

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 23 September 2008 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor J Chapman – Chairman
Councillors Ms J Gall, M George, Ms M Goldsmith, S Marshall,
Mrs V Marshall, Mrs S Odds, 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 2009 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs R Bethell and S Thomas be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register).

L 2010 Declarations of Interest

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

RESOLVED: noted.

**L 2011 Approval of Minute-
Leisure and Amenities Committee 22 July 2008**

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 2012 Tennis Courts Development

The Clerk reported that he was shortly to have a further meeting with a Lawn Tennis Association adviser.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2013 Bench in Memorial Gardens

The Clerk told members that he had written to Mr Wally Jupp, giving permission to place a bench in the Memorial Gardens. He added that, to date, there had been no response.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2014 Gatwick Greenspace Partnership

RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the draft Development Plan 2009-2014

Churchyards Committee

- L 2015** It was noted that the recent tour of the Churchyards had been very informative. Members were told that the Rev Steve Davie was concerned that the Town Council had not increased the Churchyards Maintenance Grant for some time and had suggested that maintenance of the Churchyards might need to be brought under Town Council control. Members agreed that this would be an expensive undertaking and that the Town Council would have no option but to pass the responsibility to the Borough Council. It was suggested that the Rev Davie be invited to a future meeting to explain the need for an increase in the maintenance grant, prior to the 2009/10 Precept being set. It was noted that the next Churchyards Committee meeting was due to take place on 3 November.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2016** It was noted that the first two instalments (£5,000) of the Churchyards Maintenance Grant had been paid and that the next instalment (£2,500) was due in November.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2017 Youth Matters

It was noted that Marie Rogerson, Chairman of the Horley Youth Council, had resigned from the Town Centre Management Group.

RESOLVED: noted.

Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report

- L 2018** The Clerk reported that the Borough Council had paid for work carried out by other contractors, prior to the South & South East in Bloom judging, when the Borough Council had been unable to fulfil their grounds maintenance duties. Cllr George stressed the need for a plan of action to be in place before next year's judging, so that all areas in Horley were presented to the judges in the best possible condition. Cllr Powell added that it was vital that the contract specifications were adhered to.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2019** Members were reminded that the Grounds Maintenance Contract with the Borough Council expired at the end of next year and that the re-tendering process would need to take place next summer. The Clerk added that there would be an opportunity to extend the contract and that grounds maintenance costs were likely to increase significantly from 2010. It was noted that Cllr Powell was presently reviewing the existing contract and, in particular, had given advice on default procedures.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2020 Playground Inspections

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

Annual Playground Inspections

- L 2021** It was noted that the Playground Inspection Company had carried out the annual inspections in July and that only low risk faults had been found.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2022** **RESOLVED: that payment of £255 plus VAT to the Playground Inspection Company be approved.**

New Playground Equipment, Horley Recreation Ground

- L 2023** Members were informed that the new SMP playground equipment had recently been installed. It was noted that there had been some problems caused by the contractor installing the equipment on behalf of SMP, some of the metal supports from the old equipment had been left exposed and the large item of equipment was not correctly placed on the safety matting. The SMP Contracts Manager had been quick to respond to our complaints and had instructed the installers to properly remove the exposed metal and supply and install an additional row of safety tiles at no cost to this Council.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2024** It was also noted that SMP Playgrounds had agreed to supply an additional item of equipment ("the Whizzer") and had not charged for the installation of the item.

RESOLVED: that payment of £1,235 plus VAT to SMP Playgrounds Ltd be approved.

- L 2025** **RESOLVED: that payment of £1,643 plus VAT to Matta Products (UK) for lifting / replacing some of the existing safety surfacing be approved. (Total cost of new equipment: £17,910.90 plus VAT.)**

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2026** It was noted that some parents had expressed concern that the new equipment was not as accessible to younger children (2 – 5 years) as the old equipment had been. The Clerk told members that both sets of equipment were designed for ages seven years and above and added that he and the Committee Chairman planned to meet with some of the parents at the playground.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2027** **Proposals for New Leisure Facilities in Horley**

The Clerk told members that he planned to invite Mr Kevin Hetherinton to a future meeting to update members on the Borough Council's latest proposals.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2028 Ornamental Gardens

The Deputy Clerk told members that she and the Committee Chairman planned to meet on site with several contractors to discuss proposals for the Ornamental Gardens and it was hoped that quotations for the work would be considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2029 Drainage Proposals for Playground, Horley Recreation Ground

Members were reminded that several companies had been contacted to put forward proposals, of which the quotation of £4,459 from Maltaward Ltd had seemed to be the most practical.

RESOLVED: that consideration be given to making provision for the work in next year's estimates.

L 2030 Charlesfield Road Entrance, Horley Recreation Ground

Members were told that, at a recent meeting of the Horley West Neighbourhood Forum, local residents from Charlesfield Road had requested that the exit from the park leading to Charlesfield Road be gated and closed at night. The residents had suggested that they could be responsible for the locking and opening of the gate.

Members discussed the matter further and were of the opinion that the installation of a gate would not prevent youths entering the park via Charlesfield Road, neither would they want any locking / unlocking to be carried out by local residents. Members also pointed out that the entrance was a public right of way.

RESOLVED: that the matter be discussed with the County Council's Rights of Way Officer, before being re-considered at a future meeting.

L 2031 Court Lodge Football – Proposals for Additional Pitch and Drainage Works

The Clerk told members that it was hoped to be able to fast track an application for funding to the Football Foundation by next spring. Cllr George stressed the need to pursue additional parking facilities for football teams.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2032 Michael Crescent Scout Hut

The Clerk told members that 1st Horley Scouts hoped to be able to give up the building by 3rd November. The Clerk stressed the need to ensure that the building had been made good, prior to any handover taking place. Members agreed that the future of the building would require consideration at a future meeting.

L 2033 Emlyn Meadows

Members agreed that local residents should be updated on the results of the recent consultation.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2034 Horley in Bloom

The Clerk reminded members that the Awards Evening was due to be held at the Regent Hall this Friday. It was noted that the Horley in Bloom Advisory Committee had recently met to discuss the arrangements. A copy of the minutes is appended to these minutes.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2035 Request for Toilet Facilities at Horley Recreation Ground

Members were told that a local resident had enquired whether it might be possible to have some form of toilet facilities at the Recreation Ground during the summer period.

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

L 2036 Precept 2009/10

Members were reminded that precept requirements for 2009/10 would be considered at the next meeting of this and all other committees.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2037 Application to the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP)

The Clerk explained that the recent application to the CDRP for funding to enhance the CCTV cameras, to enable images to be transmitted wirelessly, had been unsuccessful. The Clerk told members that he planned to contact the Community Safety Manager to clarify some possible misunderstandings and also planned to visit the CCTV Control Room Manager at Reigate Police Station.

RESOLVED: noted.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Date of next meeting – 11 November 2008