



Elstree & Borehamwood Residents Association

Minutes of Meeting for 29th January 2019

Date: 29th January 2019

Held at: St Theresa's Church Centre, Shenley Road, Borehamwood WD6 1TG

Committee Members Present: Andy Lewis (Chair), Suzanne Alford (Treasurer) and John Fort (Hon Secretary)

Updates Since Our Last meeting:

These are updates* via email from Cllr. Pat Strack:

China – Sister Town Twinning*:

Five delegates arrived from Huainan on the evening of Saturday 8th December. They returned home lunch time Tuesday. They had a tour of London and were impressed with the Christmas Lights. They met the Dean of the University of Hertfordshire, with the aim of making links between the Universities. Oliver Dowden, MP, arranged for a visit to the Houses of Parliament. The party was split, with some visiting the House of Commons and the other half going to the House of Lords. Roger Morris gave a tour of Elstree Studios and they were accompanied by the Town Mayor, Victor Eni. Fish and chips were served at the Studios and they were joined by the Mayor of Herts, Cllr Brenda Batten, and her consort. Huainan has tv and film studios, so they are looking for collaboration there.

Borehamwood Football Club are trying to arrange a visit of Chinese students to attend a summer football school with local youngsters.

The trip was paid for by a fund set up by the delegates who went to Huainan, from the Town, in 2017.

Liberty Aldenham*:

This land has been put forward under the 'Call for Sites' in the Local plan. There will be no further updates until later this year.

John Cartledge added that this land had been put forward by Taylor Wimpey, developers, and not Liberty Aldenham Ltd. The link between Liberty Aldenham Ltd and the reservoir has now been broken, although Liberty Aldenham Ltd have got separate plans for the perimeter of the reservoir which they want to develop as a visitor attraction. The originally proposed CIC (Community Interest Company) fund, which was to offer proceeds of £5m in return for planning permission for a housing development, to maintain the reservoir and dam wall, is therefore now 'off the table'.

John Cartledge also added that in relation to the perimeter path around the reservoir, there's was a meeting between Liberty Aldenham Ltd, Aldenham Country Park Trust and Hertfordshire County Council, to see if they could come to some agreement regarding the on-going funding of the maintenance of the reservoir path. Liberty Aldenham Ltd are not objecting in principle to the 'right of way', but they do not want to bear the whole cost of ensuring the path is kept in a fit condition.

Reviva Compost Waste Site Update – HCC Planning Application Ref: PL\0903\18 (0/0431-18)*:

The application for change of use to a waste transfer station was refused. However, REVIVA still have a licence to compost Green waste. The Environment Agency brought in tough rules in January 2018 with which REVIVA was unable to comply. Even more stringent rules were brought in in March 2018, but REVIVA breached these. Pressure needs to be made to the Environment Agency to visit and close the operation!! Almost the whole site was concreted over. That happened last spring. This site is in the Green Belt and was done without planning permission. Planning enforcement will need to act.

Parking at the Station:

At the last Transport Forum on 24th October 2018, it was mentioned that ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras would be introduced into the station car parks and anyone picking up/dropping off people would only have a 15 minutes grace period before they needed to buy a parking ticket! We received an up date to this matter just after our meeting from Patrick Ladbury, Local Development Manager of Govia Thameslink Railway, who took over from Larry Heyman who retired late last year. He said he had spoken to the Station Manager who informed him that the ANPR system was already in place for the car park at the station and there are various signs around the area informing people of the system.

Parking in the Boulevard:

We had heard that we may lose the free 3-hour parking in the Boulevard as a measure due to it experiencing overcapacity issues and this may also reduce the traffic congestion in the area. However, the data was based on historic information from a few years ago. EBRA contacted the Parking Rangers who manage the car park and they contacted the Owners who disputed this rumour and said it was not true. However, at our EBRA meeting, Cllr Jeremy Newmark brought further details about this Planning Application to our attention that conflicts with this information. He said that plans to remove the condition that was set out when the Boulevard was originally built in 1986, where there was a condition preventing them from charging for the car park over a certain amount of time. However, the current owners have applied for that condition to be lifted but the Planning Committee felt the data on usage and other parking charges in the area, which was supplied by the owners, was actually two years out of date. So, the owners have been told that their Planning Application to vary that condition will not be considered until such time as it is supported by relevant, correct and timely data, so therefore there is still technically a Planning Application in the system for consideration, it has just been delayed. They can withdraw it but they have not done.

Please see Appendix A for an extracted copy of the Planning Application – Ref: 17/2260/MPO

Bus update:

Steve Simmonds of Sullivan buses was not available to attend our meeting but kindly emailed EBRA and said there was no new bus news at the moment. The results and conclusions of the 292 consultation on the proposed reduction in frequency are still awaited.

Local Plan Update:

No further updates.

Elstree and Borehamwood Train Station Redevelopment Programme Update:

Bob Redman of First Impressions, kindly gave us an update on the train station's £1.5m redevelopment and showed us numerous photos of the progress made so far. He said the art work and art installations that had been removed prior to the redevelopment work would be reinstated in due course.

A question was raised by an audience member who was a member of the Studio Rotary Club who were running a book scheme where by people can borrow and leave books on specific bookshelves and asked if such a facility could be set up at the station. Bob said he would speak to Cllr Parnell and would keep the Rotary Club posted.

Patrick O'Donnell, Member, asked if fast trains would now stop at Borehamwood. John Cartledge, our resident Transport Expert, added we had now got six trains an hour during the week, of which four call at all stations and two are semi fast trains which stop at Mill Hill and West Hampstead, which was an increase in the frequency of service.

Any Other Business:

Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE):

We were pleased to welcome Kevin Fitzgerald, Honorary Director of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE). He represented the CPRE Herts County branch. He said that the CPRE started in 1928 and were now in their 90th Year! He thought that this branch was probably the busiest in organisation due to all the redevelopment going on.

He made the following points:

- ◆ CPRE are a campaign organisation to protect the countryside. They have one part time and two volunteer and three qualified Planning Officers who have worked for Planning Authorities.
- ◆ They are especially busy in Hertfordshire due to the threats to the Green Belt and to stop towns sprawling out. The Green Belt in Hertfordshire is going fast.
- ◆ Councils are now at the end of their strategies and this process means they go before a Planning Inspector regarding what will be built and where. The CPRE Planning Officer will attend these inquiries and give evidence.
- ◆ Hertfordshire is the economic engine driving the East of England.
- ◆ Bottom Line is - Planning 100,000 homes in the locality up to 2031, of which 73,000 are planned to be built on the Green Belt!
- ◆ The Planning Inspector has said build more, which means building more on Green Belt. This takes up CPRE time, efforts and cash.
- ◆ Reviews take place in 3 years' time and the Government are likely to say build more.
- ◆ South Herts will be a North London Suburb.
- ◆ The major developments include Harlow, which will expand to the north in the Green Belt, where they are building a garden village with 10,000 homes.
- ◆ Hoddesdon has a garden village proposed
- ◆ North of Hatfield has a garden village proposed
- ◆ Welwyn Garden City has got a garden suburb proposed.
- ◆ The word 'garden' is used to make it sound more palatable! Residents are being encouraged to support new garden villages, towns and cities etc to take pressure of local areas at the expense of other little villages! For example, there is a big push to build a garden village in Ashwell which is a little village with a railway station but this is not in the plans but will take pressure off elsewhere!
- ◆ Hertfordshire is not like other counties, in that we do not have a capital city. We have lots of villages, towns and market towns and surrounded by countryside which is Green Belt, which is to stop areas merging.
- ◆ However, new post-war towns such as Stevenage, South Oxhey and South Hatfield could do with regeneration.
- ◆ East of Luton – Chiltern Hills – due to get 5 to 6000 homes
- ◆ West of Stevenage – will get 5 to 6000 houses
- ◆ Hitchin is moving south east.
- ◆ Stevenage is moving north west
- ◆ Luton is moving east.
- ◆ Transport issues – Herts has almost the highest car ownership in the UK.
- ◆ Moving east to west across the county is a nightmare.
- ◆ Never a time like this in the last 90 years. Last building splurge was in 1950's and 1960's when post war new towns were built.
- ◆ Councils are encouraging more people to try and live in their respective counties as this brings in more money and improves economic prosperity in the area.
- ◆ We cannot stop things but sometimes we can campaign and delay things and other things may happen in the meantime.
- ◆ There's a massive population growth going on which is behind the need for more housing.
- ◆ But where it goes is what matters, not what your putting there but its where you're putting it and sometimes there's a better place for it.
- ◆ The term 'Sustainable' e.g. is about where it needs to be e.g. near where people work and shops and stations etc

- ◆ CPRE are not negative but more sensible about where developments could go and more practical and try not to get emotional and leave that to the local action groups.
- ◆ CPRE are very busy trying to protect the countryside. In the UK we tend to love our countryside regardless of age and background. They do accept though that there's another side e.g. some don't like the countryside.
- ◆ CPRE campaigned to have street lighting that enabled people to also see the stars e.g. using new lights that shine down.
- ◆ The word 'tranquillity' is used a lot, further to a survey it showed that it's what you see, as well as peace and quiet. We want to preserve this nice feeling of tranquillity!
- ◆ We must defend our countryside. We have a network of public footpaths for all people to use to experience the countryside.
- ◆ CPRE are currently going through a rebranding exercise.
- ◆ The public come to the CPRE when they feel powerless and feel better for talking to the CPRE.
- ◆ CPRE rely on donations and membership subscriptions to pay their experts.

Questions raised and comments after this talk:

- ◆ Chris Anderson, EBRA member – What's your attitude towards tower blocks?
- ◆ *Kevin replied that there was nothing wrong with them, for example, if applicable, it may be more appropriate to build upwards rather than going outwards, but it's about using the land properly and they campaign for good quality developments. High density developments can be seen in Mayfair and Belgravia!*
- ◆ Cllr. Richard Butler agreed with Kevin in that people don't like or trust Councillors. We do agree that there are occasions when you need to build on Green Belt. However, there's 240 empty second homes in Hertsmere, let alone Hertfordshire!
- ◆ *Kevin agreed and added that empty offices could also be converted and used.*
- ◆ Dr. Ann Goddard, Chair of the Elstree and Borehamwood Green Belt Society, said she was a member of CPRE and that we were having a terrible time here, it's the constant pressure on the local Green Belt and Brownfield of which Borehamwood has quite a lot, that has been built upon and we are feeling the effects now - traffic wise, pollution wise and local service wise. It's a difficult transition period. I'm often in despair as to what is going to happen!
- ◆ MS Stammers/Ms Forest – Can I ask - should we be trying to conserve our local Green Belt? Is that going to help or it seems to me from what you've said that are these decisions are made at much higher level?
- ◆ *Kevin replied it was politics – but you need to keep fighting! Some areas don't fight e.g. they got Stanstead airport! The Government has a policy to protect Green Belt and we are trying to hold them to that policy.*
- ◆ Cllr Michelle Vince, Local Borough Councillor, we agree on most things but I don't agree with building on any of the Green Belt and it needs protecting in all cases. Locally we are too happy to give up parts and we are now really suffering as our Green Belt is being chipped away and it's just going! Our town is split into two halves North and South. Some parts are being protected e.g. Woodcock Hill, which it should be, but not to sacrifice the rest of it, which is exactly what's happening.
- ◆ When you say you've put forward reports can we see them?
- ◆ *Kevin replied these were public documents and should be on the Hertsmere Borough Council website as per relevant planning application. He added that people want to change the way they vote.*
- ◆ Cllr Michelle Vince – Have you looked at Redwell Garden Village?
- ◆ *Kevin said one of the problems in Hertfordshire particularly, is that people buy up large plots of land and split them into smaller chunks for housing but these don't appear in the local plan. Many of the people who own them are from overseas and have sold off these plots for £70 to 80k a plot, which are useless for anything at all and won't be built on, are not in the plans and no one can use them and it's a waste of land. Farming is there to provide us with food. Cllr Vince said that Salters farm was now sold and they were looking to build on the land.*
- ◆ Mr Lawson said about building a bypass south of Hertford, will that go into the countryside and will you campaign against it?
- ◆ *Kevin replied that they had looked at that route, looked at its impact compared to other options etc and were not standing against it as the CPRE were realistic. A bypass often becomes the boundary of the town they are*

bypassing. He thought in due course the Town will get built up to the bypass and will spread out as a result of this bypass. There are massive traffic issues in that area.

At the end of the talk we presented Kevin with a £50 cheque for the CPRE. This was raised from donations from the audience and even from some people who did not attend. EBRA thank you all for your generosity. We have £10 left over which we will put towards the next speaker as and when we book them.

Heathrow Flight Path Changes:

Andy gave a presentation on the Heathrow Airspace and Future Operations Consultation. The consultation period ran from 8th January 2019 to 4th March 2019 and it covered

- ◆ Airspace change for an expanded Heathrow:
- ◆ Airspace change to make better use of their existing two runways:
- ◆ Future operations for an expanded Heathrow:

The Consultation needed the public's help to figure out what they should do and this was an opportunity to help shape Heathrow's future. Andy used slides and 'YouTube' clips to illustrate the information.

EBRA concluded that the proposed changes probably would not affect the Borehamwood and Elstree area greatly and we do not plan to respond to this consultation unless anything comes to light. We will contact the Elstree Aerodrome and seek out an expert who can hopefully confirm that we will be unaffected in this area. The consultation also wants to know from those they consult with whether there are any local factors to help them determine future flight paths e.g. this could potentially affect the local TV, film and studio industry regarding noise impacts in this area.

Andy suggested that anyone who was interested go to the Heathrow consultation website and log their views as individuals rather than as a community response.

Heathrow you tube videos:

- ◆ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOve8v7wJ3M>
- ◆ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAW9NjcBWUY>
- ◆ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZTLCB_rVFM

Please see APPENDIX B for further details and see this <https://afo.heathrowconsultation.com/>

Other Events

All Saints Coffee mornings - Celebrating Talent in the Town:

- ◆ Sat 9th February - A Concert of musicians and singers from 10 to 18 solos duos ensembles - Collection for Mencap
- ◆ Sat 9th March - 11-1pm A concert for musicians and singers from the Town, EBLOS Ukulele Band Elstree Mozart Players, Hertsmere Acoustic Club, U3A singers, Community Choir-Collection for Mencap
- ◆ 13th April – All Saints 11 -1pm: Young Performers
- ◆ 11th May – All Saints 11 – 1pm: Town Pre Festival
- ◆ 22nd June - All Saints: Town Flower Festival

Please contact Cllr. Pat Strack, Leader Town Council, if you have any general enquiries.

Studios Rotary Club:

- ◆ Monday 25th February - 10 am Reel cinema Sing along version of Bohemian Rhapsody Tickets £4
- ◆ Wednesday March 7th - World Book Day Launch Book exchange at the station

- ◆ Sunday 24th March - Sponsored walk at Aldenham Country Park raising funds for Rotary Charities
- ◆ Wednesday 20th March - Town Mayor's Dinner Fairway Hall raising funds for MENCAP Tickets £25

Town Council Meetings (Fairway Hall):

- ◆ 30th Jan – Community Safety Partnership - 7pm
- ◆ 20th Feb - Transport Forum – 7pm
- ◆ 6th March – Annual Parish Council – 7:30pm

Hertsmere Council:

- ◆ Civic Awards nominations - 1st Feb 19

EBRA Matters:

EBRA – Committee – we need your help:

EBRA have a very tiny committee of currently about three people and we desperately need more people to help us. Do you have any spare hours each bi-monthly period to help us? If you are able to help in anyway this would be very much appreciated. We need researchers, letter writers, people to help out on the night of our meetings to put out chairs etc, ideally someone who can either help do the teas and coffees and/or run the membership desk at our meetings and welcome in attendees and sign up new members and take subscription payments etc – training will be provided. Andy does the agenda and power point presentation and Sue does the membership admin and minutes. Going forward, if anyone else is interested in doing the minutes please let us know, so Sue can be freed up to do more campaigning etc. We have one internal meeting for about two hours during the week before the next public meeting, so there is not a big demand on your time. We really need more of you on board to achieve our aims and goals! Although we are a small committee, we have plenty of fun too.

Paid Speakers at our EBRA meetings:

We asked the audience at our meeting how they felt about EBRA getting in more speakers who would require payment /donations for giving their talks. The view was yes this was alright if it was necessary.

Next Meeting:

Our next meeting is on 19th March 2019 at 7.50pm at St Teresa’s Church Hall, 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG.

Our future meeting for **2019** are on Tuesdays on these dates:

- ◆ 21st May 2019
- ◆ 2nd July 2019
- ◆ 24th September 2019
- ◆ 12th November 2019

The End

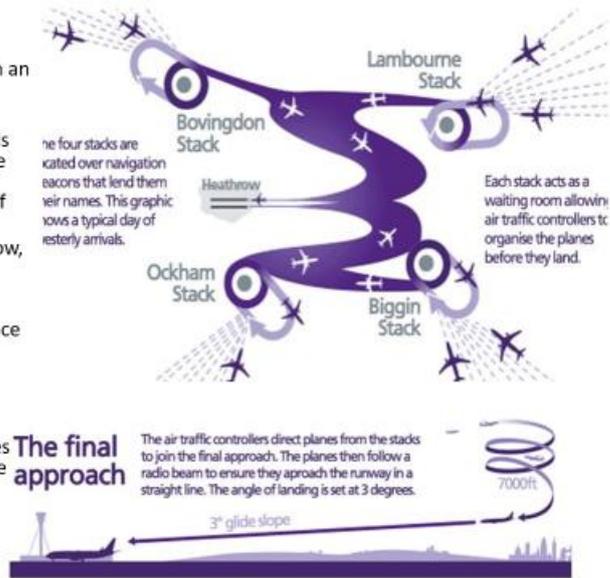
Appendix A

17/2260/MPO	Borehamwood Shopping Park Theobald Street Borehamwood Hertfordshire	Application to modify a planning obligation dated 18 August 1986 (to amend clause 9d relating to car parking charges) pursuant to planning application TP/86/0091 (which was for demolition of existing building and erection of class 1 retail development with associated parking pedestrian servicing and landscaped areas inc no more than 60,000sq ft retail food use).	DEL	Q06	14/02/2018	62.71	Under Consideration
-------------	---	--	-----	-----	------------	-------	---------------------

APPENDIX B:

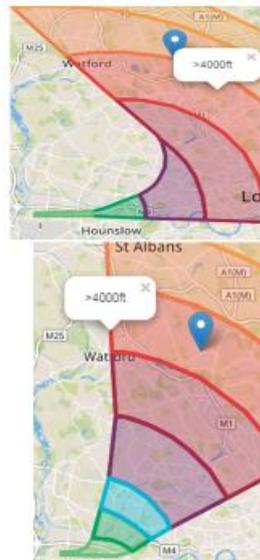
Arrivals Map

- Aircraft usually come into a holding stack where they fly in an oval pattern
- Aircraft circle at different levels within the stack. The levels are separated by 1,000ft, and the lowest level (i.e. the bottom of the stack) is around 7,000ft.
- Four holding stacks at Heathrow, known as 'Bovingdon', 'Lambourne', 'Ockham' and 'Biggin'. The locations of the stacks have been the same since the 1960s.
- Show Video Day in a Life of Heathrow Airport
- Show video – Airspace changes explained – Heathrow airspace and future operations consultation



How will Expansion of 3 Runways effect Elstree & Borehamwood

- **Design envelope: Arrival 1**, Height band:4000ft to 5000ft, Number of flights:0-47 Flights per hour , Number of these flights above 65 decibels :0-1 Flights per hour
- **Design Envelope: Arrival 2**. Height :5000ft to 6000ft, Number of flights :0-47 Flights per hour, Number of these flights above 65 decibels: 0
- **Design envelope: Departure 1** ,Height 4000ft to 15000ft, Number of flights:0-17 Flights per hour, Number of these flights above 65 decibels:0-17 Flights per hour
- 4000 ft = 0.75 mile
- 5000 ft = just under a mile
- <https://afo.heathrowconsultation.com/>



How will 2 runway arrivals effect Elstree & Borehamwood

- **Envelope Runway 12 - Arrival route for southern runway for westerly operations.** Height :7000ft+
Flights per hr 6am – 7am: 0-25 Flights per hour
Number of these flights above 60 db: 0 Flights per hour.
Flights per hour after 7am: 0-6 Flights per hour.
Number of these flights above 65 db:0 Flights per hour



- **Envelope Runway :11 - Arrival route for existing northern runway for westerly operations**
Height band:4000ft - 5000ft
Flights per hr 6am – 7am: 0-25 Flights per hour
Number of these flights above 60 db: 0- 25 Flights per hour.



<https://afo.heathrowconsultation.com/>
