



Horley Highlights

Newsletter of Horley Town Council

Issue 17

Winter 2008/09

New Council Offices and Community Hall

Peter Ainsworth MP formally opens Horley Town Council's new Offices and Community Hall at the Albert Rooms, Albert Road, Horley



Full story and photos on page 2

Town Awards

Horley Town Council is delighted to announce that there were two worthy recipients of the prestigious Town Awards for 2008.

The recipients were presented with their awards at the opening ceremony of the Town

Council's new community hall and offices on Friday 31 October.

Both are pictured receiving their awards from Peter Ainsworth MP and the Town Mayor, Cllr Simon Marshall.



Andrew Partridge

Awarded for his significant contribution to the local community, as a School Governor for 25 years, for his work with the Horley-Vimy Twinning Association since inception and helping Horley Lions raise £20,000 per year for good causes.



Robert Garfitt

Awarded for his tireless services to the Town of Horley as Town Mayor, Town Councillor and Deputy Borough Mayor, and for other valuable contributions to the community including many years service as a Justice of the Peace.



Horley Town Council,
Council Offices, 92 Albert Road, Horley, Surrey
RH6 7HZ

tel: 01293 784765 fax: 01293 775789

www.horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
email: info@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Alan Jones

New Council Offices

On Friday 31 October 2008, Peter Ainsworth, MP formally opened Horley Town Council's new Offices and Community Hall at the Albert Rooms, Albert Road, Horley.

The revamped building and extension includes a modernised main hall adapted for various types of activities (dance classes, yoga, after school club, seminars, weddings etc) new offices, kitchen and toilets. Peter Ainsworth is pictured on page 1 unveiling a brass plaque to commemorate the event. The Town Council had quite a busy afternoon. As stated earlier, during the proceedings two prestigious Town Awards were also presented.

Cllr Simon Marshall, Chairman and Town Mayor, was delighted to see so many guests at the event, including representatives from many local groups and organisations, a number of previous town award winners, and many councillors from Borough, County and Town Councils. Peter Ainsworth said he was so pleased that the Town Council has been able to complete its move from the old Drill Hall, next to the former Fire Station, into much needed modern premises. He commented on the excellent work of the Town Council and said that he had every confidence that many hirers would make use of the superb facilities in the main hall.

Nigel Clifford, Chief Executive of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, also expressed his congratulations to the Town Council for the considerable progress it had made in recent years.

The architect for the alteration and refurbishment of the Albert Rooms was Brewer Jewel Associates, Dorking. The main building contractor was



Farnrise Construction Ltd, Caterham and the Quantity Surveyor was E J Slaven & Associates, Guildford.



Hire of the Main Hall



The main hall of the Albert Rooms is approximately 40ft x 20ft with a wooden sprung floor. There are much improved facilities, new ladies' and gentlemen's toilets, disabled toilet and a new kitchen with an electric cooker.

Tables, chairs and crockery are provided for up to 60 people. There are 14 parking spaces including one disabled space. It is available for day and evening hire subject to our normal terms and conditions.

As you can see, we are also able to offer conference facilities with screen, projector and audio visual systems.

Regular hirers of the hall include Kidzone, Pilates Classes, Kickboxing, Arts Group, Church Group, Yoga, Young Children's Dance Classes and Town Council meetings

Please discuss your requirements with the Town Council for availability and hire forms.



Town Council approves Expenditure Budget and sets Precept for 2009/2010

At the Full Council meeting of 9 December 2008, Horley Town Council approved its budget for 2009/2010 and set its Town Precept for a total net figure of £280,886 (compared to the net figure of £278,560 for 2008/09). Cllr Michael Miller, Chairman of the Town Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee, explained that the town element of Council Tax would be £32.69 representing an annual increase of 10p per Band D household (+ 0.31 per cent).

Cllr Miller stated that: "The Town Council has recognised that these are difficult economic times and a thorough review of all the Council's costs and services has been conducted." This action has allowed the annual increase of the precept to be kept within modest levels. The increase of 0.31 per cent compares with the Annual Retail Prices Index (RPI) increase of 4.2 per cent and the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 4.5 per cent, announced in November 2008.

The Town Council remains fully committed to maintaining all its services as well as pursuing its programme of enhancements, as detailed in its Corporate Plan. These include improvements to recreation grounds, and further improvements to community halls. Cllr Miller commented that the Town Council had made considerable effort to structure the projects outlined in the Plan on continuous three year rolling programmes, wherever possible. The relocation of the Town Council offices to redesigned freehold premises in the Albert Rooms has raised the Council's profile and has given the Council increased income from lettings.

It was noted that the Town Council would continue to support St Bartholomew's two churchyards and would make a grant of £13,000 towards their grounds maintenance.

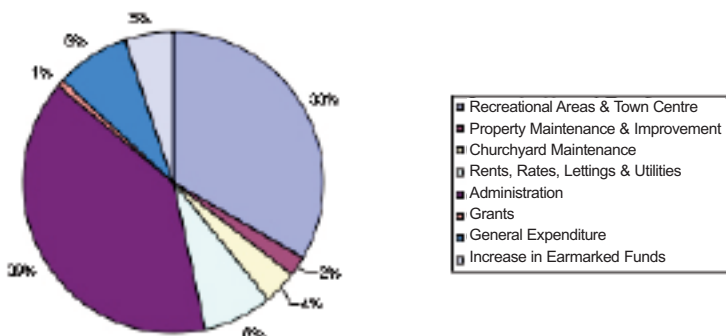
Prudent use of Council finances has allowed the Council to use £34,000 of its general reserves towards next year's costs. The recent rebuilding of the Albert Rooms was completed on budget. Whilst charges for the use of the Albert Rooms main hall were not increased this year, due to the disruption caused by the building works, the charges will be increased next year to take account of the improved facilities, with differing scales for community and business use. Full details of all charges for 2009/10 will be announced shortly.

The Town Council also has a duty to provide for future likely expenditure and is therefore increasing its earmarked funds by £19,000 for football pitch improvements, buildings maintenance and community funds.

The Town Council is keen to further improve security in its recreation grounds and has increased its budget for CCTV enhancements. These will be carried out in consultation with Surrey Police. Regular security patrols will continue in all our parks to aid the safety of all members of the public.

The Council has made provision for floral displays in the town centre in support of our planned entry for South and South East in Bloom 2009, having already won two silver awards in 2008. Sponsorship from local businesses will also be sought.

This Council will also continue to seek funding from appropriate bodies. To date we are preparing a substantial bid to the Football Foundation for work on the football pitches at Court Lodge. Other funding has been generously offered from local Borough and County Councillors' Initiative Schemes for which the Town Council expresses its gratitude. In conclusion, in a challenging financial climate, Horley Town Council is committed to providing facilities that meet the community's needs, and in doing so, achieving them at best value.



HIGHLIGHTS in brief....



BT Phone Directories

We have recently received a number of enquiries about the distribution of phone directories in Horley. Many residents feel that the issue of a Horsham directory does not suit their requirements.

For example, Horley is in the local government area of Surrey County Council and, below that, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. Neither of these authorities is listed, yet residents regularly need to call them regarding highways, lighting and many other matters. Many of the listings in the Horsham directory refer, not surprisingly, to many Sussex places but to very few Surrey organisations. None of authorities listed are relevant to Horley (authorities listed are Crawley BC, Horsham DC etc)

Would it not be a better policy to offer the Caterham & Reigate Directory to Horley residents? It would seem much more appropriate. There does seem to be a significant demand for such a change. Please let us know what you think. (Contact details are at the foot of the front page.)

Gatwick Airport Noise Line

Are you bothered by aircraft noise in Horley? Did you know there is a Gatwick Noise Line for reporting low noisy aircraft over Horley, 0800 393 070, or you can e-mail lgwnoise_line@baa.com. You can also ask for a written detailed response explaining which airline and the reason for the excessive noise. Please let us know of any experiences you have.

We will be particularly interested to hear from anyone who can provide more precise/accurate or detailed info on this subject. The Town Council's Planning Committee regularly discusses any airport issues (refer back page for forthcoming meetings).

Commuters and Southern Rail's New Timetable

The new timetable was issued on 14 December 2008. Have you been adversely affected by the changes e.g. additional changes, earlier departure times? We have received a number of queries from commuters, so we contacted Southern Customer Services (tel 08451 272920).

When we queried the new times Southern replied:














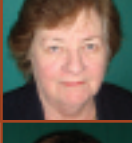




"During the morning peak at Horley most departure times will be similar to today's but there will be an additional train to London in the 0700 hour. In addition the number of carriages during the morning peak will be increased from today's 130 to 145.

At the height of the evening peak we plan departures from Victoria direct to Horley at 1721, 1747 (fast), 1749, 1817 (fast) and 1819, and the present 'hour' gap after the 1602 will be filled by new trains at 1632 and 1649. In addition, for the Brighton line timetable as a whole, we are also splicing-in one additional Victoria train and three more from London Bridge during the evening peak and another key point is that during this period there will also be an overall increase in carriages on the two routes from 121 to 148. Southern, however, have acknowledged that there will be more reaction once the changes become more widely known, and they will be monitoring the revised services very carefully indeed."

Please let us know of your experiences

HORLEY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Ward Codes N - North NW - North West
 NC - North Central SC - South Central
 NE - North East SE - South East
 BC - also Reigate & Banstead Borough Councillor

Ward	Councillor	Ward	Councillor
N	 Cllr. Paul Avis 25 Greenfields Road, Horley RH6 8HW 01293 774357 paul.avis@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N	 Cllr. Valerie A Marshall 12 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DB 01293 786859 valerie.marshall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SC	 Cllr. Richard I Bethell 1 Hamilton Close, Horley RH6 7HW 01293 783195 richard.bethell@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N BC	 Cllr. Michael J Miller 50 Haroldsea Drive, Horley RH6 9DU 01293 784201 michael.miller@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
N W	 Cllr. Denese L Brooke-Harte 47 Parkhurst Road, Horley RH6 8EU 01293 418090 denese.brookeharte@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N W	 Cllr. Sonia A Odds 10 Cheyne Walk, Horley RH6 7PF 01293 784765 sonia.odds@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NE	 Cllr. Jack R Chapman Forge Cottage, 43 Bonehurst Road, Horley RH6 8PJ 01293 786165 jack.chapman@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NE BC	 Cllr. Dr. Richard J Olliver 2 Limes Avenue, Horley RH6 9DH 01293 786710 richard.olliver@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SE	 Cllr. Peter J Chapman 161 Smallfield Road, Horley RH6 9LR 01293 783806 peter.chapman@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N C	 Cllr. David T Powell 48 Fairfield Avenue, Horley RH6 7PD 01293 774695 david.powell@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SC	 Cllr. Janice F Gall 24 Oakley House, Norfolk Close, Horley RH6 7DW 01293 825922 janice.gall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N W	 Cllr. Sarah E Rogers 8 Palmer Close, Horley RH6 8LG 07969 105244 sarah.rogers@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
N W	 Cllr. Michael P George 31 Rutherford Close, Horley RH6 8RD 01293 411655 mike.george@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N C	 Cllr. Veronica M Snowball 35 Meadowcroft Close, Horley RH6 9EJ 01293 785172 veronica.snowball@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SC	 Cllr. Mo Goldsmith Council Offices, 92 Albert Road, Horley RH6 7HZ 01293 784765 mo.goldsmith@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N C	 Cllr. Fiona M Stimpson Rosemead Guest House, 19 Church Rd, Horley RH6 7EY 01293 784965 fiona.stimpson@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
N	 Cllr. Simon Marshall 12 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DB 01293 786859 simon.marshall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	SE	 Cllr. Stephen Thomas, Council Offices, 92 Albert Road, Horley RH6 7HZ 01293 784765 stephen.thomas@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk

All councillors may be contacted at their home address
 Contact the council for further information.

The views expressed in the contents of Horley
 Highlights and as defined by the editorial staff are not
 necessarily those of the Town Council.

Meeting Dates 2009

All council meetings usually commence at 7.30 pm (but check with us first). Agendas for all meetings are posted on town centre notice boards a few days beforehand. Agendas are also downloadable from our web site

Members of the public are cordially invited to all meetings which are now held in the Albert Rooms, Albert Road, Horley, and they may, if they wish, address councillors during the public forum.

For further details and for any general enquiries, please phone or e-mail the Town Clerk.

January

6 Planning and Development
 13 Leisure & Amenities
 20 Finance and General Purposes

February

3 Planning and Development
 17 Full Council

March

3 Leisure & Amenities
 17 Planning and Development
 24 Finance and General Purposes

Other Notable Dates

24 April Town Meeting
 4 June Local Elections

April

7 Full Council
 14 Leisure & Amenities
 21 Planning and Development
 28 Finance and General Purposes

May

12 Annual Meeting

MP's Surgery

At the time of going to press Mr Ainsworth's surgeries had not been confirmed. As soon as they are known, they will appear on our web site in our "what's on" column.

To arrange an appointment please telephone 01883 715782

or write to:
 East Surrey Conservative Association
 2 Hoskins Road,
 Oxted, Surrey
 RH8 9HT

Please note that representatives of Town, Borough and County Councils will also be available on the same dates as the MP, and they will be delighted to discuss any issues you may have. You are welcome to turn up on the day to chat to a Councillor, however you must have already booked an appointment to see your Member of Parliament.

Further details are available on our web site