

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 Tuesday 5 February 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs Paul Avis (Chairman)
Richard Bethell
Jack Chapman
Janis Gall
Mike George
Simon Marshall
Michael Miller
Richard Olliver

In Attendance: Alan Jones (Town Clerk)

P 2218 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs Denese Brooke-Harte, Veronica Snowball, and Fiona Stimpson be accepted, for the reasons as specified in the Attendance Register

P 2219 Declarations of Interest

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

P 2220 Public Forum

No members of the public were present

RESOLVED: noted

**P 2221 Approval of Minutes
Planning and Development Committee, 18 December 2007**

The minutes of the above meeting of the Planning and 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.

P 2222 Determined Applications

Members reviewed the lists of applications determined for the period 12 December 2007 to 29 January 2008.

RESOLVED: noted

P 2223 Planning Applications received from Reigate and Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 18 December 2007

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

P 2224 Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 31 December 2007

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

P 2225 Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 8 January 2008

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

P 2226 Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 15 January 2008

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

P 2227 Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 22 January 2008

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

P 2228 Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the week ending 29 January 2008

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

Airport Matters

P 2229 **Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee (GATCOM)**

Cllr Olliver was thanked for his concise report of the recent meeting held on 31 January which had been previously been distributed and is appended to these minutes. It was reported that there had been an attempt by GATCOM's sub committee to exclude Horley Town Council and other neighbouring local councils from its membership. Following lengthy debate at the main meeting the Town Council was allowed to continue with one delegate. It was noted that the new structure of revised membership would be trialled for 12 months. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Dorothy Ross-Tomlin, a sub committee member, for fighting our corner.

Members requested a copy of GATCOM's Constitution for clarification of the attempts to remove the Town Council (the one nearest to the airport).

RESOLVED: that the Clerk be requested to action above matters accordingly

P 2230 “Adding Capacity at Heathrow”

It was noted that Cllr Mike George had reviewed the paper and recommended no response to the consultation. The committee concurred in his views.

RESOLVED: that the DCLG be thanked for the invitation to comment on the Heathrow consultation but that no formal response be made

P 2231 Railway Matters

Receipt of the January Southern Stakeholder Brief was noted. It was noted that the journal stated that fares would rise on average by 4.8 per cent.

The announcement of the modernisation of Gatwick Airport’s rail station, in time for the 2012 Olympics, was noted

Cllr Avis reiterated that the waiting room on Platform 1 was permanently closed. The Clerk agreed to investigate further.

RESOLVED: noted

P 2232 Highways

The Clerk reported that arrangements are being made for a meeting between senior personnel from the SCC Highways Department with Cllr Miller and the Clerk. Cllr Miller had requested an inspection of several sites.

RESOLVED: noted

P 2233 Horley Regeneration Forum

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 January 2008 were noted. Members who were present at the meeting referred to the comprehensive briefing given by LDA Design in relation to the North West Sector. It was noted that updates had also been given on the Horley Youth Centre, primary and secondary school education provision and the anticipated amendment to the Horley Town Centre Regeneration Supplementary Planning Document

RESOLVED: noted

P 2234 Devolved Powers to Horley Town Council

The Town Clerk reported that the draft Charter would shortly be available for members of both councils to discuss, revise and comment. It was hoped that the anticipated adoption of the Charter would enable commencement of detailed discussions of Devolved Powers between both councils.

RESOLVED: Noted

P 2235 Planning Consultation

The Clerk reported that he had been in discussion with “Planning Aid”, an independent body offering planning advice to small organisations. Planning Aid would be willing to speak to the Town Council on the larger planning applications. The Committee agreed that a briefing would be very worthwhile.

P2235) RESOLVED: that the Clerk follow up accordingly

P 2236 Letters Received

It was noted that the following letters had been received:

From	Topic	Received	Sent
Peter Ainsworth, MP	Post Office Closures in East Surrey	29.1.08	See P2237 below
T. Brett	Yellow Line parking in Windmill Close	18.1.08	replied on 25.1.08
S Scully	Various	14.1.08	replied on 29.1.08

RESOLVED: noted

P 2237 Balcombe Road Post Office: Threatened Closure

Reference was made to the letter from Peter Ainsworth (min ref P2236 above) regarding HM Government's Post Office Closure Programme. Members unanimously supported the campaign to prevent the Balcombe Road Post Office from closure. Members who supported the campaign were encouraged to sign the on line petition or visit the Balcombe Road post office to sign it personally. It was agreed that a full press release be issued stating, in the strongest possible terms, the community, economic and other reasons why the branch must remain open.

RESOLVED: that support be made to the above campaign by (i) issuing a press release (ii) letter of objection to Post Office Ltd (Copies are appended to these minutes.)

P 2238 Urgent Business

Cllr Chapman requested that the status of planning enforcement issues at Summer Place be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting of this Committee.

Cllr George requested that the matter of the Fastway's route to East Surrey Hospital and Redhill be reviewed and placed on the next agenda for discussion.

RESOLVED: that the above two items be discussed at the next meeting of the Planning & Development Committee.

P 2239 Press Release

RESOLVED: that comments on planning applications be released to the Press

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm. Date of next meeting: 26 February 2008