

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL



FULL COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting held at Fairway Hall, Town Council Offices, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT on Wednesday 13th September 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr E Silver (Kenilworth Ward) (Mayor)
Cllr V Eni (Brookmeadow Ward) (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr C Barker (Brookmeadow Ward)
Cllr C Butchins (Hillside Ward)
Cllr R Butler (Cowley Hill Ward)
Cllr G Franklin (Cowley Hill Ward)
Cllr Mrs A Mitchell (Elstree Ward)
Cllr Mrs S Parnell (Hillside Ward)
Cllr S Rubner (Brookmeadow Ward)
Cllr G Silver (Kenilworth Ward)
Cllr Mrs P Strack (Hillside Ward)
Cllr Mrs F Turner (Elstree Ward)

Civic Award: Mary Hanson
Ann Lawrence
Alan Lawrence
Florie Cowley

In Attendance: M Eni (BETTA)
A Grady (BETTA)
P Welsh (Elstree Screen Heritage)
L Stack (EBRA)
Cllr M Vince (HBC)
R Stratton (HBC - Museums and Heritage Officer)
D Salter - Entertainments Officer
H Jones – Town Clerk and RFO

In addition, 20 Members of the Public were present at the meeting, including friends, family and carers of the Civic Award recipients.

22. APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Coleshill (Other Business).

23. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

The following declarations of Councillors' interests were made:

Committee Member	Minute Number	Nature of Interest		
Cllr Mrs S Parnell	30 Vch.114 and 116	Disclosable (DPI)	Pecuniary	Interest
Cllr Mrs P Strack	30 Vch.114 and 116	Disclosable (DPI)	Pecuniary	Interest
Cllr C Butchins	30 Vch. 108, 114 116 and 118	Disclosable (DPI)	Pecuniary	Interest
Cllr C Barker	30 Vch. 118	Disclosable (DPI)	Pecuniary	Interest
Cllr E Silver	30 Vch. 118	Disclosable (DPI)	Pecuniary	Interest

Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest refrained from taking part in any discussion or decision making processes relating to those items. For the period of the meeting when the item contained in Minute 30 (Vch. 118) was considered, the Deputy Mayor (Cllr V Eni) took the Chair.

24. MINUTES OF COUNCIL

It was RESOLVED that:

the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 14 June 2017 be signed by the Mayor as a true record and adopted by the Council.

25. COMMUNITY AWARDS

Recognising their service to Elstree and Borehamwood Museum, the Mayor presented community award certificates to:

Mary Hanson
Ann Lawrence
Alan Lawrence
Florie Cowley

He said: *“they have done so much over many years in volunteering their time and skills to the community. Their work has made the lives of residents better and their service has not gone unrecognised.”*

Cllr Mrs S Parnell in making a presentation of a book on Boreham Wood Football Club to the Museum said: *“The Town Council enjoys a productive relationship with the Football Club, including the provision of an annual budgeted grant for an advertising banner at Meadow Park and the Club helps too on such occasions as Fireworks Night.*

Recently, I was presented with this magnificent book prepared by Bill O’Neill which sets out the history of the Club. It is a fascinating read and includes details about the very early years going back to the 1940s and before, the links between the football club and the film studios, the gargantuan task of making the club buildings and pitch and, perhaps best of all, amazing historical photographs of former players and those with a connection to this local asset of which we can all be so rightly proud.

As such, as well as your certificates, I would now like to formally present you with this book: ‘The Move from Eldon Avenue to Meadow Park: The New Home of Boreham Wood Football Club’ by Bill O’Neill to take back with you to 96 Shenley Road as an archive item for future and current visitors to enjoy! Thank you all and thank you to the representatives of Boreham Wood Football Club too for all that you do.”

26. OUTSIDE BODIES

Leeming/Aycliffe Big Local Advisory Panel

Cllr V Eni reported that he had not received invitations to meetings of the above group.

Elstree and Borehamwood Museum Group

Cllr E Silver reported on the Museum’s achievements in the months of June, July and August. These included:

- A volunteer award from Share East for the design and build of the temporary exhibitions;
- A Families Day stall;
- The History Walk (attended by 39 walkers);
- A Reminiscence Meeting; and
- An Open Exhibition of Toys and Gadgets of the 1970’s.

It was noted that on some days up to 60 visitors had been recorded within a three hour period.

Borehamwood & Elstree Twin Town Association

Cllr Mrs P Strack and Cllr E Silver provided reports. It was noted that the Deputy Mayor of Fontenay and a representative from Offenburg visited the Town during the Civic Festival in July. A fundraising party was held at St Teresa's Church. Cllr E Silver and his wife, Evelyn, represented the Town at a special event at Pietra Ligure in Italy. A trip was planned to the Offenburg wine festival at the end of September.

Elstree, Borehamwood and District Community Association

Cllr Mrs S Parnell reported that Allum Hall continued to prosper and that the refurbishment of the Manor House premises had been authorised by the Board of Trustees together with a formal review of marketing activities for Allum Hall and the Manor House. It was reported that it was on schedule to launch its new marketing activities at a reception to be held in December on the day of the AGM.

Community Safety Partnership (Town wide CSP)

Cllr Mrs P Strack reported that Hertsmere Borough Council had indicated that a decision had been taken to discontinue local CSP meetings as safety issues would be targeted in a different way in the future. It was noted that Aldenham Parish Council had decided to hold its own local CSP.

Community Hertsmere

Cllr C Butchins reported that the Community Hertsmere AGM was held on 20 July 2017 under the chairmanship of Stuart Nagler. Annual accounts were presented by the Treasurer and the Chief Executive, Stephen Craker, presented a view of the future. Contributions from Gratitude Community Drama Group and three Police Cadets were followed by a brainstorming exercise.

Items of interest included:

- The CH Chief Executive is chairing quarterly meetings of the Dementia Alliance; and
- The Community Shop provided a hate crime reporting centre, giving up smoking advice and various courses.

CH ran a successful Dragons' Apprentice last year, won by a team from Yavneh College and this year the Junior Dragons' Apprentice were to commence in October.

Aldenham Country Park

Cllr Mrs P Strack provided Members with an update report on the issues of interest. It was noted that Aldenham Renaissance would be submitting a grant application to the Council for play equipment for children with special needs. In addition, T

Waygood had agreed for Aldenham Renaissance to take responsibility for clearing the litter and cutting the vegetation on the footpath around the lake. Future initiatives included the possibility of another Fun Day at the park and for a Town Council notice board to be positioned on site.

In addition, Aldenham Renaissance had made many improvements during the past few months: a farm café had been opened and new educational buildings added. Camping and ‘glamping’ was bringing much needed income to the company.

In relation to the footpath, a notice was posted previously giving time for objections to be lodged by 6 October 2017. If no objections were received then the footpath would be designated a Right of Way.

Maxwell Park Management Group

Cllr Mrs S Parnell read the Management Group Report for the year 2016-17 prepared by the Chairman Chris Anderson:

“This year we had several events, including the show Britain’s Got Talent in August 2016 and the Affinity Sutton Job Fair that was held in September 2016. In January 2017 Mega slam Wrestling evening was held and it was fully booked. In March this year the Line Dancing event took place, then an Art Exhibition was held in May and finally the Town Council’s Film Night was in June. During the year, fifty-four various celebratory parties were held such as children’s birthdays and weddings. There were numerous educational courses held in the Studio room, and a new all-day Job Club took place in the Lounge. It was run by Clarion HG, formerly called Affinity Sutton. In the music room Sheldon Conrich continued his music lessons. We had 25 regular hirers with such diverse interests as Table Tennis, Keep Fit, Bowls, Religious groups, Line Dancing, Visually Impaired, Karate, Children’s Dance Groups, Youth Group just to name a few. The Centre now is nearly fully booked and we often have to turn enquirers away. We have continued to improve the facilities during the year. The new toilets were finished in October 2016. The Studio roof was replaced with a new sloping roof in June this year. Internet connections were installed in all rooms, and extra access routers in the Lounge and the Studio were installed, thanks to the hard work of Keith Spaughton. Keep Moat Company had donated carpet tiles enabling us to re-carpet the Lounge and to re-carpet the Music Room in the future. In the Hall the centre bank of lights were replaced with LED light fittings so making savings on the cost of electricity. We ended another successful year, thanks to the hard work of June Kempton our Centre Manager, Chaya Robertson our deputy manager and Steve Swain who helps cover events. Our thanks also go out to our dedicated committee of volunteers and helpers, especially Steve Choppin who has done a lot of voluntary work for us. We hope to build on our achievements, to be even more successful in the coming year.”

First Impressions Group

Cllr Mrs P Strack and Cllr Mrs S Parnell reported that plans were well underway for the 150 years of the Railways project. This work included a Museum exhibition from

January to July 2018, a documentary film, a network of supporters, publicity and an event at the 2018 Civic Festival. It was noted that the St. Albans & District Model Engineering Society had agreed to discuss the possibility of setting up a model railway ride on Families Day.

27. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME (LCTSS)

It was noted that Hertsmere Borough Council were seeking to change the level of help that some residents received towards paying their council tax bill. The aim was to make the policy in the area more in line with the national policy implemented by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The changes included limiting the support for backdated council tax payments from six months to one month and cutting the time people can be out of the country and still claim support.

The Borough Council also proposed to remove the family premium, which was a sum set by the Government for households with at least one child to live on, and this was used in benefit calculation to compare income.

It was RESOLVED that:

the Town Council's formal response to Hertsmere Borough Council in relation to the LCTSS state:

- (i) it made good sense to align the Hertsmere scheme with that in use nationally;**
- (ii) some Members questioned whether reducing the backdating to as little as one month was fair as circumstances could be envisaged where two months could be fairer – e.g. in the case of prolonged illness;**
- (iii) it was felt by some Members that in respect of limiting the number of dependent children to two: families with more children might have more calls on their resources and it was suggested that a limit of three might be more helpful, especially for those families who have more than three children; and**
- (iv) reducing the temporary absence period to one month is sensible.**

28. ANNUAL RETURN 2016/17

It was noted that at the time of the meeting, the 2016/17 Annual Return had not been returned to the Town Council by the External Auditors whilst comments on the report were being processed. It was anticipated that the Return would be submitted to Council at its meeting on 22 November 2017.

29. SIGNED MINUTES AND DELEGATED POWER

It was RESOLVED that:

the signed Minutes of the following Committee meetings be received together with any recommendations not previously adopted:

A Entertainments Committee	4 April 2017
B Entertainments Committee	6 June 2017
C Environment and Planning Committee	23 May 2017
D Environment and Planning Committee	20 June 2017
E General Management Committee	25 May 2017
F Transport Forum	10 May 2017
G Youth Council	1 March 2017
H Youth Council	26 April 2017

30. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was RESOLVED that:

the payment of accounts be confirmed as follows:

Page	Vch.	Date	
1-2	63-103	14/06/17	£ 58,588.81
3-5	104-166	29/06/17	£ 24,591.43
6-7	167-186	13/07/17	£ 24,855.93
8-9	187-210	21/07/17	£ 3,197.16
10	211-222	04/08/17	£ 9,358.74
11-12	223-239	23/08/17	£ 24,588.97
		Total	£ 145,181.04

[In addition to the Agenda appendices, details of all payments over £500 are published on the Town Council's website for public inspection - www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk]

31. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTION TIME

China Sister Town Project

Responding to queries concerning the Sister Town Project, Cllr Mrs P Strack reported that a meeting of the Sub-Committee was scheduled for early October 2017. Following this meeting, a report would be submitted to the General Management Committee. It was understood that consideration would be given to broadening the membership of the group (including the possibility of an EBRA representative). The Sub-Committee looked to produce a formal statement concerning the trip to Huainan to sign the memorandum of understanding scheduled for November 2017.

Defibrillator Sub-Committee

Responding to a query, Cllr Mrs P Strack agreed to further investigate the matter of a reported missing defibrillator at Aberford Park and to arrange for a clear financial statement to be prepared for the Group’s activities.

Twin Town Support and Reciprocal Arrangements

Responding to a request from the Chair of BETTA, it was agreed that the Mayor of Fontenay would be invited to the Remembrance Sunday event at Elstree and Borehamwood.

Twin Town Street/Square Naming Proposal

Members received a statement from A Grady (Borehamwood Brass Band) concerning the possibility of a named street or piazza after a Twin Town (as was the practice in Fontenay and Offenburg). In particular, it was suggested that in light of new developments within the town, the possibility for doing so could potentially exist. Cllr Mrs P Strack agreed to consider the matter further and to make representations to the appropriate Committees of the Town Council (initially, the Environment and Planning Committee).

32. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

It was noted that the next Full Council meeting was scheduled to take place on Wednesday 22 November 2017 at 7.30pm at Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood, WD6 5BT.

Date:..... MAYOR.....