

## **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 27 March 2019 at 7.00pm

Present:

- Cllr C Butchins (CSM Chairman - EBTC) (in the Chair)
- Cllr Mrs P Strack - EBTC
- Cllr S Rubner - EBTC
- D Sweeney (Watch Liaison Officer)
- Cllr P Choudhury - (Community Safety and Performance Portfolio Holder ) HBC
- Cllr J Newmark - HBC
- Cllr K Merchant - HBC
- S Alford - EBRA
- 4 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

### **38. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING NOTICES**

The Chairman, Cllr C Butchins, welcomed those present to the second Town Council organised CSM.

### **39. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs S Parnell (EBTC), A Dismore AM (London Assembly: Barnet and Camden), Cllr T Hone (HCC), CI C Smith (Hertfordshire Constabulary) and Inspector M Bilsdon (Safer Neighbourhoods Inspector - Hertfordshire Constabulary).

### **40. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS**

There were none.

#### **41. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**It was RESOLVED that:**

**the minutes of the meeting of 30 January 2019 be approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.**

#### **42. POLICING**

It was noted that, whilst prior apologies for absence had been received from CI C Smith (Hertfordshire Constabulary) and Inspector M Bilsdon (Safer Neighbourhoods Inspector - Hertfordshire Constabulary), representation had been anticipated at the meeting from PCSOs. It was understood that PCSOs could be called away at short notice for operational reasons. Nevertheless, due to no presence, there was no report. It was further noted that representations had been made to Hertfordshire Constabulary to encourage participation at future CSM meetings.

#### **43. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH POLICY**

D Sweeney (Watch Liaison Officer) reported on the extensive benefits of the Online Watch Link (OWL) system providing alerts about crime and local issues. This could help to prevent burglary, finds missing people and even catch suspects ([www.owl.co.uk](http://www.owl.co.uk)). His reported included the following areas:

- Only 4% of people who are victims of scams report these incidents;
- The possibility of attending Drop In sessions to help senior citizens learn about fraud and cyber-crimes;
- Advertising OWL in the Town Crier magazine;
- Other types of Watch (Business, Horse, Dog, Pub and Hotel);
- Updating of OWL system to include Push Notifications; and
- Credit/Debit Card Defenders and key fob signal blocker pouches to protect car keys– to prevent remote contactless transactions taking place or electronic car keys being used (available from R Jarvis – Neighbourhood Watch among other items for sale).

#### **44. HERTS FIRE AND RESCUE**

There was no report.

#### **45. CLARION HOUSING**

There was no report.

#### **46. COUNCIL REPORTS**

Cllr P Choudhury - (Community Safety and Performance Portfolio Holder HBC) provided a comprehensive update report on initiatives from a Borough Council perspective. This included the following areas:

- Safer Minds;
- Be Fearless Against Abuse (in partnership with Crime Stoppers);
- Dual Diagnosis Specialist – Community Support Service;
- Better Choices expansion - “Early Intervention” for Youth Violent Crime;
- SOS – Drawing the Lines – a county wide intervention for serious violence;
- Hertfordshire Modern Slavery Partnership Coordinator;
- Partnership Working;
- Operation Sceptre, a national knife amnesty running from 11 – 17 March 2019;
- Domestic Abuse Lite Bite training session; and
- Counter Terrorism Local Plan (Prevent training dates in April).

A written report was received from Cllr T Hone (Executive Member for Community Safety and Waste Management HCC). This included the following areas:

- Hertford Fire Station and Service Headquarters – Relocation
- Longfield Redevelopment - Public Consultation
- Gilston Discussions with Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
- High Sheriff and Lord Lieutenant visit to Training & Development Centre and Fire Control – 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February
- Brexit
- Trading Standards Investigation
- Police & Crime Commissioner’s Community Safety Board

#### **47. OPEN SESSION**

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

- Removal of racist graffiti (all racist / hate crime to be reported by calling 101);

- CCTV; and
- Police Crime Panel at North Herts District Council (Letchworth) on 11 April 2019 at 7.00pm.

**48. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY REPORT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

It was noted that the remaining meeting dates for 2019 were as follows:

- 5 June 2019 at 7.00pm
- 2 October 2019 at 7.00pm
- 4 December 2019 at 7.00pm

at 7.00 pm at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT.

It was further noted that the next date of the Transport and Road Safety Forum would be as follows:

- 15 May 2019 at 7.00pm (change from previous date – 1 May 2019 due to local Council Elections taking place on 2 May 2019)

**49. CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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