

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL
Leisure & Amenities Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above-named Committee held at the Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley on Tuesday 3 January 2006 at 8.00 pm.

Present: Councillor S Marshall – Chairman
Councillors E Andrews, Ms D Ashley-Smith, J Chapman,
G Larcombe J Meech and M Miller.

In Attendance: A Jones – Town Clerk
Mrs C Fenton - Deputy Town Clerk
Cllr A Kent (Part Meeting)
P von Staerck (Part Meeting)

L 1397 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs M George, Ms M Goldsmith and J Kendall be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register.)

Declarations of Interest

L 1398 Cllr Andrews declared a personal interest in the Church Road Allotments item, in view of his position as an allotment holder.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1399 Cllr Meech declared a personal interest in the Court Lodge Fields Boundary item, in view of his association with RB Housing Trust.

RESOLVED: noted.

**L 1400 Public Forum –
Request to Hold Fundraising Event at A23 Recreation Ground**

Mr von Staerck, a member of the Town Centre Management Group, put forward his ideas for a fundraising weekend, to raise funds for Christmas lights. He explained that he planned to hold a Beer and Wine Festival on the Friday and Saturday, as well as a Teddy Bears' Picnic on the Saturday afternoon. He hoped that the events would raise over £2,000.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1401 Proposals for Fundraising Event

Members considered Mr von Staerck's request. Members noted that the suggested weekend was the same as the one favoured by Mr Beach to bring in his funfair. It was also pointed that organisations such as the Horley Round Table usually paid a deposit when holding events at the Recreation Ground, although it was felt that in this case it might be waived.

After further discussion the following was approved:

- L 1401) **RESOLVED:**
- i) that the request to hold a fundraising event at the A23 Recreation Ground be approved in principle, subject to consultation with Horley Police.*
 - ii) that alternative dates for this event and the proposed funfair be sought.*
 - iii) that the matter be re-considered at a future meeting of this Committee.*

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1402 Use of Metal Detector at the A23 Recreation Ground

The Clerk reminded members that the trial three month period would soon expire and added that the matter would need to be reviewed at the next meeting of this Committee. It was noted that the resident had been seen metal detecting in the park.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1403 Application to Football Foundation

The Clerk reported that he and the Assistant Clerk would be meeting with the Football Association's Regional Facility Manager and Regional Football Development Manager on 30 January.

RESOLVED: that the matter be referred for consideration at the next meeting of this Committee.

L 1404 Churchyards Committee and Maintenance Grant

Cllr Kent reported that the Churchyards Committee was due to meet on 16 January, when four quarterly meetings would be arranged for the coming year. He re-iterated that there were no problems with the contractor who was responsible for the maintenance of the churchyards.

Members expressed concern that no accounts had been received and Cllr Kent explained that a new Treasurer was in place.

After further discussion the following was resolved:

RESOLVED: that payment of further instalments of the maintenance grant be re-considered at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

L 1405 Youth Matters

Cllr Ms Ashley-Smith reported that the Youth Council had last met in December, although the meeting had not been formally run. They were due to meet again on 18 January. Members expressed concern that the Youth Council was not running as well as had been hoped. The agenda for meetings were not being sent out in advance and a letter of thanks to the High Sheriff of Surrey for the recent award of £250 was still outstanding. Cllr Ashley-Smith added that she thought that the recent cancellation of the HYPE event had made the Youth Councillors less

L 1405) enthusiastic.

Cllr Ms Ashley-Smith added that a meeting was planned with the Jason Walters, Youth Council Chairman, Simon Bland from the Borough Council and several Town Councillors to discuss the way forward. Members agreed that it was vital for the youth to have a voice in the town and suggested that the Youth Council needed more steering than had previously been envisaged.

RESOLVED: noted.

Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report

L 1406 The Clerk told members that he had met with Trevor Elliott and Alan Storer from the Borough Council last month. He added that this time of year tended to be quiet and that all previous outstanding issues had now been resolved.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1407 **RESOLVED: that the issue of magnetic signs on the Borough Council's grounds maintenance vans be referred for consideration at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.**

L 1408 **Playground Inspections**

The Clerk told members that the Deputy Clerk was now in regular weekly contact with a representative of Bennetts Playcare and, on receipt of the inspection reports, was liaising directly with Bennetts regarding necessary repairs.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1409 **RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's playground inspection reports.**

Playground Repairs

L 1410 **RECOMMEND: that payment of £158.00 plus VAT to the Contractor ASBIT for repairs to the railings at the top of one of the skate park ramps be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.**

L 1411 **A23 Recreation Ground – Proposals for Multi Purpose Court – P/05/02076/F**

The Clerk reported that a local resident had objected to the proposed siting of the court. A meeting had been held with the Crime Reduction Officer and a Borough Planning Officer, following which it had been agreed that the site should remain unchanged. The Borough Council's Planning Committee was expected to consider the application in February.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1412 **Synthetic Ice Rink, A23 Recreation Ground**

The Clerk reported receipt of details of a synthetic ice rink, which might be able to be installed at the Recreation Ground on a short term basis. He was however still awaiting further details from the proprietor.

L 1412) *RESOLVED: that the matter be re-considered if further details become available.*

L 1413 Automatic Public Convenience, A23 Recreation Ground

The Clerk told members that the convenience was due to be removed around the end of January. He added that the current cost was £15,890.00 per annum and the present structure did not have disabled access. He said that he was in discussion with the supplier, J C Deceaux, to see whether it might be possible to have advertising boards installed to fund the cost of a future convenience.

RESOLVED: that the matter be re-considered at a future meeting of this Committee

L 1414 Court Lodge Fields – Boundary adjoining Houses

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Town Council's Solicitor, confirming that RB Housing Trust was required to maintain the boundary and would be liable to compensate the Town Council for any damage if the fence was not replaced. The Clerk added that the Police were still very concerned that no fencing had been put in place.

RESOLVED: that a strongly worded letter be sent to RB Housing Trust, holding the Trust liable for any future incursions onto the fields if the fence is not replaced. (A copy of the letter is appended to these minutes.)

L 1415 Playground Improvements at Michael Crescent Centenary Park

The Clerk reminded members that £20,000 had been included in next year's estimates for the replacement of the safety surfacing and the swings at the Park. The Committee Chairman said that he was keen for the work to be carried out as soon as possible (payment to be from the 2006/2007 budget) to avoid the necessity of having to purchase more bark for the existing bark pits.

RESOLVED: that the matter be referred for further consideration at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Emlyn Meadows

L 1416 Cllr George reported that there had recently been a very successful meeting of the Emlyn Meadows Advisory Committee. (A copy of the minutes is attached.) The local schools were keen for education packs to be produced, using the theme of "Outdoor Art". The Clerk reminded members that £500 had been received from the Gatwick Airport Community Trust for the packs. Pete Crawford of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership had produced a Project Proposal for Emlyn Meadows (copy attached) detailing improvements which would help the site.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to the Managing Director of BAA Gatwick to

enquire whether the company would be willing to sponsor some of the improvements.

- L 1417** The Clerk confirmed that he had met with a representative of Maltaward Ltd at Emlyn Meadows to discuss the cost implications of possible barriers around the area, which would prevent incursions. Bunding had been suggested at a cost of approximately £1500 and there would be an additional cost for barriers. The Clerk reminded members that a sum of £500 had been included in next year's estimates for Emlyn Meadows, although it might be possible to use either the underutilised tree budget from this year or part of the earmarked Community Action Fund.

L 1417)

RESOLVED: that the matter be referred for urgent consideration at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Church Road Allotments – Improvements to Boundary with Churchyards

- L 1418** The Clerk told members that Jack King had cleared the entire boundary for the total sum of £2750.00 plus VAT.

RECOMMEND:

- i) that the cost of the work be apportioned as follows:
£2000 from the Allotments earmarked fund and £750 from this year's underutilised tree budget.***
- ii) that the recommendation be referred for consideration at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.***

- L 1419** The Clerk told members that Jack King had advised that a stock fence be installed along the boundary with the Churchyard with quickthorn planted at its base. The cost for the work was £1750.00 plus VAT and Mr King advised that the work be carried out in February or March this year, although he would be happy to receive payment or after 1st April 2006. The Clerk reminded members that a sum of £2500 had been included in next year's estimates for this work.

RECOMMEND:

- i) that Jack King & Son be employed to supply and erect a stock fence plus quickthorn along the boundary for the total sum of £1750.00 plus VAT, the work to be carried out in February or March and payment to be from the 2006/2007 budget.***
- ii) that the recommendation be referred for consideration at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.***

- L 1420** South East Regional Play Association – Contribution for 2006/2007

RECOMMEND: that payment of £20 be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

- L 1421** Charges for Use of Town Council Facilities

RESOLVED: that the charges, as appended to these minutes, be approved.

- L 1422** Request to Donate Bench

The Clerk reported that he and the Committee Chairman had met with the resident concerned, who would be happy to have a bench installed at Emlyn Meadows in memory of his Grandfather.

RESOLVED:

- i) that quotations be sought for the supply and installation of a rustic style bench and the resident be informed of the costs involved.*
- L 1422) *ii) that the matter be re-considered at the next meeting of this Committee.*

L 1423 Christmas Lights 2005 / 2006

The Clerk told members that, in the light of the disappointing display this year, he had arranged for the lights to be stored in the garage adjoining the Council Offices and would arrange for the transverse to be returned at the earliest opportunity. The Town Centre Management Group would then consider options for next year.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1424 Future of the Keys Youth Centre and the Adult Education Centre

RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the response from the Leader of Surrey County Council.

L 1425 Gatwick Airport Community Trust

RESOLVED: that an application be made for equipment for an outdoor classroom area and informal seating area at Emlyn Meadows.

L 1426 Barrier at Horley Anderson Centre

The Clerk told members that he had spoken to the Borough Council's Leisure & Community Manager, who had in turn asked the Contract Manager to ensure that staff lock the barrier in the evenings.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1427 Cleaning of War Memorial

The Clerk reported that Mitchells of Horley had advised that their hydraulic platform could be made available for cleaning the War Memorial in March or April, at a cost of £42.00 plus VAT per hour.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1428 Urgent Business - Future of Horley Anderson Swimming Pool

RESOLVED: that, in view of recent press articles, this item be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Planning & Development Committee.

L 1429 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.

L 1430 **Summer Planting 2006**

CONFIDENTIAL

L 1431

Members considered quotations received and agreed the appointment of Amethyst Horticulture Ltd.

Standing Order No 9 was suspended at 9.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.42 pm Date of Next Meeting – 21 February 2006