

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting held in the Meeting Room of Elstree & Borehamwood Town Council Offices, Fairway Hall, Brook Close, Borehamwood on Tuesday **24th April 2012** at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mrs F Turner (Chairman in the Chair)
Cllr S Rubner (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr S Dobin
Cllr G Franklin

In attendance: H Jones – Town Clerk

77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ms K Prince (Other Business – Studies).

78. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Member	Minute Number	Nature of Interest
Cllr Mrs F Turner	80 TP/12/0741 – 5 Barham Avenue	Personal and Prejudicial

Members declaring prejudicial interests refrained from taking part in any discussion or decision making processes relating to those items.

79. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th MARCH 2012

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20th March 2012 were signed as a true record.

80. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - HERTSMERE BOROUGH COUNCIL

A total of 24 applications received from the Borough Council were examined, on 20 of which the Committee had no specific objections to make, subject to the views of neighbours.

The Committee made the following observations on the remaining applications:

TP/12/0671 - 32 Barham Ave, Elstree WD6 3PN

Demolition of existing & erection of 2 x detached, 2 storey, 5 bedroom dwellings with habitable loft accommodation & associated parking [comments by 26 April 2012].

Observation – The Committee strongly recommended refusal of permission based on the reasoning of overdevelopment and loss of street scene.

TP/12/0780 - 143 Coleridge Way, Borehamwood, WD6 2AF

Conversion of garage to habitable room, replacing door with a window [comments by 10 May 2012].

Observation – The Committee considered the application to be undesirable in view of potential loss of parking provision by the conversion of a garage.

TP/12/0807 - 33 Aberford Road, Borehamwood WD6 1PN

Erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory (Certificate of Lawful Development - Proposed)[comments by 10 May 2012].

Observation – The Committee reaffirmed its position that it considered retrospective applications (including those by Application for Certificate of Lawful Development) to be outside of the spirit of the Planning Regulations.

TP/12/0299 - 122 Manor Way, Borehamwood WD6 1QX

Change of use of existing shop premises from dry cleaners to A5 hot food take away [comments by 11 May 2012].

Observation – The Committee was of the opinion that there was sufficient provision of Fast Food services in the vicinity and felt that a diversity of outlets was preferable. In addition, concerns were raised about potential increases in litter and anti-social behaviour.

81. DECISIONS

There were none.

82. REPORT OF THE CLERK

- **Lavatory Facilities at Allotment Sites**

Members considered very carefully the views of a number of existing plot holders concerning the request for lavatory facilities to be provided at the sites. A number of factors were taken into consideration, including; security, cost, operating cost, the provision of other facilities in the vicinity and the competing priorities of other improvements at the sites.

It was RESOLVED that:

no action be taken to provide lavatory facilities by the Town Council at both of its sites, subject to a review of the demand for such facilities in April 2013.

- **Water Supply at Melrose Allotments and tree thinning**

Whilst Members were sympathetic to the difficulties in carrying water by some plot holders, it was felt that the existing provision was adequate and that alternative solutions were available.

It was RESOLVED that:

- no action be taken to alter the current system of water tanks/supply at Melrose Allotments (with advice being provided to affected plot holders, on request); and**
- the Handyman be tasked with carrying out some minor foliage thinning at locations on the perimeter fence, as appropriate.**

- **Locker Storage/Shed Facilities at Allum Lane Allotments**

It was RESOLVED that:

- (i) the option of disposal/resale of the 'old' Christmas Decorations currently stored at Allum Lane Allotments be referred to the Entertainments Committee (for the purposes of freeing storage space for newer Plot Holders);
- (ii) subject to Budgetary constraints and with income from (i) above, if any, new lockers, as required, be purchased to allow all plot holders to have the option of utilising a locker and the Communal Shed at the site; and
- (iii) the request for sheds at Allum Lane Allotments be deferred for consideration at a later meeting pending the outcome of (i) and (ii) above.

- **Update on Allotment lettings**

Members received an update report on the status of allotment lettings and work at the Allum Lane site.

- **Benches and Notice Boards**

It was RESOLVED that:

an audit of the jointly used (HBC/EBTC) Notice Boards be carried out with a contribution being sought for repair/maintenance, commencing with the item on Croxdale Road (or for HBC to carry out the requisite work with EBTC providing a contribution).

- **Closed Churchyards and War Memorials**

It was RESOLVED that:

- (i) the pod planters at Elstree Memorial be planted with appropriate, seasonal flowers;
- (ii) the Chestnut Tree at Elstree Memorial be thinned and lower branches removed; and
- (iii) the 'ownership' of the tree together with any TPO information be investigated.

83. CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Date:.....

CHAIRMAN.....