

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL
Leisure & Amenities Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above-named Committee held at the Albert Rooms,
Albert Road, Horley on Tuesday 18 September 2012 at 7.30 pm.

Present	Councillors	J Chapman (Chairman) J Baird M George Samantha Marshall R Olliver M Robinson R Sherwin J Spratt
In Attendance		A Jones (Town Clerk) C Fenton (Deputy Town Clerk) S Court T Fortnam S Witcher (St Bart's Church) A Golding (St Bart's Church)

L 3008 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs R Bethell, M Goldsmith, Simon Marshall, V Marshall, D Powell and F Stimpson be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register).

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3009 Declarations of Interest

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

RESOLVED: noted.

Public Forum

- L 3010** Mr Court asked for an update, regarding the petition, requesting Reigate & Banstead Borough Council to leave the area known as Tanyard Meadows in the natural state it is now and objecting to proposals to fence off fields and graze cattle. Cllr George responded that there was currently an impasse between the Borough Council and the dog walkers as the dog walkers wanted no change and the Borough Council had been advised that the best way to manage the site was by grazing. He added that the Borough Council also had an obligation to make the area accessible to as much of the community as possible.

Mr Court also requested an update on the Langshott Allotments. The Clerk replied that these would now be owned by the Borough Council and leased to the Town Council. Barratt Homes had been instructed to clear the site of all the rubble etc and the allotments could not be let until this work had been carried out.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3011** Mr Fortnam from Poynes Road raised concern about damage to his property, being caused by youngsters playing football in Bay Close Open Space. It was noted that the goal posts currently being used there were portable and were often placed directly in front of residents' fences. Cllr Chapman responded that the Town Council was considering the installation of permanent five-a-side posts at the site, placed in a position to cause the least damage to properties. Cllr George added that the installation of permanent posts had solved a similar problem at Michael Crescent Centenary Park

RESOLVED: that Cllr Chapman meet on site with the contractor to agree the exact position of the goal posts.

- L 3012** **Approval of Minutes**
Leisure and Amenities Committee, 10 July 2012

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 3013** **Replacement of Trees in Open Spaces**

RESOLVED: that James Canneaux, the Borough Council's Tree and Woodlands Officer, be invited to give a presentation on the subject at the October meeting of this Committee.

- L 3014** **Funfair, Horley Recreation Ground**

It was noted that Doug Beach's Funfair had visited the Recreation Ground in August and no issues had been raised.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3015** **Churchyards Committee**

Standing Orders were suspended to allow Ann Golding, Parish Office Manager, and Steve Witcher, Treasurer, to address the meeting. Mr Witcher explained that the current grounds maintenance contract with TGMS Grounds Maintenance was at an annual cost of £15,600 (including VAT), compared with the Town Council grant of £13,500. Following a suggestion from Cllr Powell, TMGS had been invited to bid for the contract, using a reduced specification and had quoted an annual cost of £12,200 (including VAT). Mr Witcher added that the current contract finished on 31 October this year, but could be extended if necessary.

Members advised that further quotations be sought, using the reduced specification, with a view to a new contract being in place from January 2013, with consideration also being given to changing the contract year from a calendar year to a financial year.

Standing Orders were then resumed.

- L 3015) **RESOLVED:**
i) **that the Parish Office Manager be requested to obtain further quotations for the Churchyards maintenance, using the reduced specification, with a new contract in place from January 2013.**
ii) **that the Town Council be kept informed of progress.**

L 3016 **Churchyards Maintenance Grant**

RESOLVED: that payment of the second instalment of the Grant (£3,375) be approved.

L 3017 **Grounds Maintenance Report**

The Clerk reported that the football season had started and the pitches were in excellent condition. Cllr Baird added that, at the recent "Meet Your Councillor" session, residents had voiced their appreciation of the new maintenance regime at Church Meadows.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3018 **RESOLVED: that yellow rattle be planted in the long grassed area at Church Meadows for a second year (to inhibit the growth of grass and encourage wild flowers) at an approximate cost of £200.**

Playgrounds

- L 3019 **RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's detailed weekly and daily visual playground inspection reports.**

- L 3020 Members were updated on recent repairs. The Deputy Clerk explained that new nets had been purchased for the tennis courts and repairs carried out to the fencing of several play areas. There had been some damage to the multiplay unit at Michael Crescent Centenary Park, which had been repaired by Bennetts at a cost of £350. The unit had subsequently been repainted. It was noted that repairs were required to the tarmac surface of the skate park, for which quotations were being sought.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3021 **RESOLVED: that the quotation from Bennetts to paint the swings and roundabout at Michael Crescent Centenary Park, for the total sum of £280, be approved.**

- L 3022 **RESOLVED: that the Play Inspection Company be appointed to carry out the annual inspections of all play areas, skate park and multi-purpose court. (Clarification to be sought from the Borough Council regarding Yattendon Road Recreation Ground.)**

L 3023 **Skate Park**

The Clerk reported that the meeting planned for today with contractors and Oakwood School students had been postponed. He added that once the specification had been finalised he would explore funding possibilities.

L 3023) *RESOLVED: noted.*

L 3024 *Work Experience Student*

It was noted that a student from Oakwood School would be at the Town Council Offices for a week next April.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3025 *Horley Lions Charity Dog Show*

It was noted that the Dog Show, which had been re-arranged to take place at Horley Recreation Ground, had been very successful. Cllr George added that next year it might take place alongside the Carnival.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3026 *Horley Bowling Club – Extension Request*

It was noted that this was not proceeding at the present time.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3027 *Horley Community Sure Start Mobile Play Bus*

It was noted that the bus would be visiting Horley Recreation Ground in September and November and, weather permitting, would park on the grassed area alongside the tennis courts.

RESOLVED: noted.

Football at Court Lodge fields

L 3028 The Clerk reported that an additional football pitch had been marked out on the area formerly used for cricket. He explained that he had met with Borough Council grounds staff, who had advised that the area was reasonably level and would only require verti-draining to alleviate surface water issues. The Clerk added that some residents at nearby flats had expressed some concern, particularly as there was no longer any fencing in place, so it might be necessary to re-align the pitch slightly. He planned to apply to the National Lottery for a small grant for posts and sockets.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3029 It was noted that, following recent football matches, large amounts of rubbish had been left on the pitches. All home teams had been informed and had been reminded that, under the terms of their contract, a fine would be levied if this happened again. Bar staff at the Sports (Social) Club had also been asked to ensure that glasses were not taken outside to the pitches.

RESOLVED: noted.

Riverside Garden Park

- L 3030** The Deputy Clerk reported that teams from Crawley Community Payback were regularly carrying out clearance work at the park. Cllr Powell had arranged for the green waste to be taken to Britaniacrest Recycling free of charge.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3031

Concern was expressed that the car park at Riverside was possibly being used for commuter / holiday parking. The Clerk agreed to ask Paul Veness of Reigate & Banstead Borough Council to investigate.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3032 Dog Control Orders

It was noted that the Reigate & Banstead Borough Council Dog Control Orders had come into force on 24 July (details are appended). Members were reminded that Michael Crescent Centenary Park had been included as a Dog Exclusion Zone in its entirety, however it was agreed to implement this only if it proved to be necessary.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3033 Winter Planting in the Town Centre

RESOLVED: that the quotation from Amethyst Horticulture to plant up the four tier planters for the total sum of £270 plus VAT be approved.

L 3034 Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee (HOSAC)

It was noted that the last meeting of the Committee had taken place in July, when the main topic for discussion had been a review of the Management Plan for Riverside Garden Park, following which the Plan was to be updated by the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership. (Minutes of the meeting are appended.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3035 Horley in Bloom (HIB) & Court Lodge in Colour

Members were reminded that the HIB Awards Ceremony was due to take place at Regent Hall on Friday 28 September. The Deputy Clerk added that help setting up the event would be much appreciated. It was noted that local business Katie's Café would be providing the buffet for the event.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3036 South & South East in Bloom

Members were delighted to learn that the Town Council had received two Silver Gilt Awards at the recent Awards Ceremony, one for the Town Centre and the other for Horley Recreation Ground. It was also noted that Langshott Infant School and Horley Infant School had both received Silver

- L 3036)** Awards in the Schools category. The Committee Chairman said that he was keen to see a community flower bed developed in the Town Centre. A copy of the press release issued is appended.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3037 Horley Saturday Market**

The Clerk reported that the three existing stall holders were all keen to continue. He added that he had written to two further market operators and an advertisement had been placed in a trade magazine. It was noted that the stall holders had no wish to move away from the High Street Car Park. Members agreed that the future of the market would be in doubt if no other operator was found by the end of this financial year.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3038 Langshott Allotments**

The Clerk said that there was nothing further to report.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3039 Church Road Allotments**

RESOLVED: that Cllrs Bethell and Robinson be appointed as the Town Council's representatives to inspect the allotments on a regular basis.

- L 3040 Church Road Allotments - Charges for 2013**

RESOLVED: that the following be approved:

- i) Annual charge for full plot to be £40**
- ii) Annual charge for a half plot to be £25**
- iii) Water to be switched off in winter at the discretion of Town Council staff.**
- iv) A joining fee of £20 to be introduced from 2013 (to include provision of key)**
- v) A charge of £15 to be made for replacement keys.**
- vi) Any second letter sent for contravention of terms and conditions to incur a £10 penalty charge.**
- vii) Invoices to be sent by e mail wherever possible.**

- L 3041 Surrey County Playing Fields Association – Affiliation Fee 2012 / 2013**

RESOLVED: that payment of £10 be approved.

- L 3042 Horley Carnival, 13 July 2013**

It was noted that the theme for the event was to be Children's Books. Cllr George had been re-appointed as Committee Chairman and Cllr Sherwin was to oversee all financial issues. A new bank account was to be opened. Cllr Samantha Marshall reported that a Facebook page had been set up. It was noted that the Committee was due to meet again in October.

L 3042) **RESOLVED:** *noted.*

L 3043 **Volunteer Works**

The Deputy Clerk reported that volunteers from Scotia Gas Networks would shortly be working at Riverside Garden Park alongside the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 3044 **Maintenance of Town Centre Planter adjacent to NatWest Bank**

RESOLVED: *that this be discussed at the next monthly meeting with the Grounds Maintenance Area Manager*

L 3045 **Letters**

RESOLVED: *that receipt be noted of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership Annual Report*

L 3046 **Diary Dates**

RESOLVED: *that forthcoming events be noted.*

L 3047 **Confidential Business**

RESOLVED: *that, "in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw."*

L 3048 **Estimates & Precept 2013 / 2014**

Confidential

Members considered this Committee's priorities for 2013 / 2014.

Standing Order No 4 was suspended at 9.30 pm and the meeting continued until 9.55 pm.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 30 October 2012