## ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES of the Environment and Planning Committee – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009

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

PRESENT: Councillors: H David (Chairman) R Butler; M Heywood; F Turner

In attendance: Joel Charin, Town Clerk

1 **APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE & SUBSTITUTIONS** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. P Hedges.

# 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th February 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 PLANNING APPLICATIONS FROM HERTSMERE BOROUGH COUNCIL A total of 20 planning applications were considered; a further 6 had been received too late for the Committee to influence the decision. There were 5 objections raised. Please see

attached list.

5 **DECIDED PLANNING APPLICATIONS FROM HERTSMERE BOROUGH COUNCIL** A list of decided applications received from Hertsmere Borough Council was **noted**.

# 6 REPORT OF THE CLERK

#### Road and other issues

The Clerk reported that the Highways Joint Members Panel had agreed on a £2k contribution from the Town Council towards the cost of a study to determine the feasibility of introducing a 20mph speed limit in Brook Lane. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would draft a response to the District Manager at Hertfordshire Highways to express concern that a financial commitment appears to have been made without the knowledge of the town council.

The introduction of various new parking restrictions, as outlined in Hertfordshire Highways letter dated 23 February 2009, were **noted**.

Green waste recycling site - Members' considered a planning notification from County Hall concerning a change of use of land to a green waste recycling site at Elstree Hill South, adjoining the A41 roundabout. Members **agreed** that the Clerk should e-mail the case officer, objecting on the grounds of inappropriate use of the green belt and concerns as to traffic volume.

The Committee **noted** with pleasure the registration of Woodcock Hill as a town or village green.

The contents of the 4 February letter received from the Environment Agency concerning the Water Framework Directive were **noted**.

#### **Allotments**

Allum Lane - The Clerk outlined the recent steps taken to combat the rabbit infestation at the Allum Lane allotment site.

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A response from Sutton Homes concerning the border of their houses on Watling Street with Allum Lane allotments, was discussed; it was **agreed** that the Clerk should reply that the Council is unfortunately unable to give access to its land in this instance.

Stapleton Road - The Clerk outline the latest legal advice received from NALC concerning the disused allotment site. Also, a letter objecting to the use of the site for purposes other than allotments, received from the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Ltd (NSALG), was brought to the attention of members and the Clerk's subsequent discussions with NSALG summarised.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk should speak to Richard Grove, Head of Planning at Hertsmere BC, to seek his understanding and advice concerning the current status of this land, as it is unclear if the change of use granted by central government over twenty years ago was ever implemented.

It was agreed that a site visit to Stapleton Rd be arranged.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk confirm if it is possible for Mr Chris Herald to make a change of use application, should this be necessary.

# 8 CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 20:50 hours.

Chairman:	
Date:	