

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 22 September 2009 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor J Chapman – Chairman
Councillors R Bethell, M George, M Goldsmith, S Marshall,
and F Stimpson.

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

L 2235 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs V Marshall, D Powell, M Robinson and S Rogers be accepted (for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register).

L 2236 Declarations of Interest

Cllr George declared a personal interest in the item about the provision of a teenage facility at Court Lodge Fields.

RESOLVED: noted.

Public Forum

L 2237 Litter Clearance at Horley Recreation Ground

A local resident raised concerns about the lateness of clearance of rubbish from Horley Recreation Ground at weekends. The Clerk agreed to raise the matter with the Grounds Maintenance Area Manager.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2238 Charlesfield Road Entrance to Horley Recreation Ground

The same resident spoke about anti social behaviour spilling out into Charlesfield Road when youths were leaving the Recreation Ground by that particular entrance, especially on a Friday evening. She added that much distress was caused to residents living in the street and consequently they were keen to see a gate installed at the entrance, which residents themselves were prepared to lock in the evening and unlock the following morning. The Clerk explained that he was currently consulting with Surrey County Council's Rights of Way Officer about the implications of installing a gate. He added that it was likely that some local groups and other residents might appeal against such a decision being taken.

RESOLVED: that the views of local residents be sought in the next edition of the Horley Highlights.

**L 2239 Approval of Minutes
Leisure and Amenities Committee 21 July 2009**

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 be approved

L 2240 New Memorial Seat in Memorial Gardens

The Clerk told members that the bench had been installed and that a small Dedication Ceremony was due to be held the following day.

RESOLVED: that the actions be approved.

L 2241 Green Infrastructure Workshops

RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of information received from the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership about workshops to be held by the South East Green Infrastructure Partnership.

Churchyards Committee

L 2242 Members reported on the recent tour of the Churchyards. It was noted that conditions had greatly improved although a lot of remedial work still remained. Cllr George added that St Bartholomew's Church was finding it increasingly difficult to afford the cost of maintaining the Churchyards, despite the grant received from the Town Council. It was noted that only one quarter of the revenue received from funerals was directed to the Church and that, despite it being a Community Churchyard, no income was received from other Horley Churches.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2243 Members were reminded that Dr Jim Williamson was retiring as the Churchyards Committee Chairman at the end of the year. The Town Council recorded its appreciation of the enormous amount of work which had been carried out by Dr Williamson in this capacity.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2244 Churchyards Maintenance Grant

RESOLVED: that payment of the third instalment of £2,600 be approved.

L 2245 Clerk's Grounds Maintenance Report

The Clerk told members that Borough Council officers always responded quickly to any queries raised and added that there were no real issues at present.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2246 New Grounds Maintenance Contract – (2010 – 2014)

The Clerk told members that five contractors had been invited to tender for the grounds maintenance contract, of which, one had now declined. He added that the closing date for the receipt of tenders was Friday 2 October, following which, the Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee would analyse the bids and draw up a short list for interview, before making a recommendation to Full Council.

RESOLVED: noted.

Playground Inspections and Repairs

L 2247 *RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's playground inspection reports.*

L 2248 The Deputy Clerk told members that she had recently accompanied the Inspector from the Play Inspection Company when he carried out the annual inspections of playgrounds. She added that a full report was expected soon.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2249 New Leisure Facilities in Horley

The Clerk told members that two Public Consultation Events were due to held at the Albert Rooms this week. He added that Borough Officers and members of the design team would be in attendance.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2250 Horley Recreation Ground – Proposals for Community Barbecue Area

Members considered a recommendation made by the South & South East in Bloom judge that the Town Council investigate the possibility of installing a community barbecue area at the Recreation Ground. Members agreed that residents would be required to bring their own seating and that the advice of Surrey Police, the Town Council's Risk Assessors and other Councils be sought, before any further action is taken.

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

L 2251 Winter Planting of Memorial Gardens

RESOLVED: that the Deputy Clerk liaise with the Committee Chairman regarding outstanding quotations.

L 2252 Use of Car Park at Horley Recreation Ground

RESOLVED: that the Clerk liaise with Horley Bowling Club and local Ramblers' Associations about excessive use of the car park.

Perimeter Fence at Court Lodge Fields

- L 2253** The Clerk reported that, following concerns raised at the recent playground inspections, Raven Housing Trust had agreed to remove the stand alone concrete posts from the perimeter of Court Lodge Fields.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2254** Members expressed their concern that, following further damage to Raven Housing Trust fencing near the Horley Anderson Centre, vehicles were now able to access Court Lodge Fields from the Horley Anderson Centre car park. Indeed, it had been noted that Borough Council vans regularly used this route (instead of lowering the bollard by the Innes Pavilion) when emptying dog and litter bins etc. Members agreed that the Housing Trust should be requested to install bollards to prevent vehicular access to both Court lodge Fields and Raven Housing Trust land. The Clerk added that Raven Housing Trust had been notified in previous correspondence that they would be held responsible for any damage caused by vehicular incursions onto Court Lodge Fields as a result of the damaged fencing.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2255** Cllr George agreed that, in the first instance, he would raise the matter with Sue Young of Raven Housing Trust.

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

- L 2256** **Teenage Facility at Court Lodge Fields**

RECOMMEND: that this Committee recommend to Full Council that land be made available at Court Lodge Fields for a teenage facility (Funding for the equipment to be made available form other sources.)

Michael Crescent Scout Building

- L2257** The Clerk reported that the Scouts had now had a survey of the building carried out and that it was expected that the lease would be surrendered by the end of October.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 2258** Members stressed the need to move forward with plans for the future use of the building and suggested that the Finance & General Purposes Committee set up a sub-committee to put forward proposals.

RECOMMEND: that the Finance & General Purposes Committee set up a sub-committee to oversee future plans for the Michael Crescent Scout building.

L 2259 Emlyn Meadows

It was noted that the Advisory Committee had met in August and was due to meet again in October. (Notes of the August meeting are appended to these minutes.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2260 Horley in Bloom Awards Evening

It was noted that this was due to take place at Regent Hall on 2 October.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2261 Sponsored Cycle Ride in aid of Brambles Respite Care Centre

It was noted that the recent event had been very successful with fifty eight entries. The Clerk told members that he had taken part, along with the Committee Chairman, Chairman of the Council, Cllr Valerie Marshall, the Mayor and Mayoress of Reigate and various Borough Council officers. Thanks were recorded to the Clerk and Committee Chairman for organising the routes.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2262 Church Road Allotments

The Clerk told members that a request had been received from an allotment holder to keep laying hens on his plot. The Clerk went on to explain that, under the terms of the Allotment Act 1950, it was in fact difficult to refuse such a request. After discussion members approved the request in principle, subject to further information being sought.

RESOLVED:

- i) that the request to keep laying hens be approved in principle.**
- ii) that further information be sought and a letter, detailing terms and conditions, be sent to the allotment holder concerned.**

L 2263 Garden Sharing Scheme

Cllr Bethell reported that he was seeking more detailed information about the gardens and was looking into associated public liability and legal issues.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 2264 Bulb Planting at Horley Recreation Ground

RESOLVED:: that local schools be invited to come and plant bulbs.

L 2265 Drive Smart Campaign

RESOLVED: that Surrey Police be given permission to use the Horley Recreation Ground car park for the campaign.

The meeting closed at 9.26 pm

Date of next meeting – 10 November 2009