

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL  
**COUNCIL MEETING**

MINUTES of the Meeting held on **Thursday 26th March 2009** at Hertsmere Borough Council Civic Offices, Borehamwood, starting at 19:30 hours.

PRESENT: Councillors: F Turner, Mayor (Chairman), P Strack, Deputy Mayor  
K Bright, M Bright, E Butler, R Butler, H David, G Franklin, J Heywood, A Mitchell, P Swallow  
in attendance: Joel Charin, Town Clerk  
Ben Simon, Leisure and Entertainments Advisor  
also present: Sue Pearlman, Community Action Hertsmere  
PCSO Chris Messetter  
2 members of the public

**1 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE & SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. P Hedges and Cllr. M Heywood.

**2 HERTSMERE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

Sue Pearlman of the Hertsmere Community Partnership, addressed members concerning the community shop, requesting a grant increase to £20k.

Hertsmere Community Partnership is to merge with Hertsmere Community Voluntary Support from 1 April 2009 and all present were invited to attend the launch of the new Community Action Hertsmere, to take place on 6 May at the community shop premises.

Cllr. M Bright noted that the requested increase in grant is substantial and asked which other organisations contribute funding. Sue Pearlman explained that funding in kind is received from Hertsmere Borough Council as the shop is rent free. Any non-charities using the shop premises now pay a percentage towards costs. Also, Oaklands College pay a substantial amount towards their costs for using the shop.

Cllr. M Bright said that whilst he was “wholly sympathetic” to the grant request, the town Council budget is small. It was **agreed** to discuss the size of the Town Council’s grant to the shop at the next GMC meeting.

**3 PRESENTATION BY PCSO CHRISTOPHER MESSETTER**

PCSO Messetter thanked the Town Council for the extension of his contract and with the aid of graphs distributed to those present, detailed some recent and current operations within the area.

In Borehamwood, £15-20k per week is lost to shoplifting. Shopwatch radios and CCTV have contributed to over twenty shoplifters and three dvd sellers being detained in the last year.

The mobile police station has proved successful in Tesco’s and at the retail park.

There has been an increase in ‘purse-dipping’ crime with most of the victims being over 60 years in age. In response, the PCSO has distributed a hundred bells with crocodile clips for attaching to purses. The PCSO asked for £50 towards the cost of another hundred bells and at the suggestion of Cllr. J Heywood, it was **agreed** unanimously to give £100.

There will be a Neighbourhood Watch week 15-19 June.

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Cllr. P Strack thanked the PCSO for the very sensitive way he had handled recent problems at the swimming pool.

In response to a question from Cllr. E Butler, the PCSO confirmed that most burglary within Borehamwood was perpetrated by local residents and that there had been a recent increase in first time offenders.

Cllr. M Bright asked about crime in the market, particularly on Saturdays; the PCSO reported that there had been no reported crime within the market during the last two to three years.

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**5 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 December 2008 were approved and signed as a true record, though Cllr. P Swallow clarified that she had said there was "a will to make a success" of the Three Ways Community Centre.

**6 MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING**

The Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 22nd January 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

**7i ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR**

The Council gave its very best wishes to Cllr. M Heywood for a complete and speedy recovery.

The Mayor updated members on her activities and reported on various projects, as follows:

- The community shop, now open 26 hours per week, is well used by organisations including Watford Peace Hospice, Age Concern, the Citizens' Advice Bureau and Oaklands College, amongst others.
- There will be a public consultation on the Village Hall, once plans have been submitted to county, borough and town councils.
- The Rolling Base bus visited Borehamwood on two occasions and will be used across the borough over the next two and half years.
- The museum is preparing a number of new displays and continues its outreach activities.

**7ii REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Brookside Boys' Club - Cllr. E Butler reported that negotiations continue regarding a girls' club on Fridays; this is work in progress and is going well. There will be a meeting on 24 April.

Twin Towns Association - Cllr. A. Mitchell stated that the association has arranged a German evening for 14 April.

Three Ways Community Centre - Cllr. P Swallow reported that a number of problems remain unresolved; no lease has yet been negotiated.

Cllr. M Bright stated that the Village Hall builders are due to start work in 2010, for 18 months, and, the community theatre remains on time and on budget.

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**7iii REPORT BY THE LEADER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

Cllr. J Heywood reported that Paul Welsh retired on 28 February and wished him all the best.

Ben Simon was introduced as the Leisure and Entertainments Advisor.

Cllr. J Heywood announced that the annual programme of coach trips for those aged over 60 had been agreed and tickets are to go on sale shortly.

There was an intrusion at Fairway Hall during a recent evening committee meeting so Cllr. J Heywood explained to members that the door to Fairway Hall would now be locked prior to meetings, but that a door bell has been fitted, should anyone arrive late. Cllr. E Butler suggested that an entry phone would provide better security and he thanked the Leader of the Council and the Clerk for giving chase to the intruders.

**8 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Minutes of the following Committee meetings were noted:

Environment and Planning Committee - 8 January 2009

Environment and Planning Committee - 5 February 2009

**9 MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

Minutes of the following meetings were received and noted:

Youth Council - 4 February 2009

**10 REPORT OF THE CLERK**

There was no report from the Clerk.

**11 REPORT OF THE LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENTS ADVISOR**

Ben Simon thanked the Council for the opportunity to be involved in this year's Civic Festival and outlined progress to date, detailing some of the events planned or confirmed, including the Carnival Parade, Quiz Night, stage shows and various open evenings.

**12 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

The following Schedule of Accounts, as approved, were **confirmed**:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Voucher No's</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>
<b>15/12/08</b>	341-349	£990.47
<b>22/12/08</b>	350-356	£1,150.71
<b>31/12/08</b>	357-361	£4,531.70
<b>15/01/09</b>	362-365	£12,949.78
<b>26/01/09</b>	366-381	£16,136.79
<b>31/01/09</b>	382-392	£14,525.45
<b>10/02/09</b>	393-398	£13,150.01
<b>15/02/09</b>	399	£1,849.81
<b>19/02/09</b>	400-409	£1,921.71
<b>09/03/09</b>	410-411	£13,653.30
<b>12/03/09</b>	412-427	£7,471.53

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**13 FURTHER ACCOUNTS**

No further accounts were circulated.

**CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 20:50 hours.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....

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