

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

**GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES** of a special meeting held in Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood on **Wednesday 14 December 2016** at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Mrs S Parnell (Chairman in the Chair)  
Cllr Mrs A Mitchell (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr C Butchins  
Cllr G Franklin  
Cllr S Rubner

Also Present: Cllr Mrs F Turner  
Cllr C Barker  
Cllr R Butler

In attendance: Dr P Wong Morrow  
Cllr C Kelly (Hertsmere Borough Council)  
H R O Jones - Town Clerk

**48. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

There were none.

**49. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS**

There were none.

**50. SPECIAL MEETING**

The Chairman delivered a verbal report relating to the reasons for the calling of a special meeting.

In essence, a decision to take the issue to Full Council in January 2017 was preferred (rather than at a later date) in order to maintain a constructive and up to date dialogue with representatives of the Huainan Municipal People's Government.

**51. SISTER TOWN PROPOSAL**

The Committee received a detailed report from Dr Wong Morrow setting out the advantages of the Council agreeing to a Sister Town arrangement with the Huainan Municipal People's Government. Matters discussed included:

- The pronunciation of 'Huainan' ("Whey-naan")
- The cost to the taxpayer for the enterprise would be nil
- The initiative would be called a "Sister" rather than "Twin" town arrangement
- The emphasis was on building cultural and business links
- Links would be forged between film studios and universities
- A number of individuals and organisations had already offered support and in some cases financial commitment to the project.

It was noted that O Dowden MP had written to the Mayor to express support, in principle.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

**Full Council on 11 January 2017 be asked to consider approving the proposal to form a sister town arrangement to promote cultural and business links with Huainan (guided by Dr P Wong Morrow) on condition that full support and commitment for the project was obtained from Hertsmere Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council.**

**52. CLOSE OF MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 9 February 2017.

The Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Date:..... CHAIRMAN.....