

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL (EBTC)

TRANSPORT FORUM

MINUTES of a meeting held at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT on Wednesday 25 October 2017 at 7.00pm

Present:

- Cllr C Butchins (Transport Forum Chairman - EBTC)
- Cllr V Eni (EBTC)
- A Plancey (Hertfordshire County Council)
- D Sullivan (Sullivan Buses)
- C Izzard (Metroline)
- E Aherne-Sime (Metroline)
- PCSO 6344 T J Hainsworth (Hertfordshire Constabulary)
- L Heyman (GTR)
- H Matereke (GTR - Elstree and Borehamwood Station Manager)
- J Cartledge (Resident)
- N Clark (Resident)
- S Alford (EBRA)
- P Ravin (Resident)
- A de Swarte (Resident)
- S Melinek (Residents)
- 2 other residents
- T Malton (Deputy Town Clerk)

[Only those residents wishing their names to be included in the Minutes are recorded above.]

09. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received from Cllr S Rubner (EBTC- Deputy Chairman), Cllr Mrs S Parnell (EBTC), Cllr G Silver (EBTC), O Dowden MP (Hertsmere MP), A Dismore AM (London Assembly: Barnet and Camden), G Brigden (Hertfordshire County Council), M and C Blake (Residents), R Redman (First Impressions Group) and S Simmonds (Sullivan Buses).

10. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

There were none.

11. TRANSPORT FORUM MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 5 July 2017 were approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

12. SIGNAGE

The Transport Forum received a report from J Cartledge in connection with signage problems at the intersection at Hillside and Cardinal Avenues in Borehamwood (photographs attached at **APPENDIX A**).

He indicated: *"The stop lines, warning triangles and "slow" markings in Hillside Avenue are badly eroded, and approaching drivers may be distracted by the more obvious markings associated with the adjacent speed tables. As it is not immediately clear to drivers using Hillside Avenue that they do not have priority at this crossroads, the situation is potentially hazardous. I believe that, in addition to renewing the carriageway markings, it would be helpful to install "Give Way" signs as well."*

It was noted that the matter had been reported to both Hertfordshire County Council and Hertfordshire Constabulary.

It was AGREED that:

Hertfordshire County Council Highways Department be informed of the Forum's support for renewed/enhanced and markings at the intersection at Hillside and Cardinal Avenues in Borehamwood be reported to Hertfordshire. Cllr A Plancey would make similar representations, and the Forum be kept informed of developments, as appropriate.

13. PARKING MATTERS

The Chairman referred Forum Members to the PetrolPrices.com Ltd publication appended to the agenda, *'1 in 5 car parking spaces wasted due to bad parking'*. It was generally accepted that parking etiquette and instances of nuisance or illegal parking were national problems not peculiar to Elstree and Borehamwood. Particular areas of concern included:

- Parking on grass verges (causing damage);
- Parking on junction corners;
- Use of mobile telephones whilst parking;
- Parking on double and single yellow lines;
- Parking at bus stops/bays;
Vehicles not correctly positioned because bays arranged at right angles to the direction of approach (instead of diagonally) are difficult to manoeuvre into and out of; and
- Insufficient availability of parking spaces (for residents and visitors alike).

It was recognised that parking was likely to continue to be a topic of concern due to the closure of parking facilities locally and the anticipated increase in development.

14. BUS SERVICES IN ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD

C Izzard (Metroline) and D Sullivan (Sullivan Buses) provided reports, indicating that a new timetable was in place for the 306 and 398 services. It was noted that one change to the Uno service 601 took place in September (affecting Journeys between St Albans and Welwyn Garden City).

Information on new Bus Timetables could be found at:

Sullivan' Buses	www.sullivanbuses.co.uk
Metroline	www.metroline.co.uk
Uno	www.unobus.info

Some members of the Forum commented that bus service operators could be made aware of issues for users including:

- Buses leaving stops earlier or later than the advertised departure time;
- Roadwork delays especially at the Barnet bypass with resulting consequences for Borehamwood and road resurfacing affecting the B3 service (a recognised and often reported matter at the Transport Forum);
- Irresponsible parking by parents near schools; and
- Reports that the 107 service had improved were welcomed.

15. TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY REPORT: HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Members the Forum received a report from PCSO 6344 T J Hainsworth (Hertfordshire Constabulary) (a copy of the report is appended to these Minutes at **APPENDIX B**).

Particular areas of concern included:

- irresponsible cycling (especially a long term problem reported in Hillside ward);
- road traffic collisions – particularly in Hillside and Kenilworth wards including:
 - damage only
 - suspected injury
 - road offence
 - vehicle nuisance or inappropriate use;
- School run traffic congestion; and

- congestion at Elstree and Borehamwood railway station roundabout (junction of Shenley Road and Allum Lane).

16. TRAIN SERVICES

The Forum received a report from L Heyman (GTR) (copy of slides attached at **APPENDIX C**) who introduced Mr H Matereke as the recently-appointed Elstree and Borehamwood station manager. The Forum welcomed Mr Matereke to the community.

Matters raised in response to the report included:

- Trains ‘overshooting’ platforms at Elstree and Borehamwood station;
- Last minute track changes at West Hampstead with no prior warning or announcements and associated consequences for passengers further north;
- Un-discernible signage on platforms; and
- Insufficient ticket machine information re concessionary fares.

L Heyman agreed to note the concerns and report back to colleagues, where appropriate. It was also reported that improvements to the ticket hall experience for passengers were scheduled to be completed by March 2019. J Cartledge observed that the station had had six footbridges and four ticket halls in its existence.

17. 150 YEARS OF ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD RAILWAY STATION

The Transport Forum received a report from J Cartledge deputising for R Redman of “All Change” on plans to mark the 150th anniversary of the opening of Elstree and Borehamwood railway station (Photographs attached at **APPENDIX D**). Some of the salient points made were:

- The “All Change” group (a partnership between First Impressions and Elstree and Borehamwood Museum put forward the proposal that 150 years of railway services should be marked locally in some way;
- ‘All Change’ had received a substantial grant from the National Lottery fund to finance an exhibition project (with an additional £3,000 being budgeted for a Festival Event by Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council);

- The display at the museum would include interesting artefacts and images relating to the history and evolution of the station and recorded talks by past and present users and employees;
- Other events planned included school visits, film shows and a guided walk;
- The Bedford to London line opened on 13 July 1868 triggering the rapid development of the town and the transformation of the local economy;
- A major partner in “All Change” is “Elstree Screen Heritage” which raises the awareness of the history of the TV and film studios in the town whose presence was originally due in part to its ease of rail access from London.
- ‘Elstree Screen Heritage’ is responsible for the film-related enhancement that can be seen at the station and in the town, including the station planters and, station benches, photo images mural, high street plaques and banners. The maintenance of the plaques is the responsibility of the Town Council); and
- The project should also raise awareness of the interaction between town TV/films and the railway station.

Anyone who would like to contribute in any way should contact R Redman as soon as possible.

18. OPEN SESSION

[For clarity and context, questions raised in the Open Session but relating to other agenda items are recorded in the text of the relevant minute above].

Depression in Station Road

Responding to an observation by C Izzard (Metroline), the Forum noted that a depression in the road surface near the railway station continued to be problematic for vehicle drivers especially buses.

It was AGREED that:

A Plancey (Hertfordshire County Council) would be requested to notify the Highways Department of the forum’s concern in relation to the depression on Station Road by Elstree and Borehamwood Railway station.

Traffic Lights Exiting Tesco's Store, Borehamwood

S Alford (EBRA) observed that the management of the traffic lights at the Tesco' store in Borehamwood did not appear to be the most efficient insofar as exit times for vehicles were unduly long. The issue had been raised previously by the Forum but the site was in Tesco's control and there was no obligation for the road markings and lights to conform with those that would be permitted on a public highway.

19. CLOSURE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 21 February 2018 at 7.00pm at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT.

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