

- L 2757) Members thanked the member of the public for raising his concerns and suggested that he approach Reigate & Banstead Borough Council directly, as the issues he had raised were outside the jurisdiction of Horley Town Council.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2758 **Approval of Minutes
Leisure and Amenities Committee, 12 July 2011**

The minutes of the above meeting of the Leisure and Amenities Committee were presented for confirmation by Committee members and signature by the Committee Chairman.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the above meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee, including all confidential items, be approved.

- L 2759 **Bay Close Open Space**

It was noted that there had been no recent objections from local residents to the proposal that permanent five-a-side goal posts be installed at the Recreation Ground. The Committee Chairman agreed to contact PCSO Sarah McCabe, prior to any decision being made about the position of the posts.

RESOLVED: noted.

Churchyards Committee

- L 2760 It was noted that there had not been any meetings of the Churchyards Committee, since the last meeting of this Committee. Cllr George remarked on the poor attendance at recent meetings of the Churchyards Committee

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2761 **RESOLVED: that payment of the second instalment of the Churchyards Maintenance Grant (£3,375) be approved.**

- L 2762 **Grounds Maintenance Report**

The Clerk reported that regular meetings were continuing with the Borough Council's Area Manager, as well as with representatives of Countrywide Grounds Maintenance. Cllr Simon Marshall remarked that the recent tours of the recreation grounds owned and managed by Horley Town Council had been very well attended by members and officers alike. He added that he believed that the tours should take place on an annual basis, possibly with some taking place during evenings.

RESOLVED: noted.

**L 2763 Devolved Powers –
Contract for the Provision of Grounds Maintenance between Horley
Town Council and Reigate & Banstead Borough Council**

The Clerk reported that a site meeting had recently taken place at Riverside Garden Park with John Davies of the Horley Piscatorial Society. The Deputy Clerk added that she was currently liaising with Borough Council officers, regarding the design of new signs for Church Meadows and Riverside Garden Park.

RESOLVED: noted.

Playgrounds

L 2764 *RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's detailed weekly and daily visual playground inspection reports.*

L 2765 The Deputy Clerk reported that one item of fitness equipment, the Air Skier, had recently been damaged and had been taken away for repair by Bennetts, at an approximate cost of £350 plus VAT. She added that other more minor routine repairs had been carried by Bennetts as they usually did.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2766 *RESOLVED: that The Play Inspection Company be instructed to carry out the annual inspections and risk assessments of the playgrounds at Horley Recreation Ground, Court Lodge Fields and Michael Crescent Centenary Park, as well as the Skate Park and Multi Use Games Area, for total sum of £255 plus VAT. (Same cost as last year.)*

L 2767 Funfair at Horley Recreation Ground

It was noted that the second planned visit had been cancelled by the fairground operator.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2768 Horley Happy Dogs Day

The Clerk reported that the event was to take place at Horley Recreation Ground on Thursday 29 September, as part of the Horley Environment Week. The event would include reduced cost micro chipping, as well as displays by the Surrey Weald Dog Training Club.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2769 Ornamental Gardens – Damage to Hedge

It was noted that a section of the hedge which surrounded the Ornamental Gardens had recently been burnt and had subsequently been removed.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2770 Improvements to Skate Park

The Clerk reported that he had recently met with a group of youths to discuss their ideas for improvements to the skate park. He added that he was looking to assist them with a possible grant application. It was also noted that Bennetts were to coat the skate park ramps with a new product called skatex.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2771 Horley Bowling Club – Request for Signage

The Clerk reported that he had suggested that the Club Secretary contact the sign writer used by the Town Council (KM Vinyl Graphics) and seek his suggestions for signage. Members agreed that it would not be possible to allow the Club to display a banner for longer than four consecutive weeks.

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

**L 2772 Horley Bowling Club –
Request to Install Raised Beds within Club Grounds**

RESOLVED: that the request be approved and a site meeting be arranged with the Contractor to discuss storage etc.

L 2773 Michael Crescent Centenary Park

RESOLVED: that the Clerk contact the Community Payback Manager regarding the use of offenders to paint the playground equipment at the Centenary Park.

L 2774 Church Meadows

The Deputy Clerk reported that, following several site meetings with Borough officers and Gatwick Greenspace (GGP) representatives, a new mowing regime had been agreed at the site. Approximately one half of the area, nearest to the Church, was to be kept as short mown grass, the other half was to be sown with Yellow Rattle to reduce the vigour of the grass and encourage the growth of wild flowers. It had been noted that the Meadow was often used for wedding photos, so a small wild flower meadow would also be sown on the Church side of the area, early next spring. It was noted that GGP officers were in favour of the new regime.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2775 Himalayan Balsam

Members expressed concern about the large amounts of Himalayan Balsam growing along the river Mole at Church Meadows and at Court Lodge Fields. Some members suggested contacting the Environment Agency. It was noted that Gatwick Greenspace officers did not think it was necessarily worth clearing, as volunteers became very despondent when the plant grew back again. It was noted that, although very labour intensive, the plant was very easy to pull out, however the work needed to

L 2775) be carried out early in the year, before the danger of any seeding.

RESOLVED: noted.

Yattendon Road Recreation Ground

L 2776 It was noted that, following the installation of the new play equipment, there had been problems caused by older teenagers in the playground. Some of the safety mats had been burnt and some parents found their behaviour intimidating. It was noted that the Police had been informed and officers were keeping a close watch on the area.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2777 The Clerk told members that the local Police were keen to see CCTV cameras installed at the park. He added that he had attended a site meeting with Lion Security and had been advised that the cost of installing the equipment would be in excess of £10,000. The installation would be particularly difficult as there were no street lights in the park. The Clerk added that there was no funding available from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership. Cllr Olliver suggested that it might be possible to use part of the balance of the Edmonds Fund (not allocated to the Community Foundation for Surrey).

RESOLVED: that quotations be sought for the work, for possible inclusion in next year's budgets.

L 2778 **Tree Works**

RESOLVED:

- i) that the Financial Regulation requiring three quotations being sought for work be waived and Broadleaf Tree Services, the Borough Council's appointed tree surgeons, be employed to carry out the work.**
- ii) that the quotation from Broadleaf Tree Services for the crown reductions of three Horse Chestnut trees at Horley Recreation Ground and the crown reduction and crown lift of one Oak tree at Michael Crescent Centenary Park, for the total sum of £1,686.63 plus VAT, be approved.**

L 2779 **Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee**

It was noted that the Committee had met earlier in the evening and had discussed each open space in turn.

RESOLVED: noted.

Horley Saturday Market

L 2780 The Clerk reported that there had recently been no more than five stalls in attendance. He added that this was the minimum number which made the market viable. Cllr George remarked that markets were also struggling elsewhere. Members agreed that, despite the Town Council's best efforts, the market had seen little improvement. Cllr Stimpson said that the Chamber of Commerce felt that both town centre shops and market traders

- L 2780)** would do better if the stalls were in the Precinct. Members agreed that it would be necessary to close the market, should it start to lose money for the Town Council. It was suggested that some traders, such as the watch repair stall, could be invited to trade on the Precinct, in the event that the market was to close.

RESOLVED: that the situation be reviewed in November.

Horley in Bloom (HIB)

- L 2781** Members were reminded that the Awards Evening was due to take place on 30 September. It was noted that, in the absence of the Borough Mayor, local Celebrity Chef Tony Tobin would be helping to present the awards.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2782** **RESOLVED: that the minutes of the HIB Advisory Committee held on 2 August 2011, as appended to these minutes, be received.**

- L 2783** **South & South East in Bloom (SSEIB) 2011**

Members were delighted to learn that the Town Council had won two Silver Gilt Awards at the recent Awards Ceremony. It was noted that a Certificate of Excellence was also to be presented to Bob Freestone, the Town Centre Caretaker. Thanks were recorded to the staff for their efforts.

RESOLVED: noted.

Winter Planting

- L 2784** The Deputy Clerk told members that she believed that there should be less emphasis on winter planting and greater emphasis on improved summer planting. She added that the SEEIB judges had been less than complimentary about the fixed metal planters in the town centre. She said that the Borough Council was prepared to re-site the three large metal planters elsewhere in the Borough, at no charge to this Council, giving this Council the opportunity to replace them with leased seasonal planters for next summer.

RESOLVED: that the Deputy Clerk's proposals be approved.

- L 2785** **RESOLVED: that the quotation from Amethyst Horticulture to plant up the two four tier planters in the Precinct and replace the soil and plant up the two small metal planters at the junction of the Precinct and Victoria Road, for the total sum of £400 plus VAT, be approved.**

- L 2786** **RESOLVED: that the quotations from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance to plant up the Memorial Gardens with winter flowers for the sum of £1,150 plus VAT and to plant new shrubs in the Ornamental Gardens for the sum of £733 plus VAT be approved.**

- L 2787** **North East Sector Allotments**

The Clerk updated members on further correspondence received from Barratt Homes. He told members that ducting was to be laid under the

- L 2787)** central pathway for the future re-routing of electricity cables. He added that the trees within the site would be under the ownership of the Town Council, but that Barratts would commission an arboricultural report so that any necessary tree work could be carried out, before handing over the allotments. He also told members that the planned storage container would need to be DDA compliant.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 2788 Church Road Allotments

The Deputy Clerk told members that an allotment holder who kept chickens at the site had also started to keep ducks there, without seeking permission from the Town Council. She added that she had visited the site and had found the living conditions for the ducks to be totally unsuitable. The allotment holder had subsequently been requested to remove the ducks from the site, to which he had expressed his surprise, particularly as he had not believed that any permission would be required.

RESOLVED: *that no allotment holder be permitted to keep ducks at Church Road Allotments.*

L 2789 Horley Jubilee Fun Day 2012

RESOLVED: *that receipt be noted of the minutes of the meeting held on 9 August 2011. (A copy is appended to these minutes.)*

L 2790 Letters

RESOLVED: *that receipt be noted of minutes of the recent meeting of the Horley West Neighbourhood Forum.*

L 2791 Diary Dates

RESOLVED: *that forthcoming events, in particular the Autumn Fayre on 17 September and the Horley Environment Week at the end of September, be noted.*

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Date of next meeting: 1 November 2011