



HORLEY TOWN PLAN 2022-2027

Your Horley...

*A shared strategy for future
economic growth and prosperity*



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1 FOREWORD

The purpose of Horley Town Council's Town Plan 2022-27 is to set out the Council's vision, by showing what we are trying to achieve and listing our key priorities over the next five years. It explains what we intend to do as we are an ambitious and innovative Council, committed to help making Horley the best it can be whilst safeguarding our heritage, conserving the environment, protecting our assets and maintaining financial security. Much has been achieved by the Town Council over recent years by representing wide-ranging views and concerns of our residents. We aim to provide a new, fresh, innovative focus on our many objectives and future goals.

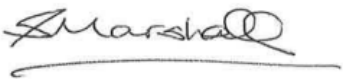
Through democratic representation and accountability, we will remain proactive with other public authorities, agencies and outside bodies on key projects that need to be delivered to improve Horley with a greater awareness of our community and what Horley has to offer. The Town Council is a strong contributor to the County and Borough Councils, as a key partner in many respects, such as, influencing the Local Plan, where it relates to the regeneration of Horley. This further facilitates key improvement projects to be identified together with evidence of need which can be used to support funding bids, all of which are of fundamental importance to maintain the longstanding viability of our community.



There were 23,000 people residing within the Horley parish boundary at the 2011 census, of which 19,545 are registered electors (as at April 2022). With new residential developments becoming occupied since that census, this figure is likely to rise to a significant population increase, with such associated housing growth underpinning economic growth. These statistics further highlight important demographic factors within the local area. We believe there is a strong case for more investment in Horley and its important infrastructure. Furthermore, Horley is a commuter town and its close proximity to London further provides good employment prospects for our residents.

The Town Council's vision for Horley will encompass many important community issues, such as, revitalising the town centre, enhancing the surrounding landscape through public realm improvements and exploring potential for the town's assets, such as, redeveloping some of its car parks. These associated projects, developed in conjunction with many outside bodies, businesses and community groups as important contributors, will form an overarching action plan and a shared aspiration to improve the economic development of Horley and maintain its sustainability for future generations.

Horley Town Council will ensure that the necessary resources are made available to progress the key objectives detailed in this strategic Town Plan and within the agreed legal framework. Our Action Plan, setting out our priorities in the short, medium and longer term is appended. I hope you enjoy reading this detailed report and the information contained therein.



CLlr Samantha Marshall
Council Chairman & Town Mayor

June 2022



2 OUR VISION AND VALUES

That over the next five years ...

Horley will become a progressively prosperous town with sustainable economic growth, offering better employment opportunities, quality neighbourhoods with a range of housing schemes, improved complement of shops to rejuvenate the scope of High Street retail, excellent cultural and leisure amenities together with a supportive and diverse range of facilities to benefit the whole community.

To achieve this, it is considered that Horley needs -

For residents and the community:

- More affordable and social housing schemes to meet the needs of young people, vulnerable residents and low-income families.
- Support and recognition for community groups who do valuable work for the community, such as, litter pickers and conservation groups.
- Support for community events and car parking concessions being introduced to reduce charges incurred on organisers as many are not for profit with any surplus revenue being reinvested back into the community.
- Support for community services to run at a reasonable cost for patrons with subsidised or free transport to and from centres.
- A strong commitment to secure relevant and appropriate Post 16 Education for the growing Horley population, as well as providing suitable places for all children in education.
- A firm commitment to increasing GP capacity within Horley along with additional Health and Wellbeing initiatives launched.

For everyone:

- To deliver added value by focusing on what is doable and affordable, constantly seeking to achieve best value.
- Horley Town Council will do its utmost to ensure that this vision is delivered.

For our commercial and industrial communities:

- A better town centre with a greater range of independent, specialist shops, including more car parking options with convenient payment methods and more effective parking enforcement.
- Increased and affordable office space and facilities for long term lets and short term casual use.
- Support for new strategies and enterprise to help new businesses stay afloat and for Horley to be actively marketed as an appealing location to attract big retail chains.
- A stronger focus on ongoing regeneration and investment in Horley.

For Horley's environment and image:

- A town that functions efficiently and is underpinned by a modern transport network and modern supporting infrastructure.
- Improved public transport, walking and cycling links and roads.
- New and improved community, cultural and sports facilities.
- Monitoring of Horley and liaison with the Environment Agency on the impacts of the climate and the environs within the parish boundary.
- An excellent digital and mobile infrastructure.

3 HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

What we do as a local authority

The Town Council works independently and in partnership with other agencies and organisations in providing, maintaining, and modernising existing facilities.

These currently include:

- Playgrounds, sports facilities, and community hall
- Security surveillance CCTV of Town Council owned parks and open spaces
- Commenting on local planning applications, and representing the interests of residents at public inquiries
- Partnership working with principal authorities and devolving service provision where these can be better delivered locally
- Providing community leadership by representing Horley at ceremonial and civic events and by co-coordinating community events and celebrations
- Electing a Town Mayor and a Deputy Town Mayor at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council. The Town Mayor represents the Town Council and, by extension, the Parish of Horley at ceremonial and community events
- In co-operation with other local agencies, taking a central role in community development
- Working closely with neighbouring Councils
- Reviewing contacts with outside bodies to ensure Horley's interests are well represented
- Consulting residents on community projects likely to affect them
- Producing a monthly Newsletter, giving details of Town Council initiatives and providing local organisations with the opportunity to publicise their activities
- Giving members of the public the opportunity to address Town Councillors and ask questions at each Town Council meeting (during the Public Forum).
- Holding frequent Horley Resident Forum meetings with participation by County, Borough and Town Councillors.
- Presenting an Annual Report at its Annual Town Public Forum (formerly named Town Meeting), covering its activities during the previous twelve months and outlining its budget and plans for the coming year
- Taking a central role in community development by supporting and encouraging local groups across the age demographic, regardless of ability , so as to promote equality and support diversity
- Encouraging the development/enhancement of both new and existing community groups through its Edmonds Fund grants programme
- Reducing all aspects of antisocial behaviour, working in close liaison with Surrey Police and RBBC's Joint Enforcement Team (JETs)

4 DELIVERING THE VISION

→ Seeking Sources of Revenue:

Horley Town Council accepts that it is not always possible to break-even on some facilities offered to the public, such as, allotments, football pitches and function-room hire, for which charges must be levied and to reinvest in order to maintain them. It is active in seeking business sponsorships and grants for capital projects and seeking other funding from agencies such as Sport England, the National Lottery and the London Marathon Charitable Trust.

→ Ensuring the Town Council Operates in an Open, Lawful and Transparent Way:

The Town Council provides local residents with clearly accessible and transparent information and fully complies with Accessibility Regulations, the Transparency Code and the Data Protection Act. It holds a Town Meeting each year and supports focus group meetings and attends meetings of outside bodies. Monthly eNewsletters and an annual Town Guide are provided as well as ensuring that up to date information is provided on its website.

→ Working Closely with the Borough and County Councils:

The Town Council works closely with its neighbouring local authorities, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and Surrey County Council as a key partner. The key principles of such partnership working are openness, honesty and trust to achieve a shared vision, seek solutions, and achieve the best outcomes for delivering high quality services and facilities that are cost effective. Such values have been and will continue to evolve through regular communication and a supportive approach with the County and Borough Councils. Horley Town Council is regularly engaged in cooperative initiatives with third parties such as The Horley & District Chamber of Commerce and the Horley Town Management Group. The Town Council works with many partners and local community groups to host events such as the Horley Carnival together with Open Air Cinema, Circus, Funfair visits at our parks and many other sports and recreational events.



5 A SOUND FINANCIAL BASE

Horley Town Council recognises that there is a balance to find between providing quality services and ensuring that the foundation for everything that is undertaken is based on sound finances.

Our underlying principles in managing our finances over the next 3 years will be:

Maintaining the Town Council's Reserves at an appropriate level

Aiming to ensure that any services taken on by Horley Town Council from Borough and County Councils will have a minimum cost effect on its budget, unless the Town Council decides to provide a higher standard of service to Horley residents.

Actively consulting residents for views and suggestions for new projects and services and how these may be achieved, as reflected in the Town Council's Action Plan (copy appended).

Sourcing additional funding for all major projects.

6 HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL: OUR 5 YEAR PLAN

Horley Town Council has a number of projects and activities planned to deliver the priorities for Horley, as described in this document. The funding for all these actions comes from a variety of sources including Council Tax, Borough and County Council funds/grants, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and external sources of funding and income.

Horley Town Council manages its available funds carefully to ensure that maximum value and benefit is delivered to its residents. It continues to work closely with both Borough and County Councils to secure essential funding for key capital projects, which should include funding which has resulted from the major developments within the town and surrounding areas of Horley.

Our Action Plan, outlining our shortlisted projects in the short, medium and longer term is shown next:



ACTIVITY AREA	ACHIEVED 2019-2021	SHORT TERM ACTIONS (1-2 yrs)
COUNCIL OFFICES		Ongoing Maintenance to help address accommodation capacity and to reduce energy consumption
ALLOTMENTS		Take ownership and manage allotments at Westvale Park (Southern Site, followed by Northern Site)
COURT LODGE FIELDS		Provide outdoor gym equipment
		Ongoing Football Pitch Maintenance
INNES PAVILION		Resurface paved areas around perimeter of the Innes Clubhouse building in phases. Consider replacing the lighting in the changing rooms with LED's and installing timed automatic switches.
HORLEY RECREATION GROUND	Build Café Pavilion at Horley Recreation Ground and appoint Café Operator	Install New Street lighting/ lamp posts
	Refurbish public Tennis Courts, including ground resurfacing and replace fencing to enable Community Tennis Initiatives to take place	New locked and hinged gates for the Memorial Garden
	CCTV Tower – cabling completed	Widen entrance, reuse railings, and install height barrier to car park
	Resurface existing car park	

MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS (2-3 yrs)	LONG TERM ACTIONS (3-5 yrs)
Consideration to be given to introducing electric vehicle charging points	Additional Parking Spaces Solar Panels
Resurface car park at Church Road allotments	Provide toilet at Church Road Allotments
Resurface service road at Langshott Allotments	Pursue funding for toilet block at Westvale Park, Southern Site
Court Lodge MUGA (or similar youth facility)	Upgrade Playground Equipment as
	Replace outdated changing rooms
Install under cover seating in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee gardens & play area to be serviced by Café.	Install new railings along frontage with A23/Vicarage Lane (and other areas of park)
Expand Outdoor Gym and Increase fitness equipment	Upgrade playground equipment and full consideration of surfacing as required.
	CCTV Tower installation

ACTIVITY AREA	ACHIEVED 2019-2021	SHORT TERM ACTIONS (1-2 yrs)
MICHAEL CRESCENT CENTENARY PARK	Addressed Vandalism Issues	Replace dilapidated Boundary Fencing
EMLYN MEADOWS		Increase seating with appropriate outdoor furniture in consultation with Gatwick Greenspace
OTHER SITES		Increase seating across all green spaces owned or managed by the Town Council.
PAVEMENT AUDIT	Pursue pavement repairs with Surrey County Council through matched funding initiatives.	Ongoing pavement Audit
NATIONAL TREE CHARTER		Liaise with the Woodland Trust to plant new trees to replace those lost, as well as taking part in SCC Tree Planting Initiative (1.2m Trees to be planted by 2030) Collaborative working with SCC Treescapes
EDUCATION		Work with County and Borough Councils to secure relevant and appropriate Post 16 Education for the growing Horley population, as well as providing suitable places for all children in education. Urgent and ongoing.

MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS (2-3 yrs)	LONG TERM ACTIONS (3-5 yrs)
Upgrade Playground Equipment as required	Demolish Scout Building / Redevelop Site
Ongoing pavement Audit	Ongoing pavement Audit
Seek to facilitate ongoing tree planting of the right trees in the right place. Working in partnership with the Surrey/Sussex Wildlife Trust and Gatwick Green Space	

ACTIVITY AREA	ACHIEVED 2019-2021	SHORT TERM ACTIONS (1-2 yrs)
ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE	Pursue community initiatives on environmental projects and climate change. Re-establish the HTC Environment Campaign.	Establish an Environment Sub-Committee to continue to pursue community initiatives on environmental projects and climate change.
	Work with SCC & RBBC to pursue community initiatives on environmental projects and climate change	Continue to work with SCC & RBBC Sustainability Officer to pursue community initiatives on environmental projects and climate change
PUBLICATIONS/ COMMUNICATIONS	Introduction of Instagram Account and Nextdoor communication posts	Continue to provide annual Horley Town Guide for all residents.
		Continue to build the use of reputable social media channels.
HORLEY IN BLOOM	Horley in Bloom and Horley Photographic Competitions held every year to date	Work with other organisations to develop the competition further
NATIONAL AWARDS FOR PARKS AND FLORAL DISPLAYS		
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	CIL Survey carried out 2019	Continued use of surveys to gauge residents wishes

MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS (2-3 yrs)	LONG TERM ACTIONS (3-5 yrs)
	Aim to be a Carbon Neutral Organisation.
Work towards achieving Green Flag Status for Horley Parks, starting with Horley Recreation Ground	Achieve Green Flag Status. Consider re-entry into South & Southeast in Bloom

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