

Horley Highlights

Newsletter of Horley Town Council

Issue 14

Winter 2008

Horley to benefit from the estate of Cyril Edmonds

Members of Horley Town Council discussed the Cyril Edmonds Will at its Full Council meeting on 6 November 2007. As announced last July, the Town Council has been left a substantial sum of money by Mr Cyril Edmonds, a builder who lived at Norwood Hill.

It is believed that the capital value of the bequest will be in excess of £130,000. It has been agreed that the sum will be held in a specific fund maintained separately from the Town Council's general fund.

A sub-committee was formed earlier in the year to look into the matter and make recommendations to the Town Council as to how to make best use of the funds. Its brief was to satisfy the terms of the will, which had

stated that the bequest "should be used for the benefit of the people of Horley as a whole".

Full public consultation was conducted via press releases, articles in the Town Council's newsletter and on its website. Many members of the public have been in contact with the Council to make a number of interesting suggestions. The Council also listened to presentations made at its public forum on 6 November.

The Council agreed with the sub-committee's recommendations that the capital sum be placed in a high-yielding account and that the interest derived from it be used for the benefit of underprivileged and needy Horley residents. The interest, which could amount to

£6,000 per annum in a full year, is expected to be utilised for outings, theatre trips, booking of holidays, etc. The matter will be reviewed annually and reports will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting. Other specific projects using the capital may be considered in future years.

A separate Management Committee has been set up (consisting of Cllrs Simon Marshall, Michael Miller and David Powell) which will be empowered to consider applications from the public.

Further details of the scheme will be announced in due course.

Environmental Art Day at Emlyn Meadows



An Environmental Art Day was held at Emlyn Meadows last October. A total of eleven local schools showed exhibits and sculptures, which had been created by their pupils following tuition from environmental artist, Alan Sage. The exhibits were then shown at all participating schools throughout the following week.

The event was funded by Awards for All, a lottery grants scheme for local communities, and hosted jointly by Gatwick Greenspace Partnership, Horley Town Council and the Horley Learning Partnership, an organisation which liaises with local schools.

Emlyn Meadows, which is owned and managed by Horley Town Council, is an area of meadow and woodland adjacent to Kingsley Road. The Gatwick Greenspace Partnership has worked jointly with the Town Council to advise and help create a nature trail and sustainable environmental area.



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COUNCIL

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Meet your Councillor

We are continuing our series to let you meet your Town Councillors. In this edition we have again selected a re-elected and a newly elected councillor.



Steve Thomas

Steve was elected to the Town Council in May last year and represents the South East ward. He is a member of the council's Leisure & Amenities Committee. Employed by British Airways, Steve and his wife have lived in Horley for over 20 years. They have two children.

Steve is also a hard working member of the Horley & District Round Table and helps in the organisation of many fund raising events.



Mike George

Mike has been a Town Councillor since 2003 representing the North West ward. He is an independent member of the council and is Vice Chairman of the Planning & Development Committee.

Mike is Chairman of the Horley in Bloom Committee and has worked hard in the expansion of the competition and ensuring Horley's success in gaining the South East in Bloom Silver Award in 2007. He is also a member of the council's Leisure committee and actively involved with several of the council's important sub-committees including Relocation, Staff, Editorial and Churchyards. Mike is also Vice Chairman of Governors of Manorfield School. Mike works as an Operations Duty Officer for a Gatwick based company. He has been Chairman of the Court Lodge Residents' Association for a number of years.

Married with 3 children, Mike takes a special interest in the needs of disabled residents.

Focus on a local organisations

Art Matters

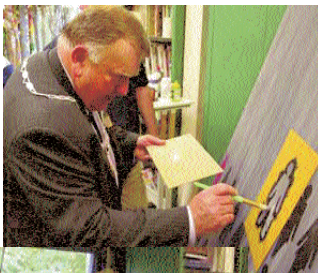
Art Matters is a studio in Horley providing support, space, materials and a calming atmosphere for those experiencing mental health needs. It is part of the Richmond Fellowship, and is based at the Gatwick Metro Centre in Horley but is currently looking for new premises for the project.

One in four people will experience emotional and mental distress in any year and social exclusion factors compound the issue. Creative activity has long been recognised as beneficial to those experiencing mental health issues, promoting relaxation and reducing stress. The opportunity to interact with like-minded individuals in a safe and calm environment like Art Matters can also help reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness

Cllr Simon Marshall visited the studio last October with members of his family and friends. He created his own 'sand mandala', tried his hand at silkscreen printing and contributed to a piece entitled 'One in Four'.

The Mayor was presented with a sand mandala kit and a 'voucher' for a sand mandala workshop, giving the opportunity to a community group of the Mayor's choice to experience and learn more about this ancient creative tradition.

In the photos Cllr Marshall contributed to a painting entitled 'one-in-four', a visual representation of the statistic that one in four people will at some time in their life have mental health needs. With artist Howard, he is also seen working on a word mandala, a circular pattern which is made up from thousands of quotations.



Horley in Spring

The Horley in Bloom Organising Committee is launching a Horley in Spring Competition for 2008. There will be two categories:

- Residential
- Non Residential

Entry forms are available from the Town Council Offices or can be downloaded from the web site. The forms need to be returned before the closing date of 31 March 2008.

Following our success with a silver medal in 2007, Horley will be entering the South East in Bloom Competition again this summer. This year we will be 'going for gold'. Local businesses have been approached for sponsorship and we hope to have a record number of hanging baskets on display. If you are interested in sponsoring baskets or planters then please let us know.

Details of the Horley in Bloom Summer Competition will be announced in the press early in May.



Mayor's column



I was elected Chairman and Town Mayor in May 2007 and my first engagement was to Blackland Farm to visit the scout camp on their 100th anniversary. Since then I have completed a number of varied engagements.

In June I attended an open-air performance of Twelfth Night. The first Prom in the Park was held in the A23 Recreation Ground in July.

It was a great honour to accept the silver award for the South East in Bloom contest. I also presented the prizes for the Horley in Bloom competition.

I attended a service at Guildford Cathedral for World Alzheimer's Day.

The Baptist Church held an interesting musical evening highlighting slavery through the ages. I also attended a gala charity concert at Saint Hill.

I lit the bonfire for the Horley Round Table fireworks display in the A23 Recreation Ground. Also in November I opened the garden of remembrance and, on Remembrance Sunday, I laid a wreath at the war memorial. I attended an awards evening at Oakwood School and another awards ceremony in Farnham hosted by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey.

I went again to Guildford Cathedral, this time to celebrate the Queen's Diamond wedding anniversary. I also went to Leatherhead to celebrate with the Lord Lieutenant, who had completed ten years' service.

In December I switched on the Christmas tree lights in the town centre and attended St Catherine's Hospice Tree of Light service.

I went to the Royal British Legion for their Musical Moments evening. I also enjoyed both the concerts by the Horley Singers, one in June and the other just before Christmas with traditional carols and songs.

I have very much enjoyed my first few months as Mayor.

Cllr. Simon Marshall

Council approves Expenditure Budget and sets Precept for 2008/2009

At its Full Council meeting on 15 January 2008, Horley Town Council approved its budget for 2008/2009 and set the Town Precept for a total net figure of £278,560 (compared to the net figure of £269,376 for 2007/08). Cllr Michael Miller, Chairman of the Town Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee, explained that the town element of Council Tax would be £32.59 representing an annual increase of 69p per Band D household (+ 2.16 per cent).

Cllr Miller explained that the Town Council was committed to its programme of enhancements for the coming year, as detailed in the Corporate Plan. These would include improvements to recreation grounds and the substantive refurbishment of the Albert Rooms community hall, funded by a loan from the Public Works Loan Board. Cllr Miller commented that the Town Council had made considerable effort to structure projects on three year rolling programmes wherever possible. This had allowed the annual increase to be kept within reasonable levels. The increase of 2.16 per cent compared favourably with the Annual Retail Prices Index (RPI) increase of 4.3 per cent and the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 2.1 per cent, announced in November 2007.

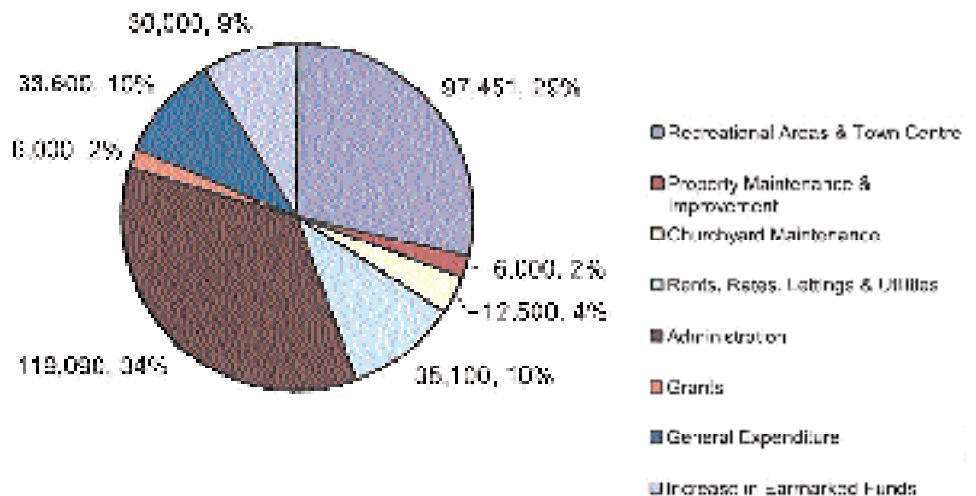
It was noted that the Town Council would continue to support St Bartholomew's two churchyards and will make a grant of £12,500 towards its grounds maintenance.

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.

Prudent use of Council finances has allowed the Council to use £20,000 of its general reserves towards next year's costs. The Town Council also has a duty to provide for future likely expenditure and is therefore increasing its earmarked funds by £30,000 for football pitches, playgrounds and community projects.

The Town Council has recognised the need to improve security in its recreation grounds and has increased its budget for CCTV enhancements. These will be carried out in consultation with Surrey Police. There will also be a commitment for regular security patrols in all the Town Council's parks and outside areas, to ensure the safety of all members of the public. The Council has made a provision for floral displays in the town centre in support of our proposed entry for South and South East in Bloom 2008, having successfully achieved a silver award in 2007. Sponsorship from local businesses will also be sought.

This Council will continue to seek funding from appropriate bodies. To date we are preparing a substantial bid to the Football Foundation for work on our football pitches at Court Lodge. Other funding has been generously offered from our local Borough and County Councillors' Initiative Schemes. Detailed information on the budget is available on our web site or from the Town Council offices.



HIGHLIGHTS in brief....



Recreation Parks Update

The council has decided to upgrade the CCTV cameras in the parks. You may have noticed that the Charlesfield Road entrance to the Horley Recreation Ground has improved lighting. This is new white light technology which we are using on a trial basis. This will enable improved recognition for our cameras and will make the park even safer for everyone.

Albert Rooms

The Town Council's community hall will be having a complete refurbishment later this year. Further details will be announced shortly.


Town Meeting

The Town Council's Town Meeting is due to be held at the Albert Rooms on the evening of Friday 25 April. Our guest speaker will be Peter Ainsworth MP. Full details will be announced on our web site and in the press soon.

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
N	 Cllr. Paul Avis 25 Greenfields Road, Horley RH6 8HW 01293 774357 paul.avis@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N	 Cllr. Valerie A Marshall 12 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DB 01293 786859 valerie.marshall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SC	 Cllr. Richard I Bethell 1 Hamilton Close, Horley RH6 7HW 01293 783195 richard.bethell@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	N BC	 Cllr. Michael J Miller 50 Haroldlea Drive, Horley RH6 9DU 01293 784201 michael.miller@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NW	 Cllr. Denese L Brooke-Harte 47 Parkhurst Road, Horley RH6 8EU 01293 418090 denese.brookeharte@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NW	 Cllr. Sonia A Odds 10 Cheyne Walk, Horley RH6 7PF 01293 784765 sonia.odds@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NE	 Cllr. Jack R Chapman Forge Cottage, 43 Bonehurst Road, Horley RH6 8PJ 01293 786165 jack.chapman@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NE	 Cllr. Dr. Richard J Olliver 2 Limes Avenue, Horley RH6 9DH 01293 786710 richard.olliver@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SE	 Cllr. Peter J Chapman 161 Smallfield Road, Horley RH6 9LR 01293 783806 peter.chapman@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NC	 Cllr. David T Powell 48 Fairfield Avenue, Horley RH6 7PD 01293 774695 david.powell@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SC	 Cllr. Janice F Gall 24 Oakley House, Norfolk Close, Horley RH6 7DW 01293 825922 janice.gall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NW	 Cllr. Sarah E Rogers 8 Palmer Close, Horley RH6 8LG 07969 105244 sarah.rogers@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
NW	 Cllr. Michael P George 31 Rutherford Close, Horley RH6 8RD 01293 411655 mike.george@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NC	 Cllr. Veronica M Snowball 35 Meadowcroft Close, Horley RH6 9EJ 01293 785172 veronica.snowball@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
SC	 Cllr. Mo Goldsmith Council Offices, 92 Albert Road, Horley RH6 7HZ 01293 784765 mo.goldsmith@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	NC	 Cllr. Fiona M Stimpson Rosemead Guest House, 19 Church Rd, Horley RH6 7EY 01293 784965 fiona.stimpson@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk
N	 Cllr. Simon Marshall 12 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DB 01293 786859 simon.marshall@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk	SE	 Cllr. Stephen Thomas, Council Offices, 92 Albert Road, Horley RH6 7HZ 01293 784765 stephen.thomas@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.

Councillors' Surgeries

Town Councillors are available to discuss constituency matters with members of the public, in confidence, at the portakabin, Albert Rooms on the following Saturdays between 10 and 11 am. No appointment is necessary.

9 February*
 16 February
 1 March*
 15 March

* Peter Ainsworth MP also has his surgery. Refer to the web site or contact town council offices for further details.

Further details are available on our web site

Meeting Dates 2008

All council meetings commence at 7.30 pm. Agendas 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 which are now held in the Albert Rooms, Albert Road, Horley, and they may, if they wish, address councillors during the public forum.

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

February

5 Planning and Development
 19 Full Council
 26 Planning and Development

March

4 Leisure & Amenities
 18 Finance and General Purposes
 25 Planning and Development

April

8 Full Council
 15 Leisure & Amenities
 22 Planning and Development
 25 Town Meeting
 29 Finance and General Purposes

May

13 Annual Council Meeting

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.

If you know of someone who would benefit from an audio or large print copy of this newsletter, please contact the Town Clerk