

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 19 September 2006 at 7.30 pm.

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

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

L 1573 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

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

L 1574 Declarations of Interest

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

RESOLVED: noted.

**L 1575 Public Forum –
Request to Hold a “Prom in the Park” in the A23 Recreation Ground**

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Fundraiser from the Brambles Respite Care Centre to address members. He explained that he was seeking permission to hold a “Community Prom” in the A23 Recreation Ground next Summer, possibly working in partnership with the Horley Round Table, to raise funds for the Respite Centre. He added that he would work closely with all the emergency services and requested that, should the request be approved, any fee be waived, although reinstatement would be paid for.

Members raised concerns about parking issues and suggested that those attending be directed to park in town centre car parks. The Clerk pointed out that the newly installed multi purpose court would need to be cordoned off. It was also stressed that it would be vital to liaise with the local police.

Standing Orders were resumed and the following was recommended.

RECOMMEND: that the proposal to hold a “Community Prom” in the A23 Recreation Ground be given further consideration at the Full Council meeting on 24 October 2006.

L 1576 Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (GGP)

Cllr George reported that no formal approach had yet been made by the GGP to Sussex Wildlife Trust. He added that any papers, detailing the recommendations of the GGP Officers would need to be issued as soon as possible, to enable the

matter to be properly considered at the members' meeting scheduled for 7
L 1576) November.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek an update from the GGP Project Manager.

Churchyards Committee

L 1577 The Clerk reported receipt of a letter of thanks from the Chairman of the Churchyards Committee to those members who had attended the recent visit to the New Churchyard. It was noted that the Committee was next due to meet on 4 October 2006.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1578 ***RECOMMEND: that payment of £2000, being the third instalment of the Churchyards Maintenance Grant, be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.***

L 1579 ***RESOLVED: that a request from the Parish Office for the Churchyards Maintenance Grant to be paid by Standing Order be refused.***

L 1580 ***RESOLVED: that Cllr George replace Cllr Mrs Branwhite as one of the Town Council's representatives on the Churchyards Committee.***

L 1581 Youth Matters

The Clerk reported that he had recently spoken with the Youth Council Chairman and had learned that the Youth Council was keen to help with litter clearance at the Churchyards.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1582 Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report

The Clerk said that there no major issues to report and that all the grounds were being well used. He added that he was now keeping a record of the Committee Chairman's weekly inspections of the grounds.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1583 Playground Inspections

RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's playground inspection reports.

Playground Repairs

L 1584 ***RECOMMEND: that Bennetts Playcare repair the fencing at the A23 Playground for the total sum of £80 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.***

L 1585 ***RECOMMEND: that Bennetts Playcare repair the fencing at the Michael Crescent Playground for the total sum of £160 plus VAT, the***

L 1585) *recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.*

L 1586 *RECOMMEND: that Bennetts Playcare eliminate the finger trapment on the far gate at the Court Lodge Playground for the total sum of £220 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.*

L 1587 *RESOLVED: that quotations be sought for repairs to the fencing at the Court Lodge Playground.*

L 1588 *RESOLVED: that the condition of the spring ride at the Court Lodge Playground, which has slight movement in the ground, be monitored.*

L 1589 Refurbishment of Footpaths – A23 Recreation Ground

The specification for the footpaths refurbishment was circulated to members. Some members questioned whether it was wise to completely tarmac the roundabout, suggesting that a raised bed might be preferable.

After further discussion the following was resolved:

RESOLVED: that members be given two weeks to comment on the specification, prior to it being sent to the original contractors who tendered for the work.

L 1590 Ornamental Gardens – Ideas for Possible Future Uses

Members considered possible future uses for the Gardens. Some members felt that the surrounding hedge was threatening, others felt that it offered an area of peace and quiet. All were agreed that the area required upgrading, possibly using the services of either a consultant or the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership. It was also suggested that it might be possible to hold some form of design competition, aimed at the youth of the town.

RESOLVED:

- i) that members views be sought, for consideration at a future meeting.*
- ii) that the Clerk seek advice from the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership*
- iii) that the matter be re-considered at the next meeting of this Committee.*

L 1591 Motorcycle Inhibitors, A23 Recreation Ground

The Clerk said that he had heard from members that smaller motor scooters were still able to get through the inhibitors. He pointed out that the inhibitors had been positioned correctly and that if they were any closer, then people riding in disabled buggies would be unable to get through the gap. However he confirmed that they did prevent vehicles entering the park at speed, which had been the main concern at the Charlesfield Road entrance.

RESOLVED: noted.

Memorial Gardens

L 1592 Members discussed proposals for winter planting. Members considered reducing the size of some of the beds or possibly removing some completely. It was noted that £1300 was available in the Memorial Gardens budget for the remainder of this financial year. Members agreed that some winter/spring planting was desirable and agreed that the contractor Amethyst, who had provided the summer bedding, be employed to carry out the work.

After discussion the following was resolved:

RECOMMEND: that the contractor Amethyst Horticulture Ltd reduce the flower beds as necessary and provide winter/spring bedding for the total sum of £1300 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.

(Afternote: following discussions with the contractor it was agreed to remove one bed, where plants did not thrive, in its entirety and to plant up the remaining beds with winter pansies and spring bulbs.)

L 1593 ***RESOLVED: that a quotation be sought for the replacement of the damaged chainlink fencing adjacent to the Coronation Gates with weld mesh fencing, for consideration at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.***

L 1594 Perimeter Fencing, Court Lodge Fields

It was noted that the site meeting between the Director of Operations at Raven Housing Trust and the Clerk, Cllr Miller and Cllr Marshall was still outstanding.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek a response from the Trust's Director of Operations at the earliest opportunity.

L 1595 Replacement of Damaged Dog Bin, Court Lodge Fields

RECOMMEND: that a new dog bin be purchased from Earth Anchors Ltd for the total sum of £176.80, including carriage, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.

L 1596 Cricket Square, Court Lodge Fields

It was noted that the Horley Scorpions Cricket Club had only played one match at Court Lodge Fields this season. The Clerk advised members that the area where cricket was played could make an ideal fifth football pitch.

After discussion the following was resolved:

RESOLVED:

- i) that the Clerk contact the Surrey Cricket Board to enquire whether there could be a demand for cricket at Court Lodge Fields.***
- ii) that possible plans for an additional football pitch be considered at a future meeting of this committee.***

L 1597 Fencing to the Rear of Delta Bungalows

It was noted that the Chairman of the Delta Scheme Residents Association planned to address members at the next meeting of this Committee.

L 1597) *RESOLVED: noted.*

Michael Crescent Centenary Park

L 1598 It was noted that youths had recently been causing disturbances in the vicinity of the park and that there had been some minor damage to the slide. There was no evidence of the disturbances on the CCTV cameras.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1599 It was noted that a letter had been sent to the leader of 1st Horley Scouts, advising them of their legal obligation to repair the damaged dividing fence.

RESOLVED: noted.

Emlyn Meadows

L 1600 It was noted that the application to the Awards for All scheme had been successful and that the Town Council had received £1765 for use at Emlyn Meadows.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1601 ***RECOMMEND: that payment of £70.68 to the contractor ASBIT for repairs to the fencing around the new trees be referred for approval by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.***

L 1602 Horley in Bloom

It was noted that the Presentation Evening was due to place at Regent House this coming Friday (22 September).

RESOLVED: noted.

Tree Works

L 1603 It was noted that Advanced Tree Services would be carrying out the work at Emlyn Meadows, which had been identified in the Health and Safety survey, during the first week in October.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1604 ***RECOMMEND: that Advanced Tree Services carry out the work identified in the Health and Safety survey at Michael Crescent Centenary Park for the sum of £280 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval***

L 1605 ***RECOMMEND: that Advanced Tree Services carry out the work identified in the Health and Safety survey at the Albert Rooms for the total sum of £510***

plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval

Urgent Business

- L 1606** It was noted that a representative of the Horley Learning Partnership was keen to address a future meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED: noted

- L 1607** Members were reminded that proposals for next year's budget would be discussed at the next meeting of this Committee, for recommendation to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Date of next meeting – 7 November 2006