

## 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 6 September 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present:

- Cllr R Challice - Shenley Road (Mayor)
- Cllr A Collins – Hillside (Deputy Mayor)
- Cllr Graeme Alexander – Brookmeadow
- Cllr R Butler - Cowley Hill
- Cllr Jeremy Newmark – Cowley Hill
- Cllr Pooja Nirmalkumaran – Kenilworth South
- Cllr Dan Ozarow – Kenilworth South
- Cllr Mrs S Parnell – Hillside
- Cllr Linda Smith – Cowley Hill

In Attendance:

- Tracy Pendreth – LGRC Locum Clerk
- Jenny Simon – Admin Assistant

Present: 2 members of the public.

**Cllr Rebecca Challice in the Chair (Mayor)**

### 26. APOLOGIES

**It was RESOLVED that:**

**apologies for absence be received and approved in respect of Cllr F Turner (away), Cllr T Kumar (other business) and Cllr P Kaza (other business).**

### 27. DECARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

## **28. MINUTES**

**It was RESOLVED that:**

**the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 June 2023 be signed by the Mayor as a true record and adopted by the Council.**

## **29. MEETING SCHEDULE 2023**

**It was RESOLVED that:**

**the Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2024 be approved with change of Full Council on 20 March 2024 be moved to 13 March 2024 and adopted.**

## **30. POLICIES**

**It was RESOLVED That:**

**The following policies be approved and adopted.**

- Standing Orders.
- Financial Regulations.
- Terms of Reference.

## **31. SIGNED MINUTES**

**It was RESOLVED That:**

The following minutes were approved.

Environment and Planning Committee  
20 June 2023  
18 July 2023

General Management Committee  
26 July 2023

Entertainments Committee  
6 June 2023  
4 July 2023

Youth Council  
24 May 2023  
21 June 2023  
5 July 2023

### **32. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**It was RESOLVED that:**

**the payment of accounts be confirmed and approved as follows:**

2023/24			
Page	Voucher No	Date	Amount
1	1-17	06/04/23	£50,560.11
2	18-27	13/04/23	£28,977.52
3	28-45	26/04/23	£8,443.96
4	46-59	04/05/23	£5,494.42
5	60-84	12/05/23	£28,820.75
6	85-97	23/05/23	£6,350.00
7	98-114	24/05/23	£22,480.16
8	115-122	02/06/23	£5,950.00
9	123-149	14/06/23	£32,002.46
10	150-165	26/06/23	£9,799.45
11	166-192	04/07/23	£30,942.63
12	193-220	14/07/23	£38,899.23
13	221-251	26/07/23	£7,831.04

**GRAND TOTAL      £276,551.73**

**[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](http://www.elstreeborehamwood-tc.gov.uk)]**

### **33. EMPLOYMENT LAW/HR & HEALTH & SAFETY COMPLIANCE**

**It was AGREED that:**

**HR support is required and that the Health and Safety contact be renewed and affiliation to Worknest be considered following zoom meeting with HR Consultant.**

### **34. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**

**It was noted that following GMC on 26 July 2023, approval of £10,000 from CIL fund be allocated towards the neighbourhood plan.**

### **35. ELSTREE AERODROME REPRESENTATIVE**

**It was AGREED that Cllr D Ozarow be the Elstree and Borehamwood representative on the Elstree Aerodrome Consultative Committee.**

### **36. CULTURAL AND CREATIVE STRATEGY**

The report presented by Cllr D Ozarow was considered by members. It was noted that it was to be part of a Borough-wide consultation and resulted from conversations with Youth Councillors, local hotels, and businesses. The film heritage of the Town, plus current activities should be promoted, not only locally but nationally and internationally. In addition to the Heritage Trail and plaques, studio tours and a film museum should be considered.

Public arts should be considered along with themed benches, statues of film directors etc. Young people have asked for a music venue. Arts Council funding may be available if it links in with Borough-wide strategy. End of Film temporary exhibitions should be considered, using props and costumes along with studio tours etc.

Cllr J Newmark pointed out that CIL funding was not earmarked for a film museum. Section 106 monies from Sky development were to be used for local film heritage activities in conjunction with the Borough Council. Arts Council funding could be a possibility if we link into the HBC strategy.

Cllr Butler pointed out that the Reel Cinema is under threat and EBTC could operate this as part cinema/part theatre. Cllr S Parnell and Cllr D Ozarow both said that public feedback prioritised the loss of a local theatre. All members agreed that the Town Council should try to save the Reel Cinema. The replacement of the ARK theatre at Hertswood School is not available for public use and this is a concern of the residents.

**It was RESOLVED that:**

**The Cultural and Creative Strategy be adopted.**

**Cllr D Ozarow requested an audit of existing benches be provided with Cllr R Butler commenting that he was in favour of more benches in Elstree and Borehamwood.**

### **37. IT SERVICES**

**Item be deferred. Cllr R Butler proposed, Cllr D Ozarow seconded further investigations into alternative IT providers.**

**It was AGREED that:**

- (i) Alternative IT providers be investigated by T Pendreth – LGRC Locum Clerk, with quotes and report to follow.**

### **38. ETHICAL BANKING**

Following a request from GMC It was noted that T Pendreth – LGRC Locum Clerk had received a report on ethical banking drafted by Cllr D Ozarow and Cllr P Nirmalakumaran. Cllr D Ozarow reported that whenever an investment is made in an unethical bank, activities such as child abuse, fossil fuel use, environmental damage etc is used. As such, many UK councils are adopting an ethical banking policy. Cllr J Newmark remarked that the policy should be in place before future investments are made rather than looking at them individually.

**It was AGREED that adopting an ethical banking policy be considered at GMC 12 October 2023.**

### **39. OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr G Alexander gave an update report on Leecliffe Big Local, (APPENDIX ITEM A)

Cllr S Parnell had made a report on EBD Community Association, but this was not reported.

### **40. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A request was made by a member of public M Vince if Elstree and Borehamwood Town Council could register the ‘Cecil Horse Sanctuary’ as an Asset of Community Value before the Planning Application retirements homes application deadline. It was reported that not only looks after aged and abused horses but also provides facilities for pony rides etc for disabled children and is a well loved asset to Elstree Village. It was further noted that there is wide public support and money had been raised for the campaign. M Vince was congratulated on her support for the Sanctuary.

Member of the public L Stack requested updates on Outside Bodies and also pressed for a theatre in the Town saying that he had campaigned for many years, even before the Ark Theatre was built.

- It was commented that representatives are not contacted by Outside Bodies to attend their meetings and so updates are not always available.
- Questions were raised regarding £1 million controlled by Leecliffe Big Local and how it had improved the area for which it was intended.
- Cllr D Ozarow reported that he was not given notice of meetings held at Aldenham Country Park.

- Cllr J Newmark agreed that the town needed a Theatre and said that when the Cultural Strategy was in place there was a possibility that it could be funded by the Arts Council.

Cllr R Butler requested that standing orders be suspended to discuss the possibility of Cecil's Horse Sanctuary becoming an Asset of Community Value.

T Pendreth – LGRC Locum Clerk advised that as this was not an agenda item the matter could not be finalised only discussed. It was felt that such applications had been considered in the past and that there was a precedent for discussing this issue. It was decided that the Mayor had the authority to suspend standing orders although the Locum Clerk warned that any decision would not be legally binding. It was suggested that individual members could make the application but ACVs must be submitted by groups (such as residents associations or councils). Cllr J Newmark felt that as there was no financial Implications to EBTC, suspension would be on safe ground, despite the Locum Clerks reservations.

**It was AGREED that:**

- (i) standing orders be suspended; and**
- (ii) Cecil's Horse Sanctuary be registered with Hertsmere Borough Council as an Asset of Community Value.**

#### **41. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**The Mayor to move the following resolution: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s.1 (2), the press and public be excluded from the meeting whilst matters pertaining to staffing are discussed.**

#### **42. STAFFING RECRUITMENT**

**It was RESOLVED that:**

- (i) Deputy Clerk T Malton be promoted to Town Clerk with immediate effect.**

**43. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Meeting closed at 9.08pm

It was noted that the next meeting of Council was scheduled for Wednesday 29 October 2023 at 7.30 pm at Fairway Hall.

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