

Horley Highlights

Newsletter of Horley Town Council

Issue 11

February 2007

Become a local Councillor

*and
make a
difference*

Local elections are due to be held in May 2007 and Towns and Parishes across Surrey will be encouraging people from all walks of life to stand for election as Local Councillors.

Whilst Local Government may seem confusing with three levels of Councils, the split of responsibilities is clear:-

Surrey County Council is responsible for education and youth services; social services; highways; libraries; rights of way; strategic planning and waste disposal.

Reigate & Banstead Borough Council is responsible for local planning; housing; waste collection; environmental health; leisure

and recreation.

Parish Councils are (or can be) responsible for community halls; open spaces and recreation grounds; playgrounds, bus shelters, litter, allotments and burial grounds. In addition they can encourage local tourism and economy; help to prevent crime; promote traffic calming and consult on planning applications.

Horley is one of only two Parish Councils in this Borough, and along with Salfords & Sidlow, there are around 25 seats to be filled. A modern, proactive Parish Council can make a difference to the community by, for example, improving playgrounds, improving community

centres, reporting highways repairs and consulting and leading the local community on planning issues.

If you think more could be done in your neighbourhood, why not consider becoming a Town or Parish councillor. You could stand for election in May 2007.

For more information about Town and Parish Councils in Surrey, ask the Town Clerk, Alan Jones, for an information pack, or request one from the Surrey Association of Local Councils on 01273 407312.

The pack will give you more information about what Local Councils can do, the role of Councillors and the training available.

Ralph lights up Horley

Following a successful bid to the Borough Council, the Town Centre Management Group purchased new Christmas lighting which has been displayed in Victoria Road and the High Street.

The switching on of the lights was performed by Mr Ralph Hill, who has lived in Horley for over 80 years.

We would like to thank all those local businesses who have kindly sponsored the lights; Waitrose Ltd, Richard Place Cust & Co., BritChiro Clinic, Andrew Lyon Hairdressers, Le Manger, Bateman Funeral Services,



Carlton Clinic, Gladedale and GGHA, and collections at the switch-on ceremony.

photos by Cherry Larcombe



The Town Council's Christmas tree and other lights were lit up at the end of a day of festive activities and games, which were organised by the Horley & District Chamber of Commerce.



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Celebration Parade and Garden Dedication

Sunday 23 July 2006

Horley Royal British Legion organised a parade and service to celebrate the occasion of HM The Queen's 80th Birthday, the 80th Anniversary of the Horley Women's Section and the 85th Anniversary of the Horley Branch.

The parade before the service was led by the Redhill Corps of Drums. The service was held at the War Memorial Gardens, where rose beds, appropriately planted with Queen Elizabeth floribunda roses, were formally dedicated to commemorate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's eightieth Birthday. The roses were purchased with the help of donations from White & Sons Estate Agents, and members of Horley Town Council, Horley Royal British Legion and other ex-service organisations.



photo courtesy Surrey Mirror

The Town Remembers

One of the largest ever attendances was seen at the Annual Remembrance Parade on Sunday 12 November 2006.

Branch Chaplin, the Reverend John Glasspool, conducted the Service at the Memorial Gardens.

The parade was led by the Band of Redhill Crusaders Corps of Drums.

Grants Scheme

The Town Council has awarded grants totalling £3,465 to eight different organisations. The Council, in this the second year of the grants scheme, received many and varied applications. We are pleased that we have been able to assist a number of organisations with very worthwhile schemes and projects, which are of value to the community.

1st Horley Guides	Replacement Shed for camping equipment	£ 250
Friends of Lee Street Burial Ground	To provide a bench seat	£ 250
Furniture	To help towards the cost of moving to Unit 10, Bridge Ind Estate in Nov 2006	£ 500
Horley & District U3A	Purchase of laser printer for improved production of U3A newsletters & other documents	£ 50
Kidzone After School Club	Purchase of mobile book rack and set of faiths, feasts and festivals books	£ 115
Millennium Volunteers	Funding for a film facilitator to help young Horley residents (ages 16 -24) produce a film about the town.	£ 500
St Francis Church	To replace windows with better fitting double glazed units with toughened glass	£1,000
St Wilfrid's Church	To complete work on vandal proofing, specifically to replace original double doors to car park	£ 800
		<hr/>
		£3,465

In addition an annual grant of £12500 was made to St Bartholomew's Church and £900 was donated the Horley Citizens Advice Bureau for debt counselling.

Horley in Bloom 2006



Winning Cottage Garden



Anna and Rudi Buob with Cllr. Michael Miller



The awards were presented at a ceremony at Regent Hall on 22 September and the results were as follows:

Residential Front Garden

Winner: Avis Ayling
Runner up: Bill Nash

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Winner: Mitchell Court
Runner up: Delta House

Cottage Garden

Winner: Frank Good
Runner Up: St Wilfrid's Church

Residential Back Garden

Winner: Leslie Cooper
Joint 2nd Place: Sian Morley and Tony Lawrence

Best Newcomer from all the above

Categories:
Winner: Bill Nash

Allotments Competition 2006

Winner: Anna Buob
Runner Up: Neville Morley
Best Newcomer: Carol Randall
Newcomer Very Highly Commended: David Lloyd



Echinops

HIGHLIGHTS in brief....



Albert Rooms, Albert Road

Contact Horley Town Council for availability and hire forms - tel: 01293 784765

The Albert Rooms is also the present home of the Horley Branch of the Citizens Advice Bureau. The CAB is open Monday to Thursday 1000hrs until 14.30hrs. Friday advice is by appointment only - tel: 0870 1264196

Horley Youth Council

The Youth Council is always keen to recruit new members. For further information please email:

horley_youth_council@hotmail.co.uk

or contact Jason Walters on 07808 777957.

Their new website is <http://spaces.msn.com/horley-youth-council>. Further information is also available from Town Clerk, Alan Jones tel: 01293 784765.

Highway Issues

Surrey County Council is responsible for highway problems i.e. potholes, broken signs, street lights and footway concerns. They can be contacted via their website: www.surreycc.gov.uk or by telephone: 08456 009009. The Town Council keeps a log of all highway problems reported through this office and is now regularly receiving responses to the queries which have been logged through the SCC website. If you feel you are unable to use the above Surrey County Council services, please contact or call into the Town Council who will be happy to assist.

Car parking spaces

A few car parking spaces are still available for hire outside the Council Offices at £11.75 per week. Please contact the Town Clerk, Alan Jones tel: 01293 784765 or email: town.clerk@zen.co.uk for further details.

Conclusion of Audit

BDO Stoy Hayward LLP has completed the Annual Audit for the financial year ended 31 March 2006. The Auditor is satisfied with the Council's financial standing and issued a Notice Of Completion on 15 September 2006, with an unqualified opinion, which means that the Town Council fully complies with the statutory requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003.

The Council also fulfils the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and any member of the public may, having given due notice, inspect any documentation which is covered by the legislation.

New Goalposts

Before the beginning of the current football season, we received funding from the Football Association to replace the football posts and nets at our Court Lodge football pitches, which paid half the total cost of replacement with the balance being paid by the Town Council. Our football teams have welcomed the replacement as the previous posts were out of date by current standards.

Junior Goalposts

The Town Council has provided junior goalposts in an available open space at Court Lodge Playing Fields. We are pleased to say that these have been in constant use by Horley's budding junior footballers since their erection earlier this summer.

Council approves budget for 2007/2008

At the Full Council meeting of 12 December 2006, Horley Town Council approved its budget for 2007/2008 and set the Town Precept. Cllr Tony Breen, Chairman of the Town Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee, explained that the town element of Council Tax would be £31.90 representing an annual increase of £1.50 per Band D household (4.94 per cent).

The Town Council is committed to its programme of enhancements as detailed in the Corporate Plan 2006/2010, which was published earlier this year. These will include improvements to our recreation grounds and community hall.

The Town Council will continue to support St Bartholomew's two churchyards and will make a grant of £12,500 towards essential improvements and maintenance.

Charges for community facilities (such as the use of the Albert Rooms) and football pitches will be increased in line with inflation for the coming year. Full details of all charges for 2007/08 will be announced in the New Year.

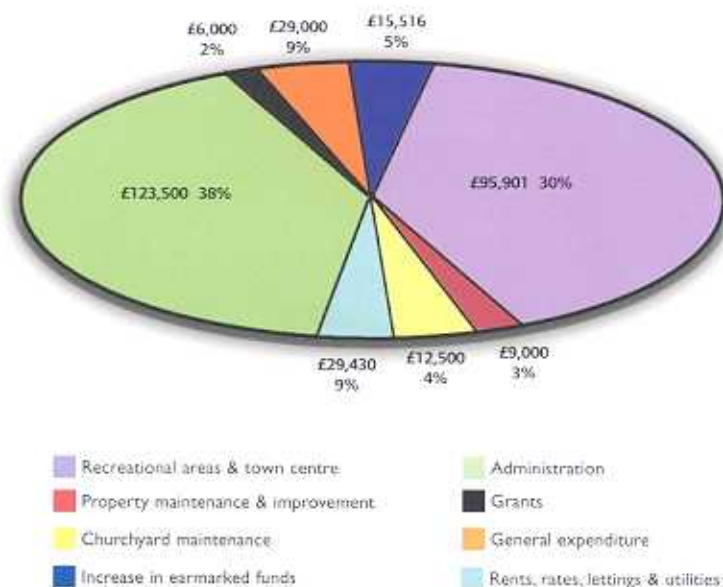
Prudent use of Council finances has allowed the Council to use £15,000 of its general reserves towards next year's costs. The Town Council also has a duty to provide for future expected expenditure. The Council is therefore creating a new earmarked fund (£10,000) for replacement of playground equipment. In addition, a new fund is being set up for the Albert Rooms refurbishment (£2,000).

The Town Council has been informed by the Borough Council that the costs of the Local Elections in May 2007 will increase significantly, mainly as result of Government legislation, to maximise participation and to reduce the potential for fraud. We have no control over these costs but have been advised that the costs are likely to be in excess of £14,000. Although the council will be challenging these figures we have no option but to include this cost when setting the precept.

The Town Council has considered the need to improve security in our recreation grounds. We have increased our budget for CCTV enhancements which will be done in consultation with Surrey Police. There will also be an allowance for security patrols as deemed necessary to ensure safety in our parks.

Provision has been made for a modest number of floral displays, which will be dependant upon weather conditions.

This Council will continue to seek funding from appropriate bodies. To date we are awaiting the outcome of our bid to the Crime and Disorder Partnership. In addition lottery funding will be sought for work on our football pitches. Other funding has been offered from our local County Councillors' Initiative Scheme.





















Detailed information on the budget is available on our web site or may be obtained at the Town Council offices.

Further information is available from Horley Town Council's Help Line on 01293 784765.

HORLEY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Ward Codes N - North NW - North West
 NC - North Central SC - South Central
 NE - North East SE - South East

BC - also Reigate & Banstead Borough Councillor

Ward	Councillor	Ward	Councillor
NC	 Cllr. Diana Andrews 16 Wesley Close, Horley RH6 8JB 01293 773189 (H) diana.andrews@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	SC BC	 Cllr. Bernard Kendall 3 Heritage Lawn, Horley RH6 01293 820624 bernard.kendall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SC	 Cllr. Eddie Andrews 16 Wesley Close, Horley RH6 8JB 01293 773189 eddie.andrews@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	SE	 Cllr. Dr Andrew Kent 151 Balcombe Road, Horley RH6 9DR 01293 430611 andrew.kent@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NE	 Cllr. Deborah Ann Ashley-Smith 1 St Hilda's Close, Horley RH6 7BA 01293 776197 debbie.ashleysmith@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NC	 Cllr. Graham Larcombe 63 Church Road, Horley RH6 8AB 01293 432632 graham.larcombe@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
N	 Cllr. Sarah Branwhite Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley RH6 7JA 01293 784765 sarah.branwhite@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N	 Cllr. Simon Marshall 12 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DB 01293 786859 simon.marshall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NE BC	 Cllr. Tony Breen 34 Massetts Road, Horley RH6 7DS 01293 820112 (H) tony.breen@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	SE BC	 Cllr. John Meech 41 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DD 01293 783655 john.meech@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NW	 Cllr. Denese Brooke-Harte 47 Parkhurst Road, Horley RH6 8EU 01293 418090 denese.brookeharte@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N BC	 Cllr. Michael Miller 50 Haroldslea Drive, Horley RH6 9DU 01293 784201 (H) 07712 889228 (M) michael.miller@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NE	 Cllr. Jack Chapman 43 Bonehurst Road, Horley RH6 8PJ 01293 786165 jack.chapman@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N	 Cllr. Dr. Richard Olliver 2 Limes Avenue, Horley RH6 9DH 01293 786710 richard.olliver@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NW	 Cllr. Michael George 31 Rutherford Close, Horley RH6 8RD 01293 411655 mike.george@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NW SC	 Cllr. Andrea Venn The Old House, Bremner Avenue Horley RH6 8EP 01293 823775 andrea.venn@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NW	 Cllr. Maureen Goldsmith Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley RH6 7JA 01293 823734 mo.goldsmith@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	SC	 Cllr. Barry Weston Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley RH6 7JA 01293 784765 barry.weston@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk

All councillors may be contacted at their home address
 Contact the council for further information.

The views expressed in the contents of Horley Highlights and
 as defined by the editorial staff are not necessarily those of
 the Town Council.

Public Meeting

The Town Council organised a Public Meeting at the Regent Hall on 24 November 2006

The meeting was held to allow local residents to air their views on the recommendations of the Borough Council to build a dual use wet and dry leisure centre at Oakwood School.

There was a good attendance and a number of points raised at the meeting have been passed back to Reigate and Banstead Borough Council for comment.

Councillors' Surgeries

Town Councillors are available to discuss constituency matters with members of the public, in confidence, at the Council Offices on the following Saturdays between 10.00 and 11 am. No appointment is necessary.

20 January
 3 February
 24 February
 10 March
 24 March

The Member of Parliament will also be present on 3 February and 10 March

Further details are available on our web site

Meeting Dates 2006/07

All council meetings commence at 7.30 pm. Agenda for all meetings are posted on town centre notice boards a few days beforehand. Agendas are also downloadable from our web site

Members of the public are cordially invited to all meetings and if they wish may address councillors during the public forum.

For further details and for any general enquiries, please phone, fax or e-mail the Town Clerk.

January

Tuesday 23
 Tuesday 30

February

Tuesday 13
 Tuesday 20
 Tuesday 27

March

Tuesday 13
 Tuesday 20

April

Tuesday 3
 Tuesday 10
 Tuesday 17
 Tuesday 24

May

Tuesday 1
 Tuesday 15

Finance & General Purposes
 Planning & Development

Full Council
 Planning & Development
 Leisure & Amenities

Finance & General Purposes
 Planning & Development

Full Council
 Planning & Development
 Leisure & Amenities
 Finance & General Purposes

Planning & Development
 Annual Meeting of New Council

Council Meetings

Horley Town Council meets regularly, based on its regular cycle of Committee and Full Council meetings.

Members of the public are very welcome to attend and voice their own opinions on various local topics during the Public Forum.

The Council represents all parts of the community and it is your views that are important in assisting us in making realistic and sound decisions.