

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 7 November 2006 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor S Marshall – Chairman
Councillors E Andrews, Ms D Ashley-Smith, J Chapman,
M George, Ms M Goldsmith, J Kendall, J Meech,
M Miller and R Olliver.

In Attendance: A Jones – Town Clerk
Mrs C Fenton - Deputy Town Clerk

L 1608 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apology of Mrs S Branwhite, be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register.)

L 1609 Declarations of Interest

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

RESOLVED: noted.

**Public Forum –
Fencing to the Rear of Delta Bungalows**

L 1610 Standing Orders were suspended to allow Mr Reg Lohead, Chairman of the Delta Scheme Residents Association, to address members of the Committee. Mr Lohead asked whether the Town Council had any immediate plans to install a wooden fence to the rear of Delta Bungalows. He added that, on the previous Sunday, children had been seen climbing into the gardens over the existing chainlink fence and swearing at the residents.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1611 Standing Orders were resumed and, In reply, the Committee Chairman explained that there was no money available for such work in this Financial Year. He added that the Committee would be considering its requirements for the next Financial Year later this evening.

The Clerk reminded those present that a wooden fence was likely to cost in the order of £2000 and that, last year, not all the Delta Bungalow residents had been in favour of such a fence. At this time the goal posts had also been moved further away from the bungalows, which had eased the situation. The Clerk added that he had responded fully to all Mr Lohead's points in a letter last June. He added that he had checked the CCTV cameras, but had found no evidence of footballs being kicked over the fence on the particular dates which he had been given.

Cllr Kendall said that balls being kicked against a wooden fence would create a lot of noises and reminded members that there had been numerous complaints about wooden fences in the past.

L 1611) After further discussion, the following was resolved:

RESOLVED:

- i) that the Clerk review CCTV footage for the Sunday in question, to search for evidence of children climbing into gardens.**
- ii) that the Committee review fencing expenditure when considering its financial requirements for 2007/2008, later this meeting.**

L 1612 Cricket Square, Court Lodge Fields

The Clerk said that he was still investigating whether the cricket square might be of use to any other organisations. It was noted that the Horley Sports (Social) Club had allowed another cricket team to use the Court Lodge pitch and that the Horley Scorpions had not played at all this season.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1613 Michael Crescent Centenary Park

The Clerk told members that the damaged dividing fence had still not been repaired. It was noted that the 1st and 2nd Scout Groups had recently merged and the Clerk was requested to write to the District Commissioner to ascertain whether the Michael Crescent Scout Hut was still in regular use.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1614 Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (GPP)

Cllr Miller reported on the meeting of the Members' Steering Group, which had been held earlier in the day. He said that members had voted to pursue the merger with the Sussex Wildlife Trust, although they had stressed the need for the GPP to retain its identity within the new body. He added that BAA Gatwick had increased its funding of the organisation. It had also been noted that Councils were in a position to offer funding only on a yearly basis.

RESOLVED: noted.

Churchyards Committee

L 1615 Cllr George reported on the meeting of the Committee which had been held on 4 October 2006. (Minutes are available in the Town Council Offices.) He explained that new wheelie bins had now been installed in the Churchyards. He added that there were plans to develop a five year plan for 2006 – 2011 and that it was proposed to increase burial charges sooner rather than later. He said that one of the first tasks would be to improve the Cremation area. It was noted that there was a plan for long term tree planting which might in time lead to the Churchyards becoming semi rural.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1616** ***RECOMMEND:** that payment of £2000, being the fourth instalment of the Churchyards Maintenance Grant, be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.*

L 1617 Youth Matters

The Clerk said that he had only had occasional contact with the Youth Council Chairman. He reminded members that the Youth Council still had £500 from the High Sheriff of Surrey's Youth Awards, which was itemised in the Town Council accounts. He added that the Youth Council web site was very out of date. It was noted that the Borough Council had recently set up a Borough wide Youth Council which included some Horley members.

***RESOLVED:** that the Clerk seek an urgent meeting with Youth Council representatives. (The meeting to include Cllrs Ashley-Smith and Marshall.)*

L 1618 Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report

The Clerk said that there no major issues to report and that recently the main emphasis had been on the clearance of the A23 Recreation Ground following the Bonfire and Firework display and the preparation of the Memorial Gardens for the Remembrance events. Cllr Miller expressed concern at the length of some of the grass and stressed the need to adhere to contract conditions.

***RESOLVED:** noted.*

Playground Inspections

- L 1619** ***RESOLVED:** that receipt be noted of the Contractor's playground inspection reports.*

- L 1620** ***RESOLVED:** that copies of some of the reports be made available to members.*

L 1621 Refurbishment of Footpaths – A23 Recreation Ground

The Clerk confirmed that the revised specification for the footpaths refurbishment had now been sent to all the contractors who had expressed interest in tendering for the work.

***RESOLVED:** noted.*

L 1622 Bonfire and Firework Display, A23 Recreation Ground

Members reviewed the recent event, which had seen record attendance. It was noted that the Scouts had helped to clear the park on the Sunday and that the bonfire site had been re-seeded. The Clerk added that one of the Police Community Support Officers had fallen over a tree stump near the car park and had sustained some injuries. He added that he had subsequently arranged to have the tree stump ground as a matter of urgency.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1623 Remembrance Events

The Clerk said that he had met with the Parade Marshall to discuss the position of the matting and speakers for Sunday's event. He said that he planned to hire two additional speakers for the occasion. He added that the Horley Branch of the Royal British Legion had made a donation of £100 towards the cost of purchasing the matting.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1624 Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) – Funding Bid, 2006/2007

It was noted that an application had been made to the CDRP for £12,000 for GSM adaptors for the CCTV columns and for new street lamps for the A23 Recreation Ground. A copy of the application is appended to these minutes.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1625 St George's Day Service and Parade

The Clerk told members that Mr John Freebody, the Scouts Assistant District Commissioner, had informed him that the Scouts would be seeking permission to hold a St George's Day Service and Parade and celebration of 100 years of Scouting in the A23 Recreation Ground on Sunday 22 April 2007. The Clerk added that the Scouts would be seeking permission to erect three marquees and would be inviting other organisations to join in the celebrations.

RESOLVED:

- i) that permission be granted, in principle, for the event to be held.***
- ii) that a meeting be held with representatives of the Scouts, to discuss details of the planned event.***
- iii) that the matter be re-considered at a future meeting.***

L 1626 Perimeter Fencing, Court Lodge Fields

It was noted that the site meeting between the Director of Operations at Raven Housing Trust and the Clerk, Cllr Miller and Cllr Marshall was still outstanding, as the first date which had been offered had been unsuitable.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1627 Emlyn Meadows

The Clerk said that he had received further correspondence from the resident who wanted to place a bench at Emlyn Meadows, saying that he was still keen to go ahead. Members agreed that it would still be appropriate for the bench to be installed.

RESOLVED: that the resident be informed accordingly.

L 1628 Town Centre Christmas Lights

The Clerk told members that the Christmas lights would be installed during the next two weeks. He added that he and Cllr Kay would be selecting a suitable Christmas tree for the town centre from the Balcombe Estate Sawmill.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1629 Councillors' Hospitality

The Clerk told members that this was due to take place in the Back Room of the Royal British Legion on Saturday 16 December, following the Town Centre Carol Service. It was agreed that, all members who were agreeable, donate £10 each towards the cost of the refreshments.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1630 Funding Initiatives

The Clerk said that he had recently had a useful meeting with the Borough Council's Corporate Fundraiser. He added that the Fundraiser would be happy to assist the Town Council with various grant applications.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1631 Local Government White Paper – "Strong and Prosperous Communities"

RESOLVED: that the matter be re-considered at a future meeting once hard copies of the publication have arrived.

L 1632 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 1633 Security in Recreation Grounds

CONFIDENTIAL

L 1634

Members received an update and agreed the way forward.

L 1635 Estimates – 2007/2008

CONFIDENTIAL

L 1636

Members considered this Committee's requirements, for recommendation to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Date of next meeting – 9 January 2007