

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 21 February 2006 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor S Marshall – Chairman
Councillors E Andrews, Ms D Ashley-Smith, J Chapman,
M George, Ms M Goldsmith, G Larcombe and J Meech.

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

L 1432 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

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

Declarations of Interest

L 1433 Cllr Andrews declared a personal interest in the Church Road Allotments item, in view of his position as an allotment holder.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1434 Barrier at Horley Anderson Centre

The Clerk told members that he had heard that it was still proving difficult to get Cannons staff at the Horley Anderson Centre to lock the height barrier in the evenings. Cllr George pointed out that, ideally, the height barrier should be locked in place at all times and only be raised to allow a legitimate high vehicle to enter.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1435 Outside Bodies

The Clerk reported that he had recently attended a members' meeting of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership, where the Organisation's Business Plan had been discussed.

RESOLVED: noted.

Churchyards Committee and Maintenance Grant

L 1436 Members were reminded that £6,000 had been paid in January and that the remaining £4500 would be paid in March.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1437 ***RESOLVED: that the Clerk ask the Reverend Davie to make a presentation to members at a future meeting.***

Youth Matters

- L 1438** Cllr Ms Ashley-Smith reported that the Youth Council had last met at the Town Council Offices in January. Only two of the original members now remained and currently there were three new members. The Surrey County Council Youth Worker planned to organise an independent development workshop, aimed at identifying future aims and encouraging new members to join. Cllr Ashley-Smith added that the Youth Council was seeking alternative accommodation for meetings as its members found the Town Council Offices too formal. Cllr Ross-Tomlin had agreed to provide £500 from Surrey County Council's Local Members' Initiative Funding towards the cost of opening a building for the Youth Council meetings.

Members stressed that they were keen for the Youth Council to continue and had no wish to see it move away from the Town Council. It was agreed that a small group of members meet with the Youth Council Chairman prior to the next meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1439** The Clerk added that a letter of thanks had now been sent to the High Sheriff of Surrey. He said that two Youth Councillors had attended the recent Town Centre Management Group meeting and made a useful input to the meeting.

RESOLVED: noted.

Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report

- L 1440** The Clerk told members that he would be meeting the Contract Manager tomorrow, along with the Committee Chairman. He added that recent rain had led to the cancellation of some football. The roundabout at the A23 Recreation Ground had become very waterlogged and consideration might need to be given to laying tarmac over the area.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1441** The Clerk informed members that the cost of the Grounds Maintenance Contract was due to rise by 2.2% as it was subject to an annual RPI increase.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1442** **Signs on Borough Council Vans**

The Clerk told members that he had spoken with the Contract Manager and had discovered that there was not enough room on the doors of the grounds maintenance vans for the type of sign which had been envisaged.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek quotations for suitable signs which might be displayed at each recreation ground, for consideration at the next meeting of this Committee.

L 1443 Playground Inspections

Members were told that a comprehensive folder of inspections and follow up actions was available in the Town Council Offices, which they were welcome to study,

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1444 RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's playground inspection reports.

L 1445 A23 Recreation Ground – Proposals for Multi Purpose Court – P/05/02076/F

Members were reminded that the planning application had now been approved and that the court was expected to be installed during the third week in April. An opening ceremony was planned for the court, as well as for the new playground equipment.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1446 Automatic Public Convenience (APC), A23 Recreation Ground

The Clerk told members that he had been unable to pursue any advertising options. The APC had now been de-commissioned and was about to be removed.

RESOLVED: that the matter be re-considered at a future date, if necessary.

L 1447 Use of Metal Detector at the A23 Recreation Ground

Members were reminded that the trial three month period had now expired.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to the resident concerned, explaining that he will need to apply for further permission, if he wishes to continue.

L 1448 New Playground Equipment, A23 Recreation Ground (Section 106 Expenditure)

The Clerk confirmed that the new playground, supplied by Wicksteed, was now installed and that all initial faults had been rectified.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1449 Skate Park – Trip Hazard

The Clerk told members that Bennetts Playcare had identified a trip hazard on the two small ramps, caused by protruding bolts. One quotation had been received to date for the work.

RESOLVED: that further quotations be sought and the matter be re-considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

Requests to hold Fun Fairs, A23 Recreation Ground

L 1450 RESOLVED:

- i) that Mr Beach be given permission to hold a fun fair at the Recreation Ground from Thursday 8 June until Sunday 11 June 2006.*
- ii) that a charge of £1150 be made and a deposit of £500 be requested.*
- iii) that the normal terms and conditions apply.*
- iv) that a letter be sent to Mr Beach, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.*

L 1451 The Clerk told members that a further request to hold a funfair had been received from T A Benson & Sons.

RESOLVED: *that the Clerk discuss the matter with the local Police before a decision is made.*

L 1452 Fund Raising Event, A23 Recreation Ground

Cllr Ashley-Smith said that this was not progressing at present as some local publicans had objected to the planned Beer and Wine Festival.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1453 Kissing Gate at A23 Recreation Ground (Charlesfield Road Entrance)

The Clerk told members that the Police were keen to see a kissing gate or some alternative barrier installed at the Charlesfield Road entrance to the Recreation Ground, to prevent motor bikes entering the park. He added that the entrance would still remain accessible to wheel chair users and residents with push chairs.

The Clerk said that he had received a catalogue from one supplier and would be contacting further companies. Cllr George agreed to raise the matter with the Police Inspector.

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

L 1454 Request from Horley Bowling Club

RESOLVED: *that, subject to the normal terms and conditions, the Bowling Club be permitted to have cars parked beyond the car park barrier and adjacent to the tennis courts on 25 May, 28 July, 7 August and 17 August.*

L 1455 Court Lodge Fields – Boundary adjoining Houses

The Clerk told members that there had been no response from RB Housing Trust to his letter of 6 January. He agreed to pursue the matter.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 1456 Court Lodge Fields – New Playground Gate

The Clerk told members that a new playground gate was required for the entrance closest to the flats. He agreed to seek quotations.

L 1456) *RESOLVED: that the matter be re-considered at the next meeting of this Committee.*

L 1457 Application to Football Foundation

The Clerk reported that the recent meeting with the Football Association's Regional Facility Manager and Regional Football Development Manager had been very useful. He and the Assistant Clerk now had to produce a Football Development Plan. They had also learned that funding was available for new goal posts and planned to put in an application for two sets of posts.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1458 Playground Improvements at Michael Crescent Centenary Park

The Clerk told members that the new playground equipment and safety surfacing was due to be installed in mid-March. Members considered moving the existing bark to Emlyn Meadows but decided that it would not be cost effective to do so.

RESOLVED: noted.

Fencing to the Rear of Delta Bungalows

L 1459 The Clerk reported receipt of a petition from Delta Bungalows residents, requesting a wooden fence to the rear of their gardens. The Clerk reminded members that he and the Committee Chairman had met with the residents in October last year, at which time they had not wanted a solid fence, consequently the costs had not been included in next year's estimates. Members agreed that it might be possible to plant some form of prickly hedging and Cllr George added that funding might be available for this from the Horley Consultative Committee. The Committee Chairman also agreed to attend another Residents Association meeting at Delta House to explain the situation.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to the Chairman of the Delta House Residents Association, explaining the situation.

L 1460 Emlyn Meadows Nature Trail

Cllr George reported that the Emlyn Meadows Advisory Committee had met on 7 February. (A copy of the minutes is attached.) He said that Pete Crawford, the Project Manager of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership, planned to assist with an application for funding from the Awards for All scheme. It was also likely that Cllr Mrs Hammond would be able to make a contribution towards the project from Surrey County Council's Local Members' Initiative Funding.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 1461** The Clerk said that he and the Committee Chairman were due to meet tomorrow at Emlyn Meadows with the Grounds Maintenance Area Manager, prior to Maltaward starting work on the bunding, to agree access points etc.

RESOLVED: *noted*

L 1462 Request to Donate Bench (Emlyn Meadows)

The Clerk reported that he was still searching for a contractor who could supply a suitable bench for Emlyn Meadows. Cllr George suggested that the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership might be able to produce such a bench.

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

New Dog Bins at Emlyn Meadows

- L 1463** The Clerk reported that a dog bin had been burnt out at Emlyn Meadows. Members agreed that this be replaced and that two additional dog bins be purchased.

RECOMMEND: *that three dog bins be purchased from Earth Anchors Ltd for the total sum of £518.55 plus VAT (including carriage), the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.*

- L 1464** **RECOMMEND:** *that Maltaward Ltd install the dog bins (whilst carrying out the bunding work) for the total sum of £117.00 plus VAT, the recommendation to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.*

Gatwick Airport Community Trust

- L 1465** **RESOLVED:** *that the £500 awarded last year for education packs for Emlyn Meadows instead be used to purchase benches for Emlyn Meadows, the benches to be produced by the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership.*

- L 1466** **RESOLVED:** *that an application be made this year for £1000 to employ the services of an outdoor environmental artist for schools workshops at Emlyn Meadows.*

L 1467 Church Road Allotments

The Clerk told members that the work to the boundary was now complete. He added that he had also asked Jack King to rotovate four overgrown plots.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

Horley in Bloom

- L 1468** The Clerk told members that the Horley in Bloom Committee was due to meet in early March to launch this year's event. He added that Cllr Mrs Branwhite would not be continuing as Chairman.

L 1468) **RESOLVED: noted.**

L 1469 **RESOLVED: that thanks be recorded to Cllr Mrs Branwhite for her chairmanship of the Committee.**

L 1470 **Tree Audit**

audit The Clerk said that he was seeking a private tree specialist to carry out a tree and risk assessment, as the Borough Council was no longer able to carry out the work on our behalf.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 1471 **Heritage Lottery Fund – Parks for People**

RESOLVED: that receipt of information be noted.

L 1472 **Press Release**

RESOLVED: that a press release be issued, giving details of the allotments improvements and the Youth Council recruitment drive, as well as seeking suggestions for the possible refurbishment of the Ornamental Gardens.

The meeting closed at 9.08 pm.

Date of Next Meeting – 11 April 2006