

Horley Churchyards

- L 3724** It was noted that the next meeting of the Churchyards Committee was to take place on the following day (15 July). The Clerk informed members that there had been no response to his enquiry about progress made by the Church with its application to the Ministry of Justice for the closure of the Old Churchyard. He added that the matter would be raised at the meeting.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3725** The Clerk advised that he had informed Rev Calvert Prentis that the Town Council had approved a grant of £4,400 towards the cost of the Church maintaining the Churchyards.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3726** Members raised serious concerns that the rules regarding the regularisation of graves were not being adhered to by relatives, particularly in the case of the newer graves. This made the area very difficult to mow. It was believed that relatives were signing contracts regarding the correct condition of graves and undertakers were supposed to make clients aware of the regulations. Cllr George added that there had been definite progress a few years ago, however this now seemed to have lapsed.

RESOLVED: that members' concerns be raised at the Churchyards Committee meeting on 15 July.

- L 3727** It was noted that the members' tour of the Churchyards had been re-arranged to take place on the evening of Wednesday 23 September.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3728** Cllr Powell informed members that he had completed the restoration of the last two War Graves.

Grounds Maintenance Update

- L 3729** Members were updated on recent monthly meetings, which had been held with the Borough Council's Grounds Maintenance Operations Manager, notes of which are appended.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 3730** The Clerk updated members on the operation of the current Grounds Maintenance contract. He explained that, whilst there were no issues with grass cutting, hedge maintenance etc, there were serious concerns about

L 3730) litter collection and the emptying of dog bins and clearance of dog faeces. The Clerk added that the current contract between the Town and Borough Councils specified daily litter clearance (emptying of bins and litter picking of sites) for both Town Council owned sites and those managed by the Town Council under the Devolved Powers Agreement, however there had been a number of occasions, especially at weekends, when the specifications were not being adhered to. A prime example was the day of Horley Carnival, when no regular litter collection had taken place.

RESOLVED: that senior Borough Officers be made aware of the Town Council's grave concerns and the matter be considered further at the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 4 August.

L 3731 Devolved Powers – Possible Renewal of Agency Agreement

The Clerk referred to an email from the Borough Council's Deputy Chief Executive, which appeared to confirm that the Devolved Powers Agreement would be extended until the end of March 2016, however formal notification was still awaited.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3732 Grounds Maintenance Contract 2016 - 2020

The Clerk advised that, given the update regarding the Devolved Powers Agreement, the existing contracts may have to be extended until the end of March 2016. This would still require work on the tender documents commencing in September this year. Members suggested that the new contracts still finish at the end of a calendar year, as it was far from ideal to have any new contractors commencing work in April.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3733 Playground Inspections

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

L 3734 Possible Provision of Café/Toilet Facilities, Horley Recreation Ground

The Clerk advised that Paul Tanner of Trevlyn Tanner Architects Ltd had visited the park and his report was awaited.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3735 Outdoor Fitness Equipment at Horley Recreation Ground

The Deputy Clerk advised that the installation was now complete and a report of the project had been sent to the London Marathon Charitable Trust.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3736 Widening of Entrance Barrier, Horley Recreation Ground

It was noted that fairground proprietor Doug Beach had made a donation of £200 towards the cost of widening the entrance barrier and the Carnival Committee had agreed to make a contribution of £100 towards the cost.

RESOLVED: that engineers J A Chapman be employed to widen the existing barrier for £500 plus VAT. (The Town Council to pay £200, being the balance of the costs involved.)

L 3737 Funfair Visit – Horley Recreation Ground

It was noted that Beach's Funfair would be open at the Recreation Ground from Thursday 24 until Sunday 27 September 2015.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3738 Court Lodge Fields – Football Arrangements

The Clerk advised that the Borough Council's Grounds Maintenance Operations Manager had informed the Town Council that Borough Council staff would no longer be able to unlock and lock up the changing rooms, as all weekend overtime had ceased. It was noted that this task was an integral part of the Grounds Maintenance Contract between the two Councils and any extra costs incurred by the Town Council would be deducted from the amount paid to the Borough Council for the grounds maintenance works.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3739 Church Road Allotments

It was noted that damaged fencing to the rear of the site had been speedily repaired. The first judging of the allotments had taken place, with a second to follow in mid-August.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3740 Langshott Allotments

It was noted that some plots would need to be re-let, as they had not been worked. The pipeline supplying water to the site was likely to be re-laid by Barratts, as the water pressure at the site was very low. Cllr Olliver reported that he had recently attended the official opening of the allotment site and had been amazed at what had been achieved there.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3741 Horley Conservation Group

Members were updated on recent and planned activities. (A copy of the Group's latest update is appended.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3742 Himalayan Balsam (HB)

Cllr Powell advised that the riverbank from Court Lodge Fields to the Six Bells Public House was now completely clear of Himalayan Balsam on the Horley side. Groups of plants had been spot sprayed and plants growing within one metre of the water's edge had been pulled. Cllr Powell added that he had planned to spot spray the HB plants at Church Meadows, however Kevin Lerwill of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (GGP) had initially asked that this be postponed, to allow volunteers to pull some plants on 20 June, and had subsequently requested that no spraying take place at Church Meadows this year. The Horley Piscatorial Society had apparently expressed concern that the reduced number of fish fry could be a result of spraying with the herbicide Roundup in previous years. Cllr Powell explained that Roundup rapidly disintegrates and care was taken only to spray the heads of the HB plants, whilst staying well away from the water. Furthermore, trained officers from the Environment Agency had attended and inspected the treated areas at Court Lodge and had found no evidence of breach of the Herbicide Agreement and no sign of water pollution from the use of herbicides.

RESOLVED: that Kevin Lerwill of GGP be made aware of the findings of Environment Agency officers

L 3743 *RESOLVED: that the attendance of Cllr Baker at a further half day "Safe Use of Pesticides" course, for the approximate cost of £160 plus VAT, be approved.*

L 3744 Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee (HOSAC)

Members were updated on the meeting held in June, notes of which are appended.

RESOLVED: noted

L 3745 Horley in Bloom (HIB)

It was noted that the judging of the main categories (excluding the allotment sites) had taken place on the previous Tuesday (7th July). The closing date for the Photographic Competition had been extended until 21st August.

RESOLVED: noted.

South & South East in Bloom (SSEIB)

L 3746 Members were updated on the judging of the Town Centre and Horley Recreation Ground, which had taken place earlier in the day. It was noted that the judging route had included the town centre, Church Meadows, both allotment sites, Manorfield School and Horley Recreation Ground. The judges had been very receptive and the results would be known in September.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3747 It was noted that Horley Infant School and Charlwood Village Infant School had both received Silver Gilt awards in the Blooming Schools section of the competition and the Town Council's congratulations had been sent to both schools.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3748 ***RESOLVED: that payment of £390 to KM Vinyl Graphics for the supply and installation of window vinyls and sponsorship signs be approved. (The budget for signage to be utilised.)***

L 3749 Additional Summer Planters

RESOLVED: that payment of £436 plus VAT to Amethyst Horticulture for two additional planters in Consort Square be approved. (Sponsorship money [£1,125 received to date] to be utilised.)

L 3750 Horley Saturday Market

Following a suggestion from stall holders it was agreed that, should an existing stall holder introduce a newcomer, who attends for four weeks, then the existing stall holder to be allowed one week free of charge.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3751 Horley Carnival, 20 June 2015

It was noted that the “wash up” meeting was to take place the following week. Cllr George told members that the Carnival had been regarded as a great success, with the largest parade to date and largest number of stall holders. Enquiries were already being received for 2016. Thanks were recorded to those members who assisted on the day of the event. (Date for 2016 Carnival subsequently agreed as Saturday 18 June.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3752 Urgent Business for inclusion on Future Agenda

RESOLVED: that the following items be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of this Committee:

***Replacement of Signage in Parks and Open Spaces
Review of Dog Control Orders***

L 3753 Diary Dates

RESOLVED: that forthcoming events be noted, in particular the VJ Day Service and Celebrations on 15 August and Dog Show, Donkey Derby and Classic Car Event on 13 September

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8 September 2015