

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL
Planning & Development Committee

Minutes of a Meeting of the above-named Committee held at the
Town Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley
on 5 January 2010 at 7.30 pm.

Present Cllrs Mike George (Chairman)

Paul Avis
Richard Bethell
Denese Brooke-Harte
Jack Chapman
Simon Marshall
Michael Miller
Richard Olliver
Veronica Snowball
Fiona Stimpson

In Attendance Alan Jones (Town Clerk)
Joan Walsh (Administrative Assistant)

P 2737 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllr Knight be accepted, for reasons as specified in the Attendance Register.

P 2738 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: that the Declarations of Interest, as appended to these minutes, be noted.

Public Forum

P 2739 Condition of Subway and Footbridge – Comments by Ms Yvonne Beck

Ms Beck expressed her views on the subway and the footbridge, stating that she was very distressed about the condition of these two landmarks. She reported that despite increasing amounts of rubbish, broken glass and other debris over many months, there had been no apparent clean-up operation whatsoever. She raised further concerns that the accumulation of heavy rainfall might cause serious implications for the safety of these structures when flooding occurred and create more access problems for mobility users or pedestrians with pushchairs. She enquired about the ruling of the relevant governing body with regard to the cleanliness of such public facilities, and whether allowances had been cut by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council in terms of the general upkeep of the town.

Cllr Miller thanked Ms Beck for her comments, and clarified on behalf of Reigate & Banstead Borough Council that responsibility for the maintenance of the subway and footbridge lay directly with the owners, Network Rail.

P 2739) Cllr Miller advised that although the County and Borough Councils were not accountable for the subway and footbridge, a number of vital improvements had already been proposed by them and submitted directly to Network Rail. Unfortunately, these proposals lacked cooperation from Network Rail apart from notification that the faulty pump that had been causing the flooding in the subway may be replaced in March/April 2010.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

P 2740 GATCOM: Public Confidence Survey into Policing at Gatwick
– **Comments by Mr Simon Court**

Mr Court reported on an excellent presentation held at Nutfield Parish Church Hall regarding aviation security at Gatwick Airport. The Clerk reported that a similar presentation would be provided for Horley residents in due course after it had been deferred last year.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

P 2741 Public Footpath adjacent to the A23, near Gatwick Airport

Mr Court stated that the condition of the public footpath adjacent to the A23, near Gatwick Airport, was proving difficult for walkers and cyclists at present. Cllr George suggested that once ownership for this location was clarified as either Surrey County Council or West Sussex County Council, the matter be raised as an access problem to a public right of way.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

Railway Matters

P 2742 Stakeholder Brief from Southern Railway

The Clerk reported on the latest Stakeholder Brief from Southern Railway. The contents therein referred to a freeze in annual fares and proposed timetable changes at some Railway Stations. However, there was no mention of any particular relevance to Horley Station.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

P 2743 Off Track Bulletin – November 2009

The Clerk advised that the information contained in the latest Off Track Bulletin would be included in the next release of the Members' Bulletin.

RESOLVED: *noted*

P 2744 Subway and Footbridge

Members discussed the subway and footbridge following comments made during the Public Forum part of the meeting. The condition of these structures had already been reported in several communications with accompanying photographs sent by the Clerk to the Chief Executive of Network Rail, Mr Ian Coucher. Such correspondence was followed up by another letter sent directly by Peter Ainsworth MP.

- P 2744)** The Clerk added that Peter Ainsworth, MP was very concerned about the situation, and that he had extended his full support in addition to the comments he had made in writing to Network Rail.

The Clerk reported that a letter of acknowledgement, dated 17 December 2009, was received from Mr Coucher's Personal Assistant, Joanne Francis. The letter stated that the matter would be passed to the Community Relations Team at Network Rail.

It was agreed amongst members that even though these issues remained unresolved by Network Rail, that further negotiation would be required to agree a way forward and ultimately avoid any counter-action with a possible threat of closure of these public amenities. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Peter Boarder, Regeneration Manager, at Reigate & Banstead Borough Council to progress matters further. The Clerk would also research other possible avenues in terms of public right of way over the railway line together with the proposal of on-site inspections by the Network Rail Community Relations Team.

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

- P 2745 Southern Railway**

The Clerk reported that a reply to earlier correspondence had been received from Yvonne Leslie, Stakeholder Relations Manager at Southern Railway, in a letter dated 15 December 2009. She had also been copied in on correspondence to Network Rail regarding the subway and footbridge. (A copy of Ms Leslie's letter is appended to these minutes.)

RESOLVED: noted.

- P 2746 Approval of Minutes
Planning and Development Committee - 1 December 2009**

The minutes of the above meeting of the Planning & Development Committee were presented for confirmation by Committee members and signature by the Committee Chairman.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the above meeting of the Planning & Development Committee be approved.

- Matters Arising
Planning and Development Committee - 1 December 2009**

- P 2747 School Admissions Policy**

It was noted that a response to Surrey County Council regarding the Determination of School Admissions Policy would not be required because it was not relevant to Horley.

RESOLVED: noted.

Determined Planning Applications

- P 2748** Members reviewed the list of applications determined for the period 25 November – 22 December 2009.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

- P 2749** Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 1 December 2009

RESOLVED: *that the Town Council's comments, as appended to these minutes, be noted.*

- P 2750** Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 8 December 2009

RESOLVED: *that the Town Council's comments, as appended to these minutes, be noted.*

- P 2751** Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 15 December 2009

RESOLVED: *that the Town Council's comments, as appended to these minutes, be noted.*

- P 2752** Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 22 December 2009

RESOLVED: *that the Town Council's comments, as appended to these minutes, be noted.*

Ongoing Planning Matters

- P 2753** Flag poles erected by Barratts at Ladbroke Road

Consequential to notification from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council whereby the construction of these flag poles had already been granted, the Clerk agreed to research a former Planning Application that had apparently been sent to the Town Council for comment prior to approval.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

- P 2754** Planning Application: P/09/1497/F – Fell Trees Adjacent to 5 Bullfinch Close

The Clerk reported receipt of information from the Borough Council's Tree Officer, Mr Malcolm Jones, explaining that a survey of the area and appraisal of the trees would be undertaken. It was noted that it was intended that some trees would be replaced in the longer term, and that a further update would follow in due course.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

P 2755 Town Centre Regeneration

The Clerk advised that he would be contacting Mr Peter Boarder, Regeneration Manager at Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, to arrange the next meeting of the Horley Regeneration Forum.

RESOLVED: noted.

Airport Matters

P 2756 GATCOM: Public Confidence Survey into Policing at Gatwick

The Clerk reported on an update from GATCOM regarding the Public Confidence Survey into Policing at Gatwick, the contents of which had already been copied to members for information. The survey was conducted by the Gatwick Airport Ltd Survey Team during August/September 2009 on policing operations, visibility, accessibility, reassurance and confidence.

Cllr Olliver added that an impressive presentation had been provided by Superintendent Jane Rhodes at the last GATCOM meeting, and it was anticipated that a good service would follow.

RESOLVED: noted.

P 2757 GATCOM: Message to New Owners of Gatwick

The Clerk reported on a Press Release by GATCOM, welcoming the new airport owners, the contents of which had already been copied to members. As already proposed at a former meeting, the new owners would be invited to a meeting and possibly a buffet at the Town Council Offices once the new Chief Executive had been announced.

RESOLVED: noted.

P 2758 Highway Matters

The Clerk reported on notification from Surrey County Council about a forthcoming meeting in February with the Highways Engineers. It was noted that the meeting would be attended by Cllr George, Cllr Avis and the Clerk. All members were invited to add any additional issues prior to the meeting, the date of which was to be confirmed shortly.

RESOLVED: noted.

Surrey County Council Bus Review

P 2759 Proposed Timetable Changes in Reigate and Banstead

Cllr George stated that the changes to bus routes across East Surrey would have significant impact on the Horley West and Horley East areas of the town. Some services would improve under the proposals, including the 100 route, serving Redhill and East Surrey Hospital, and these would increase in frequency to every 15 minutes. Bus No. 100 would be replacing Bus No. 20 through Langshott.

P 2759) However, Bus No. 324 from Reigate to Hookwood and Horley may be withdrawn altogether, and services from Tandridge to Horley were still under review.

Cllr Miller stated that at a recent Executive Meeting with Surrey County Council, it was asked whether these proposed cuts might have legal implications in view of the fact that the bus service was funded by Section 106 money. Clarification was still awaited on this.

It was agreed that a draft response to the Bus Review be emailed to members for comments, prior to being submitted to Surrey County Council by 29 January 2010.

RESOLVED: that the response be ratified at the next meeting of this Committee.

P 2760 Recycling and Environmental Issues – Recycling Blueprint

The Clerk advised that a response to the Recycling Blueprint Survey commissioned by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council was required by 13 January 2010. Cllr George stated that he would review the proposals mentioned therein and draft a reply accordingly.

RESOLVED: that the response to the Recycling Blueprint be ratified at the next meeting of this Committee.

P 2761 Devolved Powers to Horley Town Council

The Clerk reported there has been no further update on Devolved Powers to the Town Council. However, a meeting to progress this further was expected to take place shortly.

RESOLVED: noted.

P 2762 Reigate & Banstead Borough Council – Review of Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

Cllr George stated that he would review the contents of the revised draft SCI for comment at the next Committee meeting on 2 February and that a formal response to the LDF Team at Reigate & Banstead Borough Council would be submitted by the deadline of 5 February 2010.

RESOLVED: that a draft response be prepared, for consideration at the next meeting of this Committee.

P 2763 Letters Received

From	Subject	Date Received	Action
Miss Joanne Quayle	Refuse Collection	2 January 2010	Cllr Jack Chapman
Reigate & Banstead B C	Borough Tour	4 January 2010	Deadline: 29 January 2010
West Sussex County Council	Minerals & Waste Development Framework – informal engagement on 'options'	4 December 2009	Deadline: 29 January 2010

RESOLVED: noted.

P 2764 Diary Dates

The Clerk reported that a training session for all Councillors on 'The Power of Well Being' would be held at on 9 February 2010, commencing at 7:00 pm and would be approximately 90 minutes in duration. Further information would be provided at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

RESOLVED: noted.

P 2765 Urgent Business

The Clerk informed members that with regret, Peter Ainsworth MP, would be stepping down from his Parliamentary post. Further information would be published on the Horley Town Council website. It was proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to Peter Ainsworth on behalf of members.

RESOLVED: that a letter of thanks be sent to Peter Ainsworth MP.

The meeting closed at: 9:05pm

Date of next Meeting – 2 February 2010, 7.30pm