

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of the Entertainments Committee – 16th December 2010

Held at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood starting at 19:30 hours.

PRESENT: Cllr. Sandra Parnell – Chair
Cllr. Farida Turner – Vice Chair
Cllr. Graeme Franklin
Cllr. Jean Heywood
Cllr. Ernie Butler
Cllr. Pat Strack

in attendance: Ash Tadjrishi, Events Co-ordinator

1 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received from Mayor Anne Mitchell, Cllr. Hannah David and Cllr. Richard Butler. Cllr. Jean Heywood substituted for Cllr. Hannah David. Cllr. Ernie Butler substituted for Cllr. Richard Butler.

2 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER 2010 AS A CORRECT RECORD

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th November were Approved and Signed as a true record.

3 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS (IF ANY) RELEVANT TO THE BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED

No declarations received.

4 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE EVENTS COODINATOR

On Sunday 5th December the Christmas Lights Switch On event had taken place. The churchyard saw many people enjoying both the synthetic ice rink and the cabaret stage show. The lamp post lighting had been fixed in time for the event and additional halogen lighting had been hired in to supplement this. The Events Coordinator reported that he had received many positive comments from those involved with the carols at All Saints Church. The capacity audience appeared to have enjoyed the programme and refreshments, many staying behind afterwards to listen to the Brass Band play or take part in the entertainments in the square behind.

Thanks to Herts Highways completing the required maintenance works just in time for the event, all decorations are now on digital time switches and programmed to run from 4pm-12am daily. At 4pm precisely around 50% of the lights came on automatically, with the remaining lights only a few seconds behind. The contractor re-adjusted the timings and for the remainder of the period the lights should run as desired.

The high quality decorations on Shenley Road are a great improvement and have allowed the Town Council to relocate other lights, resulting in a consistent and quality theme across the areas of Leeming Road, Manor Way and Elstree High Street. In all there has been a 40% increase in the number of decorations since last year.

Monday 13th December BBC Band concert event ran smoothly. As requested the programme included carols and a sing-a-long yet comments had been received that other pieces were unknown. 126 tickets had been sold with 148 attending in total. Numbers sadly have been decreasing despite increased press coverage and the usual publicity and mail outs.

The Events Coordinator has enrolled on the CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) course due to start in January in support of the Town Council's intention to apply for Quality Status in the future.

Further to this, the Events Coordinator suggested working on the application alongside a member of the council.

5 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS REVIEW

Aside from 2 lights in Manor Way that were subsequently repaired the following day, all of the lights appeared to work correctly and were being inspected weekly. Councillors passed on positive comments from members of the public which were received with thanks.

AT suggested that members may wish to consider running the outdoor entertainments later in the day, with the switch on itself still at 4pm, as few people turned out before 3pm. It was agreed that the outdoor entertainments could run from 3pm-7pm instead of 1pm-5pm so that more people could enjoy the ice rink for longer.

Following a discussion as to whether to move the event from Sunday to Saturday, members felt that Sunday was preferable as this would allow people to use the shops up until the usual Sunday closing hours and then still make use of the entertainments on offer. It was suggested that carol singing in the Church could be relayed via the radio mic to the external PA prior to the switch on.

6 ENTERTAINMENTS BUDGET 2011/12

The Events Coordinator presented the draft budget for the next financial year. Members discussed some proposed changes and approved the following:

Members decided to cut the BBC Band Christmas event and not to bring back the Film Evening but £1000 was allocated towards new initiatives to explore other ideas. The draft provision for 4 issues of the Town Crier was reduced to 3 as agreed.

These changes, alongside the previously drafted cost savings, resulted in a net reduction of £5,548 for the year (including Section 137 items under the auspices of Entertainments Committee) when compared to the 2010/11 budget. Total Leisure & Entertainments £57,027. Sub-total Section 137 under Leisure & Entertainments £12,625. Net total £69,652.

7 FIRST IMPRESSIONS UPDATE

The Town Council's Film Plaques have now been handed over to be incorporated in to the information panel designs.

AT reported that a presentation reception is planned for Sunday 20th March 2011 to mark the conclusion of the project and asked members to put forward any suggestions for essential additions to the limited invite list.

AT agreed to update all Town Council members via email with further information.

8 TOWN NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Cllr. Pat Strack updated members following the first meeting of the Newsletter Sub-Committee and distributed minutes.

CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 21.30 hours.

Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 11th January 2010 at 19:30 hours.

Chair:.....

Date:.....