

Horley Highlights

Newsletter of Horley Town Council

Issue 6

November 2004

Youth Council in session

The newly formed Horley Youth Council recently met for the third time and considerable work was put into a brainstorming workshop. Should a special 'Place to Be' become available in Horley, the Youth Councillors considered what facilities they felt would be of most interest to others in the age range of 13 to 19 years.

Interestingly top of the agenda was an internet café, large screen TV for special events to be broadcast, quiet zones and cultural facilities where music, dance and art could take place. Work is currently being undertaken to find such a venue.

In the meantime the group all went on a team building exercise to test their skills on a tough assault course. The idea was to identify ways of best working together using each other's strengths in order to make a very positive and proactive Council.

The nine Youth Councillors are:

Helen Hanks, Sam Risebrow, Katy Edwards, Jason Walters, Becky Eagles, Jo Pickering, Becky (Bex) Boakes, Leanne Horsley and Chris Wood



Helen, Sam, Becky, Jason, Leanne and Chris

Nominations for Town Awards



Members of the public are invited to submit nominations for the prestigious Town Award. Closing date for the nominations will be 31 December 2004.

The award is traditionally presented to worthy individuals for their outstanding service to the town of Horley. A person may be nominated by any member of the public, for example for voluntary work, or for a particular service to the community, which is recognised to be beyond the call of duty. A sub-committee of the Town Council will consider any nominations. The Town Council may present any worthy recipient(s) with the award, at a date to be announced.

Information on previous recipients can be viewed from our annual report, which is available from our web site. For further information and a nomination form, please contact the Council's help line on 01293 784765, or by e-mail to info@horley-surrey.co.uk.

Horley Master Plan

The Town Council submitted formal objections to the Local Plan Modifications in October. The comments largely focus on three key areas - flooding, infrastructure and recreation.

1. Flooding

Remapping of Horley's flood plain represents change to the Local Plan since the Public Inquiry in January 2001. For this reason, the Town Council re-employed the services of their consultant hydrologist from Black & Veatch. His report maintains that:

- The scrutiny of flood risk carried out by RBBC was neither independent nor based on a sound brief.
- The current assessment of flood risk is underestimated.
- The quality of the evidence now available for the 1968 flood is such that this flood level is more reliable and robust than that of the modelled flood level.

- It also best represents a precautionary approach as recommended in government policy.

2. Infrastructure

The Town Council objects to the reduction in the area of land set aside for infrastructure, namely, land for schools, neighbourhood centres and recreation.

3. Recreation

The Town Council considers that the Local Plan must identify a site for a new leisure centre. The Bonehurst Road site is identified as the most suitable, being both accessible and also large enough to accommodate other formal recreation facilities. This site is also considered more suitable than Wilgers Farm for the Town Park.

The Town Council's objections are available in full on our website.



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TOWN
COUNCIL

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Horley In Bloom



The happy winners

The 10th Anniversary ceremony of Horley in Bloom was held on the 30 September, kindly hosted by the London Gatwick Renaissance Hotel. Marion Brewster, Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, and Tony Tobin, celebrity chef from Ready Steady Cook and owner of 'The Dining Room' restaurant in Reigate, presented the Awards jointly.

Children from all over the Borough, who had won prizes for the Tallest Sunflower in various age group categories, also assembled with their parents to receive their awards from Tony Tobin. After the presentations he gave all the assembled guests an insight into what really happens on the Ready Steady Cook television set.

Two special awards were made to Avis Ayling and Andrew Kent in appreciation of their involvement and support of the Horley In Bloom competition over the last 10 Years. The Town Council would also like to thank BAA Gatwick, Aspect Flooring, Burstow Nurseries and Collingwood-Batchellor for their kind donations towards this year's event.

Committee members have already started planning for next year's competition and are looking for more residents and local businesses to take part.



Ronnie Monaghan pictured with Tony Tobin and Cllr Mike George

Around the Clubs in Horley

Horley Local History Society

The Society has been in existence for almost fifty years. Meetings take place at 7.30 for 8.00 pm every fourth Monday of the month in the Strawson Hall in Albert Road. The meetings provide a friendly forum where those with an enquiring mind and an interest in Horley's history, can meet to discuss and undertake research on historical projects, and listen to guest speakers.

Members also cover the Horley Local History Centre Desk in Horley Public Library every Tuesday from 3.00 to 5.00 pm, and every Saturday from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm, to answer questions, and to assist those undertaking historical projects. Particularly welcome are those who can share their knowledge and experiences of old Horley with us.

Many members are involved in on-going research into a range of subjects, the findings of which result in the publication of books and papers, which are available to members at discounted prices.

During the summer months, walks are arranged, each of which covers a particular aspect of history from, for example, the features of bygone Horley that can still be seen, to consideration of the impact on our landscape of the Horley Master Plan.

The Society encourages the collection of data, information, photographs and aural records of how the town has developed over the centuries to add to its extensive archives of census and parish records, sales documents of past properties, wills, family trees, photographs etc. It has also assembled a large collection of maps of the district, one of which dates back almost four hundred years. All are accessible to members for study and research.

If you would like to know more about the Society, or have material you wish to deposit, then please contact Brian Buss on 01293 782231, Os Brown on 01293 783879 or David Hall on 01293 784276.

We believe that history ended yesterday!



Brian Buss pictured with Peter Knight at a recent History Society exhibition at the Horley Public Library



Fastway on track

The first Fastway buses are due to start operating in Horley from September 2005. Construction work to create the Fastway infrastructure in Horley began in September 2004, Works include:

- The installation of traffic signals at the Massetts Road junction
- The installation of traffic signals at the Longbridge roundabout
- The construction of a jet lane on the approach to the Longbridge roundabout to enable traffic to turn left in the direction of Gatwick Airport
- Footway and cycleway improvements at the Massetts Road junction and Longbridge roundabout, including pedestrian crossing facilities.

The first service will replace the existing Gatwick Direct 200 service, which runs from Broadfield, Crawley, Manor Royal, City Place, Gatwick, Horley Railway station, Oakwood School and Langshott.

We understand that, as a temporary arrangement, the service will turn round via the Chequers roundabout before returning through Langshott. We are told that further minor road works will be required on the route through Horley.

The aim of the bus service is to provide an affordable, reliable alternative service to the private car, so reducing the number of vehicles on our roads. Satellite based global positioning system (GPS) technology will enable the Fastway system to give up to the minute timetable information to passengers, track the location of vehicles to maintain schedules and give priority at traffic lights.

Horley Town Council remains sceptical whether the Fastway bus will have a significant impact on reducing road traffic locally, as only one length of about 100 meters of guided track way is proposed for Horley.

Town Meeting/ Parish Poll

A Parish Poll took place on 16 September following a town meeting in August. The declaration of results of the poll was as follows:

Question 1

Do you agree that agricultural land in the North East and North West Sectors of Horley should be developed for housing and/or general development?

For (Yes): 32 Against (NO): 1958

Question 2

Do you agree that the farmer in the North West Sector of Horley should be evicted from his farm to make way for housing and/or general development?

For (Yes): 25 Against (NO): 1924

There was one void paper and turnout was 12.72%

Proposed nature trail for Emlyn Meadows



To complete the first stage of the proposed nature trail in Emlyn Meadows posters have been erected around the meadows to explain the aims of the project. It is hoped that this will ultimately benefit the town's school-children as an educational facility.

Areas of grassland have been left uncut and allowed to revert to natural meadow to encourage any wild plants present to flourish. These would normally not be seen with regular grass cutting.

The signs were made and erected by the Horley Crawley Countryside Project. Pete Crawford, the Project Manager will be meeting the Town Council's Advisory Committee to discuss the next stage of the project. This will concentrate on tree and shrub planting ideas for parts of the meadow over the winter period.

Future plans include discussion with the Environment Agency about possible improvements to the Burstow

Stream, where it runs alongside the meadow.

It is hoped that the Town Council's Advisory Committee will include a cross representation of the local community. The Horley Learning Project, which represents all the local schools, has already expressed an interest in becoming involved. Any residents, of any age, who wish to become involved in this project are asked to contact the Town Clerk for further information.

Public Notice

Notice of Conclusion of Audit

Audit Commission Act 1998 Account and Audit Regulations 2003

HLB AV Audit plc has completed the annual audit for the financial year ending 31 March 2004. The auditor is satisfied with the council's financial standing and has issued a Notice of Completion with an unqualified opinion.

The Council also fully complies with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and any member of the public may inspect the council's latest set of accounts by prior appointment.

HORLEY TOWN COUNCILLORS

Ward Codes N - North NW - North West
 NC - North Central S - South
 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) dianajandrews@horley-surrey.co.uk | SC BC |  | Cllr. Bernard Kendall Heritage Lawn, Horley RH6 01293 820624 bernardkendall@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| SC |  | Cllr. Eddie Andrews 16 Wesley Close, Horley RH6 8JB 01293 773189 eddiejandrews@horley-surrey.co.uk | SE |  | Cllr. Dr Andrew Kent 151 Balcombe Road, Horley RH6 9DR 01293 430611 andrewkent@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| NC |  | Cllr. Deborah Ann Ashley-Smith 1 St Hilda's Close, Horley RH6 7BA 01293 776197 debbieashleysmith@horley-surrey.co.uk | NC |  | Cllr. Graham Larcombe 63 Church Road, Horley RH6 8AB 01293 432632 grahamlarcombe@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| N |  | Cllr. Sarah Branwhite 21 Oakside Lane, Horley RH6 9XS 01293 773075 sarahbranwhite@horley-surrey.co.uk | N BC |  | Cllr. Simon Marshall 12 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DB 01293 786859 simonmarshall@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| NE BC |  | Cllr. Tony Breen 34 Massetts Road, Horley RH6 7DS 01293 820112 (H) tonybreen@horley-surrey.co.uk | SE BC |  | Cllr. John Meech 41 Castle Drive, Horley RH6 9DD 01293 783655 johnmeech@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| NW |  | Cllr. Denese Brooke-Harte 47 Parkhurst Road, Horley RH6 8EU 01293 418090 denesebrookeharte@horley-surrey.co.uk | N BC |  | Cllr. Michael Miller 50 Haroldslea Drive, Horley RH6 9DU 01293 784201 (H) 07712 889228 (M) michaelmiller@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| NE |  | Cllr. Jack Chapman 43 Bonehurst Road, Horley RH6 8PJ 01293 786165 jackchapman@horley-surrey.co.uk | N |  | Cllr. Tania Peppiatt 43 Bonehurst Road, Horley RH6 8PJ 01293 786165 taniapeppiatt@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| NW |  | Cllr. Michael George 31 Rutherford Close, Horley RH6 8RD 01293 411655 mikegeorge@horley-surrey.co.uk | NW |  | Cllr. Andrea Venn The Old House, Bremner Avenue Horley RH6 8EP 01293 823775 andreavenn@horley-surrey.co.uk |
| NW |  | Cllr. Maureen Goldsmith Council Offices, Albert Road, Horley RH6 7JA 01293 823734 mogoldsmith@horley-surrey.co.uk | SC |  | Cllr. Barry Weston 20 Hatchgate, Horley RH6 7EA 01293 428948 barryweston@horley-surrey.co.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 Council Offices every other Saturday morning between 10.00 and 11 am.

The next dates for surgeries are:

20 November
(inc Member of Parliament)

4 December

11 December
(inc Member of Parliament)

18 December
Councillors' Hospitality
(after Town Centre Carol Service)

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.

Meeting Dates 2004/05

All council meetings commence at 7.30 pm.
 Agenda for all meetings are posted on town centre notice boards a few days beforehand.

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.

November

Tuesday 2 Leisure and Amenities
 Tuesday 9 Planning and Development
 Tuesday 23 Finance and General Purposes (inc Precept)
 Tuesday 30 Planning and Development

December

Tuesday 14 Full Council (inc Precept)

2005

January

Tuesday 4 Leisure and Amenities
 Tuesday 11 Planning and Development
 Tuesday 25 Finance and General Purposes

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