to support all local councils to improve and develop to meet their full potential.



Contacting the Council 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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Anne Nicodemus - Council Warden

Will Goddard - Groundsman

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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.

4 June	Entertainments	Meeting Room	7.30pm
5 June	Community Safety Meeting	Main Hall	7pm
12 June	FULL COUNCIL	Main Hall	7.30pm
18 June	Environment & Planning	Meeting Room	7pm
3 July	Transport Forum	Main Hall	7pm
9 July	Entertainments	Meeting Room	7.30pm
11 July	General Management	Meeting Room	7pm
16 July	Environment & Planning	Meeting Room	7pm
3 September	Entertainments	Meeting Room	7.30pm
4 September	FULL COUNCIL	Main Hall	7.30pm

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

