

BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Held via 'Zoom' remote video conferencing,
on Monday 15 February 2021 at 19.30 hrs**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors W Conian (Chair)
 N Taylor (Vice Chair)
 S Cloughton
 P Fisher
 M Hardinge
 T Porter

ALSO PRESENT:

Town Councillors G Stevens (Town Mayor)
 P de Hoest
 R Freedman

HCC Councillor Cllr I Reay (left meeting at 19.43 hrs)

EV Chargers Item Chris Brown & Tim Taylor

Officer: T Noakes – Town Clerk

Absent: Cllr A Peeler

Opening Matters and Governance:

- TE 1/21** To receive **apologies for absence**
- No apologies for absence were received.
- TE 2/21** To receive **Declarations of Interest** regarding items on the agenda
- Cllr's W Conian & G Stevens declared an interest in Transition Town Berkhamsted.
- TE 3/21** To approve the **minutes of the meeting** held on 30 November 2020
- The minutes of the T&E committee meeting on the 30 November 2020 were approved.

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

TE 6/21 Hertfordshire County Councillor, I Reay gave an update on the following:

- (i) The 20mph zone traffic survey is delayed until September 2021. Current vehicle movement is not representative of normal volumes.
- (ii) White Hill continues to be closed. The retaining wall to a property bordering the road collapsed several months ago. There continues to be ongoing discussions between the householder, their insurer and Highways.
- (iii) Brownlow road/Bridgewater road roundabout flooding – Consultation between HCC and the Castle Trust continues to try and resolve the flooding.

TE 7/21 Berkhamsted Castle Trust

The Town Clerk gave an update as follows:

- (i) Another car had crashed into the Castle perimeter fence. Police continue to investigate. This was the third such incident in the last 12 months.
- (ii) BTC and the Castle Trust continued to consult on the possibility of the Castle applying for National Nature Reserve status.

TRANSPORT

TE 8/21 **Installing additional EV chargers in Berkhamsted - Cllr P de Hoest**

- (i) Cllr P de Hoest presented his EV charging in Berkhamsted paper to committee. Mr Tim Taylor and Chris Brown explained the importance of having 50kW rapid chargers across Berkhamsted to reduce the amount of time it took to charge EV vehicles. The current 7kW chargers can take up to 8 hours to fully charge an EV. Rapid Chargers can reduce this to 45 mins.
- (ii) Motion - T&E notes the criticality and urgency of installing further Rapid EV chargers (50kw) and SUPPORTS further investigation into the practicality of delivering additional public EV charge capacity by the office under the sponsorship of Cllr de Hoest. This work will seek to:
 - (a) Liaise with DBC/HCC so as to ensure that such a project does not contravene the existing BP Chargemaster contract terms and that appropriate sites can be identified.
 - (b) Contact Instavolt, Osprey and other similar suppliers in order to identify suitable sites.
 - (c) Consider the practicalities of suitable projects and liaise between the Charger suppliers and relevant landowners to

encourage implementation of Rapid Chargers as soon as possible.

(d) Determine an EV strategy for Berkhamsted and identify quick wins.

(e) Make appropriate recommendations to Full Council if decisions are required.

The Motion was **proposed by Cllr P de Hoest, seconded by Cllr N Taylor and carried by committee.**

Action – Cllr P de Hoest & Town Clerk

TE 4/21 Chair's Communications

Cllr W Conian gave a verbal update on the following projects:

- (i) 'B-Hive' Civic Centre project.
- (ii) Berkhamsted Electric Bike/Scooter project.
- (iii) Habitat project.

TE 5/21 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

TE 9/21 High Street Parking Changes Update

Cllr W Conian gave an update on the High Street parking changes project. The scale of changes proposed by BTC had been significantly reduced by DBC (the parking authority). BTC working with HCC, was considering if the original objectives of the proposal could be still met if the proposal only included the DBC changes.

Action – Cllr W Conian & Town Clerk

TE 10/21 Berkhamsted Bus Strategy – Cllr P White

Cllr P White presented his 2 papers, the Berkhamsted Bus Strategy and the Berkhamsted Bus Strategy Scrutiny TOR. The detail was discussed and noted by committee. Any further comments should be sent to Cllr P White so that the final versions could be presented to FC on the 29 March 2021 for approval.

Action – All Cllrs

ENVIRONMENT

TE 11/21 BTC Climate Emergency Event 2021

Committee agreed to partner with Transition Town Berkhamsted to plan and deliver the Berkhamsted climate emergency event 2021.

Action – Cllr W Conian & Town Clerk

TE 12/21 Environmental Grants Scheme for 2021/22 – The Environmental Grants policy, application form and governance process, were approved by committee.

Action – Town Clerk

TE 13/21 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 21.21hrs

Minutes approved at remote meeting on

Signed

Date

T&E Committee Minutes Actions – 15 February 2021

Reference	Action	Complete	Outstanding - Responsibility
8/21	Installing additional EV chargers in Berkhamsted project – next steps.		Cllr P de Hoest & Town Clerk
9/21	High Street Parking project – reassess DBC changes with HCC and review viability of project.		Cllr W Conian & Town Clerk
10/21	Berkhamsted Bus Strategy and the Berkhamsted Bus Strategy Scrutiny TOR – any further changes to be forwarded to Cllr P White.		All Cllrs
11/21	2021 BTC Climate Emergency Event – partner with Transition Town Berkhamsted.	✓	Cllr W Conian & Town Clerk
12/21	Environmental Grants Scheme for 2021/22 to be launched		Town Clerk