

**BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
TRANSPORT & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**Held via 'Zoom' remote video conferencing,**

**on Monday 19 April 2021 at 19.30 hrs**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Councillors**                      W Conian (Chair)  
                                            N Taylor (Vice Chair)  
                                            S Cloughton  
                                            P Fisher

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**Town Councillors**                G Stevens (Town Mayor)  
                                            P de Hoest

**HCC Councillor**                    Cllr I Reay (left meeting at 20.23 hrs)

**Officer:**                              T Noakes – Town Clerk

**Absent:**                                Cllrs M Hardinge, A Peeler & T Porter

**Opening Matters and Governance**

**TE 14/21**      To receive **apologies for absence**

No apologies for absence were received.

The minutes of the T&E committee meeting on the 30 November 2020 were approved.

**TE 15/21**      To receive **Declarations of Interest** regarding items on the agenda.

No declarations of interest were received.

**TE 16/21**      To approve the **minutes of the meeting** held on 15 February 2021.

The minutes of the T&E committee meeting on the 15 February were approved.

**TE 17/21**      **Chair's Communications**

- (i) The new 'Wildwood' design for the Moor project is progressing. BTC will fund the equipment and DBC have agreed to take ownership and maintain the new installation.

#### **TE18/21 Public Participation**

- (i) Standing Orders were suspended to allow Sue Hampton, Dacorum Climate Network, to present some information about the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill. This included a request for BTC to pledge its support for the Emergency Bill.
- (ii) Standing orders were reinstated at 20.01hrs for T&E committee to discuss the matter. T&E committee agreed to support the Emergency Bill. This request for BTC support would now proceed to the next FC on 4 May 2021. **Action – Town Clerk**

#### **REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

#### **TE 19/21 Hertfordshire County Councillor I Reay**

- (i) Cllr Reay delivered an update on the 2021/22 Integrated Works Programme and took questions from committee.
- (ii) On behalf of the Committee, Cllr W Conian formally thanked Cllr I Reay for the help and support he has given the committee on County matters. She wished him a happy retirement from Council duties.

#### **TE 20/21 Berkhamsted Castle Trust**

An update from the Castle Trust had been received as follows:

- (i) Orange safety net fence has been put up by English Heritage. There are cracks in some walls that need to be inspected and the fence will prevent people from any masonry that may fall off. English Heritage are sending a surveyor over on the week of 19th April.
- (ii) The Castle was closed for 2 days recently due to excessive water in the Moat that covered the causeway.
- (iii) After analysing the dateline counter, we found that in the 6 months from June 2020 there were approx 41,000 visitors with the top days having between 470 to 500 visitors
- (iv) The trust has agreement that Herts Amphibians and Reptiles group will conduct a Great Crested Newt Survey once the night time temperatures averaged at least 6 or 7 degrees centigrade. The results of this survey will determine what management policies have to be adopted.

- (v) Thanks to social distancing the visitors room is not likely to be available for visitors. It may still be possible to open it from May 17th for the use of volunteers.
- (vi) Fence repairs are planned but there is an 8-9 week lead time on fence stock
- (vii) English Heritage have agreed that there will be another VIRE event based on Edward the Black Prince

## **TRANSPORT**

### **TE 21/21 Installing additional EV chargers in Berkhamsted**

- (i) Cllr P de Hoest delivered an update on EV charging in Berkhamsted. There had been discussions with HCC, DBC, UK Power Networks and a number of suppliers. Both HCC and DBC were continuing to work on EV Charging strategy. This would directly influence what would be possible in Berkhamsted.
- (ii) Cllr N Taylor agreed to act as a link at DBC and ask questions where additional support for EV Charging matters was required.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **TE 22/21 BTC Climate Emergency Event 2021**

- (i) An agreement with Transition Town had been reached to plan a joint local COP 26 event in October/November 2021.

### **TE 23/21 Environmental Grants Scheme for 2021/22**

- (i) The new Environmental Grants Scheme will be launched via the website, social media and local press. This will begin week ending 30 April 2021. **Action – Town Clerk**

### **TE 24/21 Hertfordshire PCC application for SID's and Anti-Speeding Measures**

- (ii) BTC has made an application to the Hertfordshire Police commissioner for a Speed Indicator Device (SID) to be located on one of the main roads in Berkhamsted.
- (iii) The Town Clerk had requested a range of dates from early June, to book the police speed camera van to be used across Berkhamsted.

### **TE 25/21 Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 20.54 hrs

Minutes approved at remote meeting on .....

Signed .....

Date .....