

**ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday 24 April 2008 at Fairway Hall Offices, Brook Close, Borehamwood starting at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillor M Bright (in the Chair)
Councillors R Butler, P Hedges, J Heywood, M Heywood and
F Turner

In Attendance: Paul Welsh, Entertainments Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were Received and Accepted from Councillor G Franklin (another meeting) with Cllr R Butler deputising and Cllr A Mitchell (holiday) with Cllr M Heywood deputising.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 March 2008 were Received and Approved as a true record.

Arising out of the Minutes it was Agreed that the Entertainments Officer investigate the possibility of organising a 60 plus coach trip for disabled persons in 2009, as part of the existing coach scheme.

3 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

No declarations were made and the Chairman reminded Members these can also be made before each item if relevant.

4 ENTERTAINMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

A Plaque Unveiling

It was Reported that the commemorative plaque unveiling for Bryan Forbes CBE with guest unveiler Lord Attenborough has taken place and went smoothly. 104 persons attended and the feedback had been very positive.

It was Noted that discussions were underway for a similar event honouring Barbara Windsor MBE, possibly to be held on a Sunday in September or October.

The plaque unveiling for Sir Cliff Richard has been agreed in principle but is subject to pressures on his diary as 2008 is his 50th anniversary in 'showbiz'.

B Families Day Attractions

Two new attractions are being arranged for Families Day on 5 July 2008. A synthetic ice skating rink and a giant inflatable toboggan run have been hired.

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Charges for the ice skating elsewhere ranged from £4 to £5.50 for adults and £3 to £4 for children, although length of sessions varied. After some discussion it was RESOLVED that

- a no charges be made for either attraction
- b timed session tickets be issued for the ice skating rink for twenty minute sessions plus boot changing.

This would ensure that no resident is discriminated against on grounds of cost and that potential 'spend power' on the day is not diverted away from the voluntary/charitable stalls.

C Guy Fawkes Night

It was Noted that, as previously agreed, a contract has now been awarded to Fantastic Fireworks Ltd to supply a fireworks display on 5 November 2008.

D Hertswood Community Theatre

The Entertainments Officer reported on his attendance at the User's Group Meeting held on 8 April 2008. Sadly, the meeting was not well attended and some concerns were expressed about potential hire charges.

A detailed business plan was presented but, due to its length, not considered at the meeting.

The School expressed concerns about the slow progress on the project and are now predicting a summer 2009 opening. A Steering Committee has also now been set up which includes a Hertsmere Borough Council Member to facilitate progress.

E Movie Tourism

For a number of years the Town Council has taken a lead role in preserving the town's unique film and television production history. This has included supporting the campaign to retain Elstree Studios, holding our annual Film Evening, supporting the Elstree Screen Heritage Group, erecting commemorative plaques, publishing a 'plaque guide' and supporting a film walk.

As part of encouraging the economic benefits of 'movie tourism', the Entertainments Officer has met with the organisers of the 'On The Buses' fan club. Members were informed that, during the Festival one hundred fans will be visiting our town to tour location sites.

Members noted that the economic spin-off from this one visit alone will result in the hiring of a meeting room, hire of a double decker bus, hire of hotel rooms, hire of the cinema, local meals purchased and a number of tickets purchased for the Film Evening.

F Festival Advisory Committee

It was Noted that the purchase of street banners will cost around £900 approximately to purchase, plus about £1,000 to erect, maintain and remove.

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Members **RESOLVED** that the banners should be purchased, subject to confirming that the planned highways improvements to the street columns will not clash.

In addition it was Agreed that a meeting of the Festival Advisory Committee followed by an Entertainments Committee be held on Tuesday 3 June 2008 at 7.30pm.

5 CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Chairman