

Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: Wednesday 8 May 2019

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES IN 2018/19**

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 One of the recommendations of the Constitution Improvement Working Group, endorsed by Council on 15th December 2009, was that Councillors appointed to serve on outside bodies with a significant role or budget should be required to provide a short written statement to full Council at the end of the year summarising their work.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

Council is asked to receive the reports from Councillors appointed to outside bodies in 2018/19.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
-

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Representation
 4. Total current budget for this head: £1,067k
 5. Source of funding: 2018/19 Revenue Budget
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Not Applicable
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Reports to Council are not subject to call-in.
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Not Applicable
-

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

3. COMMENTARY

3.1 The Constitution Improvement Working Group in its third report, presented to full Council on 15th December 2009, recommended -

“That the Members appointed as the Council’s representatives on outside organisations with a significant role and budget, should be required to provide a short annual written report to the final Council meeting or PDS in each Municipal Year.”

3.2 This recommendation was duly approved by full Council, and reports have been requested from a number of Members who have served as the Council’s representatives during 2018/19 on outside bodies with significant roles and budgets -

Clarion Housing Group – South London Regional Scrutiny Board: Cllr Chris Pierce

Mytime Active Board: Cllrs Aisha Cuthbert & Robert Evans

Bromley Youth Music Trust Board of Directors: Cllr Robert Mcilveen

Community Links Bromley: Cllrs Peter Fortune and Nicky Dykes

Design and Heritage Champion: Cllr Nicholas Bennett

3.3 The reports are attached in **Appendix 1**.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children/Policy/Financial/Personnel/Legal/Procurement
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	None

Clarion Housing Group (previously Affinity Sutton) South London Regional Scrutiny Committee: Cllr Chris Pierce

1. The South London RSC is one of five resident-led RSC's and covers Clarion properties, activities and operations within seven south London boroughs including Bromley. It comprises representatives from Clarion, residents and local authorities.

2. The annual Residents Engagement Day (RED) was held at the Hilton London Hotel, Croydon on 21st November 2018.

3. Six South London RSC meetings have been held on;

8th June 2018 (Morden)

21st August 2018 (London)

12th October 2018 (London)

10th December 2018 (London)

25th January 2019 (London)

15th April 2019 (London)

4. During the year the main scrutiny topic has been;

- Fire safety in blocks under six storeys

Resident and site surveys were carried out at a representative sample of properties and procedures and fire incidents were reviewed. A report with five key recommendations has been produced for submission to the Clarion Housing Board on 3rd May 2019 for consideration, review and a response.

5. A National RSC Away Day is scheduled for 21st May 2019. This event will share information and good practice and will discuss and set scrutiny topics for each of the five regional RSC's during 2019-20.

Mytime Active Board: Cllrs Aisha Cuthbert & Robert Evans

Both Cllr Evans and Cllr Cuthbert have joined the Board of Mytime Active as the Council nominees over the last year or so and both have played a full part in Board meetings and other activities - Cllr Evans also serves on the Board's Remuneration Committee.

Mytime Active continues to operate successfully in Sports' Centres and Golf clubs whilst looking to expand more into Health and Activities for the "not so young". In the latter their 'Bromley Active' programme involves hundreds of elderly residents and plays a big part in overcoming the growing problem of social isolation in the Borough.

The management structure of the organisation has been changed from one based on activities to a regional one. Newish manager for Bromley and the South East, Matt Eady is keen to build on the great step forward taken in securing a renewed long contract with Bromley Council. He works closely with the two appointed councillors and other organs of local government such as the Health & Well-being Board to see that Mytime Active plays a big part in the life of our Borough.

Bromley Youth Music Trust Board of Directors: Cllr Robert Mcilveen

(To follow)

Community Links Bromley: Cllrs Peter Fortune and Nicky Dykes

I met with the Chief Executive to discuss the work programme of the organisation and its priorities for the year ahead. They provided updates on new initiatives such as Bromley Well and the areas that this will be focussing on.

Their work on encouraging and supporting volunteering in Bromley is particularly important and I have since referred a few charities to the CLB for support. The free sessions they run for charities who need guidance on how to recruit volunteers are a valuable asset.

The organisation run many valuable services and its crucial that they are promoted to those who would benefit from them.

Design and Heritage Champion: Cllr Nicholas Bennett

It has been a busy year.

Last June I attended with other colleagues a visit to the Royal Bell in Bromley to see the proposals to bring back into public use this late 19th Century inn and I was able to support the proposals for the renovation and for the new hotel at the rear.

The Royal Bell is one of the 23 buildings and structures listed on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register and this was the subject of a report to the Development Control Committee. Although it remains a concern as the state of some of those listed, as the decision on the Royal Bell illustrates, progress is being made and this building and another of others are expected to be removed from the list once recent planning developments are completed. Significantly five of the entries relate to RAF Biggin Hill and it is to be hoped that the Council, as landlord, can bring pressure on the leaseholder of some of these 'neo Georgian' 1930s buildings to bring them back into use.

I also attended the Development Control Committee for the planning application for the Allied Bakery in Orpington. The bakery was constructed in 1939 in what can be described as an '*arterial road art deco*'. The planning application illustrates the problem which faces planners in that in order to keep a listed building in economic use alterations may have a serious effect on the appearance of a listed building. The proposal to demolish the post-war wing would unbalance the building but an additional building behind the originally building would dominate the existing 1930 building. I didn't feel that I could oppose the application per se but I was not able to support the changes.

I was delighted to attend the preview for the opening of the new Museum at Biggin Hill to commemorate the RAF station and it is a worthy new visitor destination.

The Council is a member of Urban Design London, a most valuable forum for Transport, Environment and Planning officers and Members with an interest in these areas. All councillors are welcome to attend at no charge.

During the past year I have participated in the following sessions:

12th July 2018 - *Councillors' Briefing* (with Cllrs Gabbert and Cuthbert)

6th September 2018 - site visit to see the improvements made by Westminster City Council in the West End.

9th October 2018 - *Design and the Historic Environment* including a site visit to renovated buildings in Brixton.

1st November 2018 - *Councillors' Planning Network*

15th January 2019 - *Tech and Planning the City*

23rd January 2019 - *Connecting Places*

6th February 2019 - *Building Affordable houses*
28th February 2019 - *Councillors' Network*
20th March 2019 - *Suburban Renaissance*
27th March 2019 - *Designing Town Centres and Transport interchanges.*

UDL produces very useful guides and I circulated to all Members of the Council, '*The Councillor's Companion for Design and Planning*' and '*Place Value and the Ladder of Place Quality*'.

Other meetings and conference have included –

The six lecture series on *20th Century architects* organised by the 20th Century Society (Cllr Dunn attended);

The conference on commemorating the *75 anniversary of the County of London Plan* at the Metropolitan Archives on 12th October 2018;

The Place Alliance '*Big Meet*' on 2nd April 2019;

British Records Association conference on '*Living on the Edge – the suburbs*' on April 25th 2019;

I attended at the Mayor's invitation the signing of the *Thunder Bay* agreement to commemorate the thousands of Canadian service personnel who were treated at Orpington Hospital in both World Wars.

As noted in my last report, 2019 is the centenary of the first '*Just William*' story by Bromley author Richmal Crompton and the 50th anniversary of her death. The *Just William Society* held their annual meeting in Bromley at the Central Library. Two days of events were organised by me including an exhibition at the Library opened by the Mayor, Cllr Kim Botting, FRSA on April 27th, a coach tour of sites associated with Miss Crompton, including Bromley High for Girls, where she taught. The conference on the Saturday was opened by the Mayor and included a video recording by Martin Jarvis reading the first published story.

In addition to my role as Mayor in the coming year I am happy to continue to act as Design and Heritage Champion.



The Mayor opens the 'Just William at 100' exhibition at Bromley Central Library April 27th 2019.



Members of The 'Just William Society' outside 9 Cherry Orchard Road, the first Bromley home of author Richmal Crompton.