

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 21 September 2010 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor J Chapman – Chairman
Councillors R Bethell, M George, S Marshall, V Marshall, D Powell,
M Robinson and F Stimpson.

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

L 2491 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

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

L 2492 Declarations of Interest

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

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2493 Public Forum

Cllr George updated members regarding ongoing dog issues on the Court Lodge estate. He explained that Terry Boardman, the Borough Council's People and Places Manager had provided signs, warning against dog fouling, which had been placed around the estate. He added that there were still serious problems caused by aggressive dogs attacking other dogs, and, as owners were coming to agreements between themselves regarding veterinary bills etc, no official reports were being made to the Police. Cllr George went on to explain that Raven Housing Trust, Borough Wardens and the local Neighbourhood Panel were all aware of the issues and the Clerk agreed to raise the matter at the next Police Liaison meeting.

RESOLVED: noted.

**L 2494 Approval of Minutes
Leisure and Amenities Committee 21 July 2010**

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 2495 Matters Arising – Ditch Clearance, Horley Recreation Grounds

The Clerk reported that the work was to be carried out very soon.

RESOLVED: noted.

Outside Bodies – Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (GGP)

- L 2496** The Clerk reported that he had attended a GGP Officers' Meeting, where it had been agreed that Horley Town Council would take over the GGP Chairmanship for the coming year. He added that the next meeting of the Members Steering Group was to be held here at the Albert Rooms on 13 October.

RESOLVED: noted

- L 2497** It was noted that there were to be some staff changes within GGP and the Sussex Wildlife Trust.

RESOLVED: noted.

Churchyards Committee

- L 2498** It was noted that there was to be a Committee meeting on 4 October and that the annual Members' tour was to take place on a Saturday. (Subsequently arranged for 6 November.)

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2499** **RESOLVED: that payment of the second instalment of the Churchyards Maintenance Grant (£3,250) be approved.**

- L 2500** **RESOLVED: that the Clerk contact the Churchyards Committee Chairman and stress the need for regular meetings, minutes etc.**

Grounds Maintenance Report

- L 2501** The Clerk reported that there had been recent meetings with both the Borough Council Area Manager and representatives of Countrywide. It was noted that there had been a few football related issues (grass cutting, locking up etc) but it was hoped that these matters had now been resolved.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2502** The Clerk explained that members of the public trying to contact the Town Council with any out of hours emergency would be supplied with contact details for Bennetts on the answer phone message. Bennetts would respond as necessary and would only make a charge if a site visit was required.

RESOLVED: noted.

Playgrounds

- L 2503** **RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's detailed weekly and daily visual playground inspection reports.**

- L 2504** **RESOLVED: that the quotation from Bennetts to carry out repairs to the edges of the main skate park ramps, for the total sum of £490 plus VAT, be approved.**

L 2505 ***RESOLVED: that the quotation from Bennetts to carry out repairs to the spring ride at Michael Crescent Centenary Park, for the total sum of £483 plus VAT, be approved.***

L 2506 ***RESOLVED: that the quotation from the Play Inspection Company to carry out the annual inspections of the playgrounds and other areas, for the total sum of £255 plus VAT, be approved. (Inspections to be carried out on 30 September.)***

L 2507 **Devolved Powers**

Liability The Clerk told members that the handover of further areas was still delayed, whilst various issues were clarified. He added that he believed that, following the handover, the Borough Council would continue to be responsible for Public Insurance and major tree works.

RESOLVED: noted.

New Leisure Centre

L 2508 The Clerk confirmed that the demolition of the former Court Lodge School had commenced and there had been a photo call for Borough and County members. (A copy of the Borough Council press release is appended to these minutes.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2509 Cllr George remarked that there had been some issues with the timings of some deliveries and working hours, however, Tim Prior, the Borough Council's Project Manager had been quick to respond. The Council Chairman suggested that he and Cllr George could meet with a representative of Pellikaan Construction Ltd (the company building the Centre) to discuss residents' concerns, should this prove necessary.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2510 **Youth Matters – Horley Young People's Centre**

It was noted that the Centre was now open and that a tour was to be arranged for Town Councillors.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2511 **Horley Recreation Ground – Family Fun Day**

The Clerk told members that he had given permission to the Pentecostal Church to hold a small scale Family Fun Day at Horley Recreation Ground on Saturday 25 September. He explained that this had been a short notice request and added that the Church Group had agreed to abide by the Town Council's standard terms and conditions. (A copy of the letter is appended to these minutes.)

RESOLVED: that the Clerk's actions be approved.

L 2512 Horley Recreation Ground – Christmas Tree Collections

The Clerk explained that the Borough Council would not be carrying out house to house Christmas tree collections this Christmas and would instead be setting up collection points around the town. The Borough Council had requested the use of Horley Recreation Ground, where a collection area would be set up beyond the far end of the car park. The area would be cleared daily and any fly tipping removed. Following a brief discussion, members agreed to the request.

L 2512) *RESOLVED: that permission be given for the Christmas tree collection point to be set up.*

L 2513 Horley Bowling Club – Possible Extension Plans

The Clerk told members that Bowling Club members were looking to extend their Clubhouse, in anticipation of the Club's Centenary in 2013, and had asked, informally, whether it would be possible to extend into the Children's Playground. He explained that the area involved would be two metres wide and stretch approximately half way along the bank in the playground. Members stressed that this was a very well used playground and concern was expressed about possible effects on the newly installed drainage system. Members agreed that it was vital to see detailed plans before any decision was made.

RESOLVED: that the request be noted at present and no decision be taken until detailed plans have been considered.

L 2514 Improvements to Footpaths, Horley Recreation Ground

It was noted that this work was still outstanding.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2515 Bonfire & Fireworks Display, 6 November 2010

It was noted that the Horley & District Round Table had returned a signed copy of the letter, accepting the Town Council's terms and conditions for holding the event at Horley Recreation Ground this year. Members stressed the need for the bonfire site to be re-seeded as soon as was appropriate after the event. It was noted that entrance charges had been increased this year, the first time for a number of years.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2516 Michael Crescent Centenary Park – Fencing Repairs

The Clerk told members that quotations were still being sought for outstanding repairs.

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

L 2517 Additional Football Pitches at Court Lodge Fields

The Clerk told members that, to date, two quotations had been received for the work, one at £39,175 plus VAT and one at £32,760 plus VAT. He explained that he was still seeking a further quotation and added that it was unlikely that the work would be completed prior to the 2011/2012 football season. The Clerk suggested that a consultant could be used to investigate any grant funding, which might be available.

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

L 2518 Benches at Court Lodge Fields

RESOLVED:

- i) that the Committee Chairman meet on site with Cllr George to agree the location of the benches. (Purchased with funding provided by Borough Cllr Imran Khan.)**
- ii) that sufficient litter bins be provided.**

L 2519 Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee

It was noted that the Committee had met earlier in the month. (Minutes of the meeting are appended to these minutes.) The Deputy Clerk added that a member of the public was keen to join the Committee.

RESOLVED: noted.

Horley in Bloom (HIB)

L 2520 RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of minutes of the recent meeting of the HIB Committee. (A copy is appended to these minutes.)

L 2521 It was noted that the Awards Evening was due to take place at Regent Hall on 24 September and that all members were welcome to attend. The Clerk added that two Town Awards would also be presented during the evening.

RESOLVED: noted.

South & South East in Bloom (SSEIB)

L 2522 The Deputy Clerk reported that the Town Council had won a Silver Award for the town centre and a Silver Gilt Award for Horley Recreation Ground. She added that the marks had not significantly increased from last year, although the Judges' comments were much improved. The Council Chairman added that he had been delighted to receive an award for the Gatwick Public House, which had been voted by the judges as best Pub/Restaurant throughout the entire south/south eastern regions.

Cllr George remarked that the Town Council should be proud that it had maintained its position, in the light of its modest budget. He added that the town's entry was growing overall, with schools now involved and a Community Group (Douglas House) likely to be entering next year.

Thanks were recorded to this year's sponsors and to all the efforts made by Town Council staff.

L 2522) RESOLVED: noted.

L 2523 It was noted that both Meath Green Junior School and Langshott Infants School had been awarded Silver Gilt Awards for their first ever entries into the SSEIB competition and that both schools had been congratulated on their efforts.

RESOLVED: noted.

Horley Saturday Market

L 2524 It was noted that the operator of the Crawley Farmers' Market was bringing some stalls to the Horley Market on a trial basis. Cllr Powell remarked that, following the distribution of over 1,000 leaflets, the first week had been very successful, the second week less so. The Clerk added that it was now planned to run the Farmers' Market on a monthly basis and a "Super Saturday" had been arranged for 23 October.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2525 The Clerk told members that he had also met with the operator of a market in Southwark, who had subsequently written a report about the Horley Market, and added that he planned to discuss these findings with members of the Market Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2526 Surrey County Playing Fields Association

RESOLVED: that payment of £10, being the affiliation fee for 2010/2011, be approved.

L 2527 Security in Recreation Grounds

The Clerk reported on a number of recent incidents at Horley Recreation Ground, where he had provided CCTV footage for the Police. These had included a robbery, a small fire and incidents of graffiti.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2528 Diary Dates

Members noted forthcoming events.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2529 Items for Inclusion on Future Agenda

Community Payback – consideration of any suitable projects.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2530 Press Release

RESOLVED: that a press release be issued at the end of Environment Week, running from 20 – 25 September. (A copy is appended to these minutes.)

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Date of next meeting – 9 November 2010