

**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 July 2006 at 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Councillor J Chapman – in the Chair  
Councillors E Andrews, Ms D Ashley-Smith, M George,  
Ms M Goldsmith, J Meech and R Olliver.

**In Attendance:** A Jones – Town Clerk  
Mrs C Fenton - Deputy Town Clerk  
Cllr Mrs Brooke-Harte

**L 1540 Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

***RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs Mrs S Branwhite, J Kendall, S Marshall and M Miller be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register.)***

**L 1541 Declarations of Interest**

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

***RESOLVED: noted.***

**L 1542 Public Forum**

There were no questions or comments from members of the public.

***RESOLVED: noted.***

**L 1543 Football Matters – New Goal Posts**

The Clerk reported that the new goal posts had been ordered and were due to be installed during mid August.

***RESOLVED: noted.***

**L 1544 Fencing to the Rear of Delta Bungalows**

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the Chairman of the Delta Scheme Residents Association, outlining this Council's position, but that, to date, there had been no response.

***RESOLVED: noted.***

**L 1545 Green Campaign**

The Clerk reported that there had been good press coverage of the Horley Observer's Green Campaign.

***RESOLVED: noted.***

**L 1546 Community Safety Action Day**

The Clerk told members that, due to limited time, the Borough Council's Community Safety Manager had decided to hold the Community Safety Action Day at Whitebushes.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (GGP)**

**L 1547** Cllr George confirmed that the photoshoot to publicise the newly installed informal seating area had recently taken place.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1548** Cllr George reported that the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership had considered a number of options to secure its future at the recent meeting on 29 June. The formation of a Trust was not now considered to be the best option as it would involve high administration costs and was not likely to generate enough funds. The favoured way forward was a merger with the Sussex Wildlife Trust. This was likely to require a long term financial commitment, which could be difficult for local authorities to undertake. BAA Gatwick was the largest funding partner and although, their funding was likely to continue, there was little indication that it would increase in the future. Additionally, as the result of the proposed merger, the GGP would become a charity and would be Sussex based, which could have added funding implications. Cllr George said that Gatwick Greenspace Officers were continuing talks with the Sussex Wildlife Trust and added that assurances would need to be sought that projects in Surrey would continue to be supported.

It was noted that funding partners would have to decide the way forward at the members' meeting scheduled for 7 November and that a paper, outlining the recommendations of the GGP Officers would be issued by early October. Cllr George added that if this option was not pursued, then it was very likely that the GGP would have to disband.

**RECOMMEND: that this Committee support in principle the merger of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership with the Sussex Wildlife Trust, the recommendation to be referred for consideration by Full Council.**

**Churchyards Committee**

**L 1549** The Clerk reported that he spoken to Cllr Kent and had learned that the Churchyards Committee had met on 5 July, where discussion had taken place about the Development Plan. It was proposed to put up the charges for burials, which would enable the Church to put more money into future projects. The Clerk added that Cllr Kent was happy with the standard of grounds maintenance.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1550** **RECOMMEND: that payment of £2000, being the second instalment of the Churchyards Maintenance Grant, be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.**

**L 1551 Youth Matters**

It was noted that the meeting between the Youth Council Chairman and Cllr Ms Ashley-Smith was still outstanding. There were no further issues to report.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1552 Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report**

The Clerk told members that the Grounds Maintenance was progressing satisfactorily. Grass cutting was up to date and there were two litter collections per day from the A23 Recreation Ground.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1553 Annual Playground Inspections and Risk Assessments for 2006**

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the inspections and risk assessments had been carried out and that copies of the reports had been forwarded to the Committee Chairman, Committee Vice-Chairman and Bennetts Playcare, who were continuing to carry out playground repairs for the Town Council. She said that the cost of the RoSPA inspections had been £406 in total, an additional £106 above that which had previously been approved. She explained that this was because areas such as the skate park and the multi purpose court counted as separate inspection sites. She added that it would have been considerably more expensive to use Wicksteed Leisure to carry out the work.

**RECOMMEND: that payment of an additional £106 to Playsafety Ltd for the reports be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.**

**Playground Inspections**

- L 1554** The Deputy Clerk told members that the inspection reports were continuing to be forwarded to Bennetts Playcare, to enable them to carry out any necessary repairs.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

- L 1555** **RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's playground inspection reports.**

**Playground Repairs**

- L 1556** **RECOMMEND: that Bennetts Playcare supply and install kick boards around three sides of the Michael Crescent Playground for the total sum of £430 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.**

**L 1557** **RECOMMEND:** *that Bennetts Playcare re-position a spring ride at the Michael Crescent Playground (identified as a risk in the RoSPA Report) for the total sum of £460 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.*

**L 1558** **Review of Leisure Centre Provision – Proposals for Public Meeting**

Town It was noted that several members had attended the recent Borough wide public meeting, which had been held at the Harlequin Theatre, Redhill. Members remarked that most of those attending had been from the Banstead area. The Clerk added that the petition, signed by approximately 1800 local Horley residents in support of a swimming pool in Horley, was due to be presented to the Borough Council's Executive this week. Members were reminded that a meeting of invited members of the public with Borough Officers had recently taken place at the Council Offices. The Clerk added that the Borough Council's Executive was expected to consider the proposals for leisure provision at the end of September.

After further discussion the following was resolved:

**RESOLVED:**

- i)** *that a public meeting be held in Horley during week commencing 4 September 2006.*
- ii)** *that the Clerk check the availability of St John's Ambulance Hall on either 4 or 6 September.*
- iii)** *that County Councillors and all Borough Councillors be invited to listen to the views of Horley residents.*
- iv)** *that a senior Borough Council Officer be invited to respond to points raised.*

**Formal Opening of Multi Purpose Court, A23 Recreation Ground**

**L 1559** Members reviewed the recent opening by Faye White, Captain of the England Women's Football Team. Thanks were recorded to the Horley Observer for donating medals for the demonstration five-a-side football match and to ADK Security Services Ltd, who had donated £250 towards the cost of the reception which followed at the Farmhouse Public House.

**RECOMMEND:** *that the balance of the reception costs (£25.07) be taken from the Chairman's Allowance, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.*

**L 1560** The Clerk added that residents living close to the Multi Purpose Court had not encountered any problems since it had been installed.

**RESOLVED:** *noted.*

**L 1561** **Refurbishment of Footpaths – A23 Recreation Ground**

The Clerk told members that the specification was still being drawn up.

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

**L 1562 Perimeter Fencing, Court Lodge Fields**

It was noted that Raven Housing Trust had still taken no action regarding the damaged perimeter fence, despite numerous requests from this Council. The Deputy Clerk explained that the remaining posts and, in particular the metal gate posts had been identified in the RoSPA report as being of medium risk.

**L 1562) RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to the Housing Trust's Chief Executive requesting that:**

- i) the posts be removed at the earliest opportunity.**
  - ii) a suitable replacement be installed to protect the area.**
- (A copy of the letter is appended to these minutes.)**

**L 1563 Emlyn Meadows – Earth Bund**

The Clerk told members that the fault with the access gate had now been rectified by Maltaward. He agreed to arrange to have the paths swept alongside the bund. He added that no further contact had been received from the resident who wished to move his caravan across the meadow and that other access claims had been refuted by the Town Council's Solicitor.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1564 Horley in Bloom**

The Clerk told members that the judging of the most categories was due to take place on 17 July and that the judging of the Church Road Allotments would be in August. He added that there were a lower number of entries than in previous years. He said that Cllr Kent had expressed concern at the event taking place this year however it was pointed out that all entrants had signed an undertaking to use only recycled water in their gardens. He reminded members that the Presentation Evening had been arranged to take place at Regent House on 22 September 2006. It was noted that the Horley in Bloom Committee was due to meet again on 26 July.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1565 Tree Works**

The Clerk confirmed that Advanced Tree Services had carried out the Health and Safety Surveys of trees at Emlyn Meadows and Michael Crescent Centenary Park and that the reports were awaited. Members agreed that, should a tree require felling at Emlyn Meadows, then it would be appropriate to incorporate it into the surroundings, rather than have it removed.

**RESOLVED: that the results of the surveys be considered at a future meeting.**

**L 1566 Gatwick Airport Community Trust**

The Clerk told members that this year's application for funding had been unsuccessful.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1567 Christmas Lights**

The Clerk told members that the Borough Council had guaranteed Town Centre Management Group funding of approximately £5800 per annum for the next three years. He explained that this would allow the Town Council to enter into a three year agreement with a Christmas Lights company. He added that local companies who usually sponsored hanging baskets had instead been asked to sponsor Christmas lights this year and that, to date, approximately £500 had been raised. The Clerk said that he was seeking quotations from various Christmas Lights companies and that he would call a meeting of the Christmas Lights Advisory Committee once these had been received.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1568 Dog Show, Court Lodge Fields**

The Clerk reported that the Dog Show, recently run by the Horley Lions at Court Lodge Fields, had been extremely successful. There had been some problems accessing power but the Horley Lions had agreed to make a donation to the Horley Sports (Social) Club for the electricity used. It was noted that the Horley Lions hoped to hold a similar event next year.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 1569 Urgent Business**

**RESOLVED: that the following be referred for consideration at the next meeting of this Committee:**

- i) Possible future options for the Ornamental Gardens.**
- ii) Quotations to be sought for the replacement of the chainlink fencing at the side entrance of the Memorial Gardens.**

**L 1570 Press Release**

**RESOLVED: that a press release be issued, giving details of the plans for the Public Meeting in September and explaining that five-a-side goal posts are to be installed at Court Lodge Fields.**

**L 1571 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 1572 Five-a-Side Goal Posts, Court Lodge Fields**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Members considered quotations received for the supply and installation of five-a-side goal posts and agreed to recommend to the Finance & General Purposes Committee that Wicksteed Leisure supply the goal posts and Bennetts Playcare install them.

**The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.**

**Date of next meeting – 19 September 2006**