

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL
Leisure & Amenities Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above-named Committee held at the Old Town Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley on Tuesday 13 November 2007 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor J Chapman – Chairman
Councillors R Bethell, P Chapman, Ms J Gall, Ms M Goldsmith,
S Marshall, Mrs V Marshall, D Powell, Miss S Rogers
and Miss F Stimpson

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

L 1824 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs M George, Mrs S Odds and S Thomas be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register).

L 1825 Declarations of Interest

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

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1826 Public Forum

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

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1827 Presentation to Retired Town Councillor

The Chairman of the Council presented a certificate to former Town Councillor Mrs D Northcott.

RESOLVED: noted.

**L 1828 Approval of Minutes
Leisure and Amenities Committee, 2 October 2007**

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 1829 Speed Hump at A23 Recreation Ground Car Park

The Committee Chairman reported that he had met on site with the resident concerned and had agreed that part of the speed hump be removed.

L 1829) **RESOLVED:** *noted.*

Churchyards Committee

L 1830 Cllr Gall reported on the recent meeting of the Committee. Issues with “illegal graves” were continuing. An area had been cleared to show how the maintenance could be simplified and the Rev Steve Davie planned to contact relatives to try to regularise graves. The £1500 grant from the Gatwick Airport Community Trust was to be used for further landscaping of the spoil area and for new trees.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1831 **RESOLVED:** *that payment of £2,000, being the fourth instalment of the Churchyards Maintenance Grant, be approved.*

Gatwick Greenspace Partnership

L 1832 **RESOLVED:** *that Cllr George’s report of the recent meeting of the Members’ Steering Committee, as appended to these minutes, be approved.*

L 1833 **Youth Matters**

It was noted that Marie Rogerson had been unable to attend this meeting as she was attending a meeting of the Borough wide Youth Council tonight. It was hoped that she might be able to attend some future meetings.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1834 **Clerk’s Grounds Maintenance Report**

The Clerk reported that monthly meetings were continuing with the Area Grounds Maintenance Manager and that there were no problems to report. He added that official reports were now being kept of the Committee Chairman’s weekly inspection of recreation grounds.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

Playground Inspections

L 1835 **RESOLVED:** *that receipt be noted of the Contractor’s playground inspection reports.*

L 1836 **Proposals for New Leisure Facilities in Horley**

The Clerk told members that he had nothing new to report. He added that Mr Tim Prior, the Borough Council’s Leisure Centres Project Manager, may attend the next meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1837 Bonfire & Fireworks Display, 3 November 2007

Members reviewed the recent event. It was noted that the bonfire had been set alight on the Friday evening. Fortunately Lion Security and the local Police had been in attendance at the time and nobody was injured. Members expressed concern that the Horley & District Round Table had not made arrangements for the bonfire to be adequately guarded. The Clerk added that a new bonfire had been built on the Saturday morning and he believed that this would be the arrangement for future years. Members were pleased to learn that the event had raised a significant amount of money.

RESOLVED: noted.

Horley Bowling Club

L 1838 The Clerk reported that, following concern expressed by the Bowling Club Secretary about damage to the fence between the tennis courts and the Club, the Contractor ASBIT had carried out the necessary repairs.

RESOLVED: that payment of £390.50 plus VAT to the Contractor ASBIT be approved.

L 1839 **RESOLVED: that Horley Bowling Club be given permission to replace its existing shed with a larger one, with dimensions as defined in the drawings which had been provided.**

L 1840 The Clerk reminded members that the Bowling Club Secretary had expressed concern about the height of the hedge surrounding the Club and had requested that it be significantly reduced. The Grounds Maintenance Contractor had quoted £690 plus VAT to carry out the work. The Clerk added that the work would be additional to the hedge cutting which was carried out as part of the normal Grounds Maintenance Contract. After further discussion the following was resolved:

RESOLVED: that, as a gesture of goodwill, the Town Council agree to pay half the cost (£345 plus VAT) of significantly reducing the height of the hedge. (A copy of the letter sent to the Bowling Club is appended to these minutes.)

L 1841 Tennis Courts Maintenance Works

The Clerk reported that a specialist company had quoted £8500 plus VAT to carry out maintenance works to the tennis courts.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk contact the Lawn Tennis Association to seek further advice and to enquire about any available grants.

L 1842 Court Lodge Football Fields – Assistance with Funding Application

RESOLVED: that the quotation of £1,000 from STRI Consultancy Services (the company who had carried out the recent feasibility study) to assist the

Town Council with its funding application to the Football Foundation be approved. (Costs to be allocated to the relevant earmarked fund.)

L 1843 Perimeter Fencing at Court Lodge Fields

The Clerk reported receipt of recent correspondence from the Neighbourhood Manager at Raven Housing Trust, explaining that the Trust had recently completed the installation of substantial wooden stakes at a variety of locations across the Court Lodge Estate and that it believed that these would prevent cars or larger vehicles from gaining access to Court Lodge Fields.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek the views of the local Police about the action taken.

Emlyn Meadows

L 1844 The Committee Chairman told members that a meeting of the Advisory Committee had been arranged to take place on 4 December.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1845 The Clerk told members that the Leader of 1st Horley Scouts had advised that the Group had acquired some young trees which required planting.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk obtain further details and seek the advice of the Gatwick Greenspace Manager about the suitability of the trees for planting at Emlyn Meadows.

L 1846 The Clerk told members that he had been informed by the Grounds Maintenance Manager that it would be inadvisable to have a rope swing installed at Emlyn Meadows.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1847 Horley in Bloom (HIB) / South East in Bloom 2007

It was noted that the HIB Committee was due to meet later this week to review this year's events and to start arrangements for next year. The Clerk added that it was likely that, next year, the Town Council would make its own entries into South East in Bloom. Cllr George added that the HIB Committee was keen to start Horley in Bloom in Spring as a pilot project next year.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1848 Fallen Tree to the Rear of Court Lodge Fields

The Clerk told members that the resident concerned had paid all outstanding costs to date, following the action taken by the Town Council to have the tree removed as a matter of urgency. The Clerk added that he had approached a surveyor at White & Sons to survey the remainder of the trees adjacent to the footpath to ascertain ownership.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1849 Church Road Allotments

The Clerk told members that he had, as a matter of urgency, recently employed the Blacksmiths Happy Hedgehog to replace the gates at the allotments site for £400 plus VAT. The Clerk explained that the gates had become very difficult to close and added that he had selected this Contractor as the gates would be removed for the least amount of time.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk's actions be approved.

L 1850 Surrey County Playing Fields Association – Affiliation Fee 2007/2008

RESOLVED: that payment of £10 be approved.

L 1851 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 1852 Security in Recreation Grounds

CONFIDENTIAL

L 1853

Members approved charges for security patrols for the coming year and considered the installation of additional equipment.

L 1854 Precept 2008/2009

CONFIDENTIAL

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

The meeting closed at 9.13 pm.

Date of next meeting – 15 January 2007