

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL (EBTC)

COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING (CSM)

MINUTES of a meeting held at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT on Wednesday 29 January 2020 at 2.00pm

Present:

- Cllr Mrs S Parnell (CSM Vice Chairman - EBTC) (in the Chair)
- Cllr Mrs P Strack – EBTC
- Cllr A Collins – EBTC
- Cllr K Prabakar – EBTC
- PC T Bainbridge-Price – Hertfordshire Constabulary
- PCSO S Westlake-Cann – Hertfordshire Constabulary
- PCSO K Hamackova – Hertfordshire Constabulary
- D Sweeney – Watch Liaison Officer Hertfordshire Constabulary
- R Jarvis - Neighbourhood Watch
- L Stack - EBRA
- 10 additional Members of the Public
- H R O Jones - EBTC Town Clerk

[Only those attending on behalf of an organisation and/or wishing their names to be included in the Minutes are recorded above.]

Abbreviations:

- EBTC - Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council
- HBC - Hertsmere Borough Council
- HCC - Hertfordshire County Council
- EBRA - Elstree and Borehamwood Residents' Association
- BETTA - Borehamwood and Elstree Twin Town Association

37. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING NOTICES

The Vice Chairman, Cllr Mrs S Parnell, welcomed those present to the Town Council organised CSM. It was encouraging to note the high number of Hertfordshire Constabulary representatives at the meeting and it was hoped that the experimental start time of 2.00pm would prove to be popular with residents. It was noted that the intention was to alternate between daytime and evening meetings.

38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Butchins (CSM Chairman), S Rubner (Mayor) - EBTC, Cllr T Hone (HCC), Cllr C Clapper (HBC) and Cllr C P Chowdhury (HBC).

39. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

There were none.

40. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that:

the minutes of the meeting of 4 December 2019 be approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

41. POLICING

It was reported that whilst there had been an increase in crimes (22 per day) the figure was low when compared with County and national statistics.

It was reported that three key areas were being targeted by the Constabulary in order to reduce anti-social behaviour problems:

- Aberford Park (including Leeming Road and Aycliffe Road – with stop and search powers and a dispersal order being used together with a public meeting);
- Parkfields (with extra high visibility police patrols); and
- Paxton Court (working with Hertsmere Borough Council and Clarion Housing).

It was noted that in September 2019, the refreshed Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan for Hertfordshire called “Everybody’s Business” was launched. The plan represented a continuation of the same principles that were endorsed by the electorate of Hertfordshire in 2012 and 2016, and included an update to record progress made on the delivery of those pledges. Priorities included:

- protecting local policing;
- Tackling fly-tipping;
- Rural crime;
- Anti-social behaviour; and
- and targeting speeding motorists.

The document could be viewed online at hertscommissioner.org/police-and-crime-plan-herts-pcc

Some Members of the Public asked for the Police to provide a report on the topic of “County Lines” at the next CSM meeting, if possible.

42. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

It was reported that neighbourhood watch numbers had increased by 2,000 new members with over a third in Hertfordshire as a whole (a greater than average coverage).

From April, rogue trader and distraction DVDs would be rolled out to other areas such as Enfield.

It was noted that Elstree had nearly 100% Neighbourhood Watch coverage.

43. HERTS FIRE AND RESCUE

There was no report.

44. CLARION HOUSING

There was no report.

45. COUNCIL REPORTS

The HCC written report included:

- Mental Health Board (this had been established to keep staff well and engaged in the Fire Service); and
- Honours Awards to Roy Aldwin MBE (the voluntary sector) and Veronica Adlam MBE (Health and Safety).

46. OPEN SESSION

Observations about local policing and community safety from the floor included:

- possible increases in crime because of street lights being switched off (responding to this matter, Hertfordshire Constabulary reported that burglaries were more likely to occur in the afternoon than in the evening whilst properties were empty);
- A desire to see more police patrols at night time;
- Concern was expressed at overgrown conifer trees in Borehamwood which were the responsibility of either HCC or private citizens;
- Parking outside John Fisher Catholic Church;
- Cars parking completely blocking footpaths.

It was RESOLVED that:

- (i) Hertfordshire County Council be asked to provide further details of the rationale for switching off street lights at night time; and**

- (ii) at an appropriate time, the Town Crier magazine include a survey seeking to assess the public's satisfaction levels with street lighting and crime prevention.

47. VICE CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY REPORT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

It was noted that the remaining meeting date for 2019/20 was as follows:

- 25 March 2020 7.00pm

at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT.

48. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 3.00pm

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