

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Albert Rooms, Albert Road, Horley on Tuesday 9 September 2008 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor S Marshall, Town Mayor & Chairman of the Council
Councillors P Avis, R Bethell, Mrs D Brooke-Harte,
J Chapman, P Chapman, Ms J Gall, M George,
Ms M Goldsmith, Mrs V Marshall, M Miller, Mrs S Odds,
D Powell, R Olliver, Miss S Rogers, Mrs V Snowball,
Miss F Stimpson and S Thomas.

Also present: Mrs C Fenton Deputy Clerk to the Council

Prior to the start of the meeting there was one minute's silence in memory of Mrs Sylvia McFarlane, wife of former Borough Councillor and Mayor, Mr John McFarlane.

Cllr Miller also announced that Cllr David Powell was now a member of the Conservative Party.

C 2271 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apology of Alan Jones (Town Clerk) be accepted.

C 2272 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest, specific to the meeting.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2273 Public Forum

Mr Simon Court expressed concern about the high density of the new housing developments. Cllr Miller agreed to investigate.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2274 Ordinary Meeting of the Council, 8 July 2008

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council were presented for confirmation by members and signature by the Chairman of the Council.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 8 July 2008, including all confidential items, be approved.

C 2275 Leisure & Amenities Committee, 3 June 2008

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee held on 3 June 2008, including all confidential items, be received.

C 2276 Finance & General Purposes Committee, 24 June 2008

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 24 June 2008, including all confidential items, be received.

C 2277 Planning & Development Committee, 17 June 2008

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Development Committee held on 17 June 2008 be received.

C 2278 Planning & Development Committee, 15 July 2008

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Development Committee held on 15 July 2008 be received.

C 2279 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that he had attended the following:

Judging of South East in Bloom
Launch of Edmonds Community Fund
Saint Hill Garden Party
Enterprise Event at Oakwood School
Brambles Garden Party
Saint Hill Arts Festival
South East in Bloom Awards Ceremony
Photo Call for South East in Bloom

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2280 Liaison Meetings with Surrey Police

It was noted that the next liaison meeting was due to take place on 12 September.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2281 National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

The Deputy Clerk reported receipt of an updated guide about Quality Councils and added that it was still not clear whether a full re-accreditation process would be required.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2282 Surrey County Association of Parish & Town Councils (SCAPTC)

It was noted that the SCAPTC Constitution had been approved at the Annual Meeting in July.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2283 Draft Charter Between Reigate & Banstead Borough Council & Horley Town Council

The Deputy Clerk told members that a meeting of the Reigate & Banstead Liaison Committee had been arranged to take place at Reigate Town Hall on 4 November. She added that topics to be discussed would include the draft Charter.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2284 Horley Anderson Centre - Sub Underlease to Cannons Health & Fitness

The Deputy Clerk explained to members that Cannon's Health & Fitness Ltd had recently once again won the contract to run the three sports centres in the Borough. The Borough Council planned to grant leases to Cannons at each of the sports centres and the Underlease between the Borough and Town Councils required to the Town Council's consent to the granting of a sub-underlease to Cannons at the Horley Anderson Centre.

RESOLVED: that the Deputy Clerk write to the Senior Asset Manager at the Borough Council, requesting that, in the first instance, the Sub-Underlease be sent to the Town Council, before any decision is taken about the need, or otherwise, to involve the Town Council's Solicitor.

C 2285 Relocation of Town Council Offices

The Deputy Clerk told members that it was planned to move into the new offices by 26 September, with the Portakabin due to be removed by the end of the month. The Formal Opening by Peter Ainsworth was due to take place on 31 October and Open Afternoons had been planned for 29 and 30 October.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2286 Councillors' Surgeries

RESOLVED: that, in view of poor attendance by members of the public, Councillors' surgeries be held on a monthly basis, to coincide with the surgeries held by the Member of Parliament.

C 2287 South & South East in Bloom Awards Ceremony

Cllr Bethell reported on the recent event. He told members that the event had been very well attended and that he and the Chairman of the Council had been delighted to receive two Silver Awards, one for the town centre and one for the Horley Recreation Ground. He thanked members (in particular Cllr Jack Chapman and Tania Peppiatt) and staff for their assistance with preparations for the judging.

RESOLVED: noted.

C 2288 Cllr Chapman remarked that the Borough Council needed to start work on all the areas much earlier next year. It was noted that Borough Cllr Julian Ellacott (Executive Member for Environment) had been very concerned about the lack of performance by the Borough Council's grounds maintenance team..

C 2288) *RESOLVED: noted.*

C 2289 Knights Wood / Emlyn Meadows Wood

The Deputy Clerk reported receipt of a letter from a local resident, expressing concern about the condition of the area now known as Bolter's Wood. Cllr George explained that the area was classed as ancient woodland and was privately owned by a local farmer, who was keen to keep the area as natural woodland, although he would welcome assistance from local residents with clearance work.

RESOLVED: that the Deputy Clerk inform the local resident accordingly.

C 2290 Horley Town Council Grants Scheme

RESOLVED: that the list of applications for grants, as recommended by the Awards Sub-Committee, be approved. (A copy of the list is appended to these minutes.)

C 2291 Letters Received

RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the following:

- i) Surrey Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group – request for donation (declined).***
- ii) Two complimentary letters from local residents about hanging baskets.***

C 2292 Urgent Business for Inclusion on Future Agenda

RESOLVED: that the following item be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee:

Future arrangements for Town Centre Christmas Lights

C 2293 Press Release

RESOLVED: that a press release be issued, giving details of the grant recipients and the revised arrangements for Councillors' Surgeries.

C 2294 *RESOLVED: that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.*

C 2295 Town Awards

CONFIDENTIAL

Members approved the recommendations of the Awards Sub-Committee and agreed that the Town Awards be presented during the formal opening of the Albert Rooms on 31 October.

The meeting closed at 8.31 pm

Date of Next Meeting: 28 October 2008