

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 11 April 2006 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor S Marshall – Chairman
Councillors E Andrews, J Chapman, M George, G Larcombe
J Meech, M Miller and R Olliver.

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

L 1473 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs Ms D Ashley-Smith, Mrs S Branwhite, Ms M Goldsmith and A Kent be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register).

Declarations of Interest

L 1474 Cllr Miller declared a personal interest in the Leisure Centre Review item, in view of his position as a member of the Borough Council's Leisure Review Panel.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1475 Skate Park – Trip Hazard

The Clerk told members that further quotations were still being sought for the work.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1476 Kissing Gate at A23 Recreation Ground (Charlesfield Road Entrance)

The Clerk told members that he was soon to meet with contractors on site to discuss the most appropriate requirements for a barrier.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1477 Outside Bodies

There were no reports of attendances at any meetings.

RESOLVED: noted.

Churchyards Committee and Maintenance Grant

L 1478 Members were informed that Dr J Williamson was about to be appointed as the new Chairman of the Churchyards Committee and that a series of meeting dates had been arranged at an alternative venue from the Town Council Offices.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1479** **RECOMMEND:** *that the first payment of the maintenance grant be made in May (£2500) and that, subject to satisfactory work being carried out, five further instalments of £2000 be made at two monthly intervals, the recommendation to be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.*

Youth Matters

- L 1480** Standing orders were suspended to hear a presentation from Jason Walters, Chairman of the Horley Youth Council. He explained that Youth Council meetings would in future be held at the Horley Learning Partnership Bungalow. He added that there were currently four Youth Council members and four proposed new members. He said that the website had been updated and that Town Councillors would be welcome to attend future Youth Council meetings. He also told members that a further £250 had been received from the High Sheriff of Surrey Youth Awards.

Standing Orders were resumed and the Committee Chairman thanked Jason for his attendance.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1481** **Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report**

The Clerk told members that he would be meeting the Contract Manager tomorrow, along with the Committee Chairman. He said that grass cutting had commenced in mid-March and that sand had been placed on the roundabout at the A23 Recreation Ground, where the area had become waterlogged. He confirmed that consideration would need to be given to laying tarmac over the area when the footpaths were refurbished.

RESOLVED: noted.

Playground Inspections

- L 1482** Members were reminded that playground inspections were now being carried out by Safeplay.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1483** **RESOLVED:** *that receipt be noted of the Contractor's playground inspection reports.*

- L 1484** **Annual Playground Inspections and Risk Assessments for 2006**

RECOMMEND: *that RoSPA carry out accompanied inspections and risk assessments for the approximate sum of £300 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.*

A23 Recreation Ground – Multi Purpose Court

- L 1485** The Clerk told members that the ground work was due to commence on 2 May and that the equipment would be installed during the week commencing 8 May 2006. It was expected that the whole project would take up to three weeks to complete.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

- L 1486** **RESOLVED:** *that local sporting celebrities be approached (Chris Colman and Faye White) regarding their possible attendance at an opening ceremony in June.*

L 1487 Refurbishment of Footpaths – A23 Recreation Ground

The Clerk reminded members that one quotation had already been received for the work. He said that he planned to meet on site with further contractors during the next two weeks. He added that this work was part of a three year refurbishment programme.

RESOLVED: *that the matter be re-considered at the next meeting of this Committee.*

L 1488 Cleaning of War Memorial

RECOMMEND: *that payment of approximately £350 plus VAT to Mitchells of Horley for the hire of a platform, to enable the War Memorial to be cleaned, be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.*

L 1489 Playground Improvements at Michael Crescent Centenary Park

The Clerk confirmed that the new playground equipment and safety surfacing had now been installed. He added that CCTV camera footage showed that the area was very well used. He added that grass would grow through this particular safety surfacing and that the area would be strimmed as necessary.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

Fencing to the Rear of Delta Bungalows

- L 1490** The Committee Chairman confirmed that he had attended another Residents Association meeting at Delta House to listen to residents' views. The Clerk reminded members that the residents had been happy with the fencing repairs which had been carried out last year, however they now appeared to want a close boarded wooden fence. There was no evidence of any recent trouble on the CCTV cameras, neither had the Police reported any problems in the area.

RESOLVED: *that the Clerk and Committee Chairman meet on site with the warden of Delta House to re-assess the situation.*

L 1491 **RESOLVED:** *that Advance Tree Services be requested to assess the condition of the oak tree in the corner of the Michael Crescent Recreation Ground and suggest possible treatments.*

L 1492 **Bollard at Michael Crescent**

The Clerk explained that the bollard at the entrance to the Recreation Ground was very heavy and difficult to remove.

RESOLVED:

i) that quotations be sought for a telescopic bollard.

ii) that the existing bollard be moved to a fixed position at Court Lodge Fields.

L 1493 **Michael Crescent – Damaged Fencing by Scouts Area**

The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the leader of 1st Horley Scouts, who had agreed to attend to the repairs.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

Emlyn Meadows Nature Trail

L 1494 Cllr George reported that new forms were awaited from the Awards for All scheme. New benches had been installed at Emlyn Meadows, using last year's grant from the Gatwick Community Trust. These had been produced and installed by the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership and formed part of the outdoor classroom area. Cllr George agreed to arrange a suitable date for a photoshoot with representatives of local schools and other interested parties.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1495 Cllr George explained that the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership was looking to make its future more secure financially, along with that of the Gatwick Environment Centre, by possibly seeking joint Trust status. A workshop meeting had been planned for 29th June to allow for further discussions and a final proposal would be voted on at the meeting on 7th November.

RESOLVED:

i) that the idea of a joint Trust be supported in principle.

ii) that the matter be re-considered at a future meeting.

L 1496 The Clerk told members that he was still seeking a suitable bench for the local resident who wished to have a bench installed at Emlyn Meadows in memory of his Grandfather.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1497 **Emlyn Meadows – Earth Bund**

The Clerk explained that Maltaward would commence the work as soon as the ground had dried out further. They would also be installing a green barrier and the three recently purchased dog bins.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1498 Horley in Bloom

The Clerk told members that the Horley in Bloom Committee had recently met and had elected Cllr Marshall as its Chairman. It had been agreed that the competition would go ahead this year, minus the hanging basket category, and that entrants would be required to give an undertaking that they would only be using recycled water or rainwater in their gardens. It was noted that the Committee was due to meet again in April.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

Summer Planting

- L 1499** The Deputy Clerk explained that Amethyst Horticulture was able to supply and plant two beds of Queen Elizabeth Roses in the Memorial Gardens for the total sum of £350.00 plus VAT. The Royal British Legion had agreed to donate £75, White & Sons had donated £100, Cllr Miller agreed to donate a further £100 and Cllr Chapman donated £50. This left a balance of £25 to be funded from Town Council estimates.

RECOMMEND: *that Amethyst Horticulture Ltd be appointed to supply and plant roses in the Memorial Gardens for the total sum of £350 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.*

- L 1500** **RESOLVED:** *that Amethyst Horticulture, as previously approved, provide suitable summer bedding for the Memorial Gardens for the total sum of £1700 plus VAT.*

- L 1501** **RESOLVED:** *that any bedding not required for the Memorial Gardens be planted in either Diana Walk or the Albert Rooms Gardens.*

- L 1502** **RECOMMEND:** *that Reigate & Banstead Borough Council be appointed to water the flowers only when strictly necessary, using grey water, at a cost of £16.35 per hour, the recommendation to be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purpose Committee.*

L 1503 Leisure Centre Review

RESOLVED: *that the Town Council's response, as appended to these minutes be ratified at the Full Council meeting on 9 May 2006.*

L 1504 Press Release

RESOLVED: *that a press release be issued, giving details of Horley in Bloom, Summer Planting, the cleaning of the War Memorial and the improvements to the Michael Crescent Playground.*

L 1505 ***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 1506 **Replacement Gate, Court Lodge Playground**

CONFIDENTIAL

Members considered quotations received and approved the purchase of a Mono Hinge gate.

Before the meeting closed the Committee Chairman thanked members and staff for their support throughout the past year.

The meeting closed at 9.17 pm.

Date of Next Meeting – 23 May 2006