

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 July 2012** at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mrs F Turner (Chairman in the Chair)
Cllr S Rubner (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr C Kelly
Cllr Ms K Prince

In attendance: H Jones – Town Clerk
Ms R Barry – Allotment Plot Holder

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Franklin (Other Business).

21. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

There were none.

22. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th JUNE 2012

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19th June 2012 were signed as a true record.

23. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - HERTSMERE BOROUGH COUNCIL

A total of 33 applications received from the Borough Council were examined, on 31 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/12/1432 - Green Dragon Public House, Leeming Road, Borehamwood, WD6 4EB
Demolition of the existing Green Dragon Public House Function Hall. Separation of the proposed site from the public house. Construction of 3 x 3 bedroom town houses and 3 x 2 bedroom flats, 11 car parking spaces, secure cycle and refuse/recycling storage facilities, new vehicle and pedestrian accesses to Torworth Road and associated hard and soft landscaping. Removal of existing window to the first floor of the public house and other minor works to complete the separation of the proposed site [comments by 31 July 2012].

Observation – Whilst the Committee recognised the need for housing in the area, concerns were expressed regarding the dwelling density of the proposed development.

TP/12/1464 - 39 Coleridge Way, Borehamwood WD6 2AE

Conversion of existing garage into a habitable space [comments by 2 August 2012].

Observation – The Committee considered the loss of parking with removal of existing garage to have a negative impact.

24. DRAFT PLANNING BRIEF: BHAKTIVEDANTA MANOR

The Committee felt that it was not in a position to comment on the Draft Planning Brief for Bhaktivedanta Manor as this did not have an effect upon residents of Elstree and Borehamwood.

25. PLANNING DECISIONS - HERTSMERE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Details were received of decisions by the Borough Council relating to applications on which the Committee had submitted comments.

26. CLERK'S REPORT

(i) Toilet Facilities at Allum Lane Allotment Site

The Committee received representations from a plot holder calling for the Town Council to pursue toilet facilities at Allum Lane Allotment Site and to seek to fund the facilities through Lottery Grant monies. It was noted that not all plot holders might favour such a scheme and that care should be taken to ensure that any actions taken were in full consideration of Council resources, priorities and ongoing commitments. It was further noted that the Committee had previously agreed to defer this item until April 2013 in order to establish the demand for a project of this type which, if carried forward, might also be required at the Melrose Avenue Allotment Site.

It was RESOLVED that:

a written proposal, prepared by the plot holder, be submitted to the 28 August 2012 Committee meeting for consideration for Lottery Funding to be obtained to fund Toilet Facilities at the Allum Lane Allotment Site together with future maintenance costs and/or responsibilities.

(ii) Bench Replacements and Repairs

It was noted that work was continuing to deal with two Council owned benches:

- Eldon Avenue – to remove concrete legs and make good site by levelling flush to the ground (work to be undertaken by Council Staff); and
- Coates Road – to replace slats and install commemorative plaque funded by a resident (work to be undertaken by Council Staff).

(iii) High Street Planters

It was noted that progress was anticipated in this area on the return from Annual Leave of Hertsmere Borough Council Staff. The matter would be reconsidered at a later Committee meeting.

(iv) Groundsman Equipment

It was RESOLVED that:

the Clerk be authorised to obtain a further Strimmer/Brush Cutter (as a Contingency Expenditure) in view of the urgent demand for grass cutting and the two month supplier/manufacture delay in repairing/replacing the Council's sole item.

Thanks were expressed to Peter Digweed, Handyman, for the high quality of his hard work, cheerful outlook and enthusiasm in upgrading the Allum Lane Allotment Site especially over the Summer, but also for all of his outdoor work which raised the profile of the area and delivered a good level of service.

27. CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Date:.....

CHAIRMAN.....