# **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 18 February 2020, at 7.30 pm

Present	Cllrs	James Baker
		Giorgion Buttironi
		Mike George (Chairman)
		Simon Marshall
		Rob Spencer
		Fiona Stimpson
Also Present		Joan Walsh (Town Clerk) Judy Morgan (RFO and Planning Officer)
P 6716	Apologies and Reasons	s for Absence
	•	oologies of ClIrs Chandler, Hudson, Samantha Marshall, he accepted for reasons as specified in the Attendance
P 6717	Disclosable Pecuniary I	Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests
	-	ee declared a pecuniary interest in application number Fown Council are the developers of the car park in Horley
	No other declarations v	were received.
	RESOLVED: that the De	eclarations of Interest be noted.
P 6718	Approval of Minutes Planning & Development Committee – 14 January 2020	
	RESOLVED: that the m Committee, be approve	inutes of the above meeting of the Planning & Development ed.
	Public Forum	
P 6719	<ul> <li>Horley. He gave the fol</li> <li>Wheatfield Wa trying to avoid roundabout.</li> <li>No one respect</li> <li>Better traffic ca planning stage.</li> </ul>	y, a residential area, is being used as a rat run by vehicles the traffic lights at the Kings Head junction and the Chequers ts the speed limits. alming measures should have been put in place at the t there would be a catastrophic accident.

The resident described some of the extant traffic calming measures and explained why, in his opinion, they do not work. He described various issues regarding speeding that he had observed including public service vehicles, which he felt should be setting a good example, and test drives from a nearby car sales showroom. He queried Surrey County Councils highways budget decisions as he felt that they had spent money where it was not needed at the expense of more pressing priorities.

He concluded by saying that he was very concerned for the pedestrians in this mixed aged residential community and was seeking more effective traffic calming measures put in place.

The Planning Chairman suggested that a way forward would be to collect evidence to support the anecdotal evidence which would then put residents in a better position to pursue their wishes. He suggested that contact be made with the Casualty Reduction Officer and the Neighbourhood Speed Watch, both at Surrey Police.

Cllr George said that the Town Council would write to Vines and Metrobus reminding them to respect the speed limit and would pass the residents comments on to the Head of Neighbourhood Services at Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. He thanked the resident for taking the time to attend the Public Forum. The resident then left the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council write to Vines and Metrobus reminding them to respect speed limits, pass on the residents' comments to the Head of Neighbourhood Services RBBC and facilitate contact with the Surrey Police Casualty Reduction Officer.

**Outside Bodies and Sub-Committees** 

# Horley Town Management Group (HTMG)

# **Horley High Street Precinct Issues**

The Clerk provided an update on the outstanding issues in the High Street Precinct. She noted that it was disappointing that the final sign off date was still unknown.

She advised that some complaints had been received about the large pools of water collecting on the surface of the precinct near Dappers. The Planning Chairman understood that the drains were partially blocked and that this was an item that would be added to the snagging list. UK Power Networks had still not completed the reinstatement of the precinct paving following their emergency works but they were reportedly still within the permitted six month period to do so. The situation would continue to be monitored.

# Additional Town Centre Signage:

The Planning Chairman reported that progress was slow since the signage design and positioning had yet to be approved. The matter would be followed up with the SCC Senior Highways Officer by the HTMG Wayfinding Party.

#### **Next HTMG Meeting**

The Clerk advised the next HTMG meeting was planned for 24 March 2020.

P 6720

# P 6721 Determined Planning Applications

Members reviewed the list of Planning Applications determined for the period 10 January – 13 February 2020.

RESOLVED: noted.

# P 6722 Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the period 10 January – 13 February 2020.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council's comments, as appended to the signed copy of the minutes and available on the Town Council and Borough Council websites, be approved.

Planning Appeals, during the period 10 January - 13 February 2020.

**P 6723** There were none relevant to Horley during this period.

RESOLVED: noted.

**Ongoing Planning Matters** 

# P 6724 Horley Town Park

The Town Clerk reported that Cllr Saunders was pursuing enquiries with the Borough Council about the potential of a Town Park being identified in Horley. The Chairman noted that this was outstanding business from the 2005 Horley Master Plan.

# **RESOLVED:** noted.

# P 6725 North West Sector (Westvale Park)

The Clerk advised that an enquiry had been made with the RBBC Planning Team as to when the Westvale Park allotments would be developed and a response was still awaited.

# RESOLVED: noted.

# P 6726 Town Centre Regeneration Horley Regeneration Forum (HRF) / Horley Town Management Group (HTMG) Merger

The Clerk advised that there was no further update on the proposed merger which was now dependent on negotiations with Cllr Eddy Humphreys, the RBBC portfolio holder for Place and Economic Prosperity. A letter in response to the proposed partnership, agreed at Full Council (and appended to these minutes) had been sent to Cllr Humphreys. The letter outlined the Town Council's concerns on the proposed Terms of Reference for the new partnership. It also mentioned the extensive work of HTMG in previous years to identify what was needed to be delivered to improve the town's vitality and long-term potential as well them taking opportunities to pursue various funding initiatives. The HTMG Chairman had also sent a separate response to

Cllr Humphreys along similar lines. A pre-meeting with Cllr Humphreys plus HTMG, County, Borough and Town Council representatives was considered imperative to review the partnership proposals, set priorities and to agree the way forward. It was hoped that such meeting would be granted and arranged promptly. A further update on the matter would be provided at the next Planning Committee meeting.

# **RESOLVED:** that the Town Council's response to the Horley Place and Prosperity Partnership proposal, as appended to the signed copy of these minutes, be noted.

# **Railway Matters**

P 6727 The Planning Chairman reported that in response to his enquiries on the Gatwick Airport Station upgrade, he had been advised that the upgrade would have no adverse impact on services at Horley. The works are due to start in May 2020 and is planned to be complete in 2023. A dedicated timetable will come into force in May 2020. (More details may be found on the <u>Thameslink website</u>.)

# **RESOLVED:** noted.

P 6728 RESOLVED: that the annual subscription of £5 be paid for membership of the Reigate, Redhill & District Rail Users Association.

# **Highways Matters**

# P 6729 Horley Pavement Audit Committee (HPAC)

The HPAC Chairman (Cllr Stimpson) gave an update on the last meeting held on 12 February. She said that it had been a good meeting. The Clerk had informed her that SCC Cllr Kay Hammond was in support of the project and some funding may be available to complete some 'quick-fix' repairs with minimal expenditure. She suggested that HPAC liaise with the SCC Highways Officer for Horley to arrange a site visit to identify the worst affected areas and prioritise a shortlist of repairs in the first tranche of works (subject to SCC Highways approval). The group's focus in the first instance would be on Parkhurst Road and Albert Road.

Cllr Stimpson further invited anyone who had noticed an issue with damaged pavements or the lack of dropped kerbs to email her with the location and a photo, so they could be fed into the audit. She further remarked that the issue of raised slabs outside McColls had been partially resolved.

# P 6730 Outstanding SCC Highways Works

The Clerk advised that it expected the collapsed drain at the A23/Victoria Road junction (by the Air Balloon) would be repaired during February half term to minimise disruption due to the extensive repairs and traffic management required. (It was subsequently noted that the repairs had not been completed within this timeframe and further enquiries with SCC Highways would be necessary.)

# **RESOLVED:** noted.

RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the latest SCC Highways Bulletins (already circulated to members). **Airport Matters** P 6732 **CAA Draft Decision for comment - Departure Route 4 RESOLVED:** noted that no post implementation response from the Town Council was required. P 6733 CAA Consultation - Airspace classification review 2019–2020 (Consultation Closing Date: 3 March 2020) **RESOLVED:** noted that this has no impact on Horley and therefore no response to the consultation by the Town Council was required. P 6734 **GAL: Gatwick Northern Runway Project** The Planning Chairman gave an update on the roundtable meeting he attended regarding the Gatwick Northern Runway Project, held on 6 February. Amongst the matters discussed were:

- the impact of the M23 no longer being a SMART Motorway on Surface Access;
- that no airspace changes were planned at present but there may be changes following FASI South;
- that the scoping document had 3 potential road schemes at Riverside Garden Park which will be fully explained during the public consultation; and
- that there were no plans to count Riverside as a balancing pond.

The Planning Chairman added that HTC was working closely with RBBC and sharing information throughout the process. Although HTC had made comments on the SOCC through GATCOM; RBBC also planned to give HTC an opportunity to comment.

# **RESOLVED:** noted.

# P 6735 GATCOM: Key Messages from meeting held on 23 January 2020

The Clerk highlighted the following information which had been received at the meeting:

- GATCOM Steering Group Chair's report including the key points from GATCOM Steering Group, held on 19 December 2019.
- The Chief Executive Officer's quarterly report including a commentary on activity and performance of Gatwick over the previous quarter.
- GAL update on the Northern Runway Development Consent Order (DCO) Application.
- Gatwick Airport Station redevelopment project update.

The Planning Chairman added that RBBC now have a seat on the Noise Forum.

# P 6736 RESOLVED: noted. GATCOM: Weekly Newsletters & Updates

These had previously been circulated to Members for information.

# RESOLVED: noted.

# P 6737 Crawley Borough Council - Draft Local Plan, Regulation 19 Consultation

The Clerk advised that Crawley Borough Council's Draft Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation was open for comment until 2 March. It had set out proposals on the future development of Crawley and Planning Policies up to 2035. Once adopted, it would also be used in considering Planning Applications, including policies for Gatwick. Full details had already been circulated to members, for information.

## **RESOLVED:** noted.

# P 6738 Tour of Gatwick Airport

The Clerk drew Members' attention to the upcoming tours of Gatwick Airport (including airside) which she highly recommended. Anyone wishing to attend a tour should contact the GAL Community Engagement Team direct to register their interest.

#### **RESOLVED:** noted.

## P 6739 Recent Airport Communications

From	Subject	Received	Action
GATCOM	Weekly Newsletters & Updates	10.01.20) 17.01.20) 24.01.20) 31.01.20)	Noted
GATCOM	RW Closures 2020 Calendar Rev 2	12.02.20	Noted
GATCOM	Key Messages	12.02.20	Noted

# P 6740 Mole Valley District Council (MVDC) - Draft Local Plan Consultation (Deadline: 23 March 2020)

The Planning Chairman said that 3 sites had been allocated in the Plan in Hookwood. The main issue for HTC was the site allocation SA42 – Land to the West of Reigate Road, Hookwood for 450 dwellings and 2 gypsy and traveller pitches. RBBC were aware of the consultation. Cllr George said that he had attended a public exhibition but there had been no information about infrastructure. If built as allocated, this would double the size of Hookwood and these residents already look to Horley for many services. The concerns for Horley were therefore the impact this would have on the road, education and healthcare infrastructure. A Member felt that the site allocation to the South of Kennel Lane was also a matter for concern and the committee agreed.

P 6740) RESOLVED: that the Town Council's response to the MVDC Draft Local Plan consultation, be prepared for approval at the next meeting of the Planning Committee and onward submission to MVDC prior to the closing date of 23 March 2020.

# P 6741 SCC Draft Surrey New Tree Strategy Pre-Consultation Engagement

RESOLVED: that the Town Council's formal response to the SCC Draft Surrey New Tree Strategy Pre-Consultation Engagement, be ratified and that the item be transferred to the Agenda of the Leisure and Amenities Committee.

P 6742	Letters Received			
	From	Subject	Received	Action
	RRDRA	Renewal of Membership	18.02.2020	Agreed to renew Membership
	RESOLVED: noted.			
P 6743	Diary Dates			
	RESOLVED: that upcoming events summarised in the latest Town Council's Information Bulletin, including the RBBC Local Committee meeting on 2 March 2020, be noted.			
P 6744	Press Release			
RESOLVED: that commen placed on the Town Cour		ments on Planning Applicat ouncil website.	ions be release	ed to the press and
Meeting closed at 8.45 pm		Date of next meeting: 17 March 2020		

# **Planning Comments**

01. RBBC Letter Dated: 10/01/20	Application No: <u>19/02609/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	3 Abinger Keep Langshott Horley Surrey RH6 9UA
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed first floor extension.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections

02. RBBC Letter Dated: 10/01/20	Application No: <u>19/02602/F</u>
LOCATION:	6 Brighton Road Horley Surrey RH6 7ES
DESCRIPTION:	Conversion of existing residential house into 4 no. flat units with associated single storey ground floor extension, hip to gable roof extension with rear facing roof dormers and landscaping.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections but we note the comments from Mr Leon Hibbs

03. RBBC Letter Dated: 14/01/20	Application No: <u>19/02614/F</u>
LOCATION:	Portland Vets 8 Sangers Mews Horley Row Horley Surrey RH6 8DH
DESCRIPTION:	Demolition of existing timber outbuilding and replacement with single storey extension to provided improved facilities to veterinary Surgery
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20)	No objections

04. RBBC Letter Dated: 14/01/20	Application No: <u>19/02574/S73</u>
LOCATION:	40 High Street Horley Surrey RH6 7BB
DESCRIPTION:	Change of use from a convenience store (Use Class A1) to a hot food takeaway (Use Class A5) together with minor external alterations comprising a new shopfront (front elevation) and an extract grille, condenser unit and extraction flue to the rear elevation. Variation of conditions 1 and 4 of permission 19/01624/CU. Amendment to relocate the extraction flue from high level to low level discharge.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS	No objections subject to no adverse comments from Environmental Health.
Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	

# Planning Comments

05. RBBC Letter Dated: 14/01/20	Application No: 20/00026/HHOLD
LOCATION:	19 Wellington Way Horley Surrey RH6 8JL
DESCRIPTION:	The proposal is for a single storey rear/side extension to the existing kitchen.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections

06. RBBC Letter Dated: 14/01/20	Application No: <u>19/02458/HHOLD</u>
LOCATION:	34 Bolters Road South Horley Surrey RH6 8HT
DESCRIPTION:	Single storey rear extension, renovation to existing garage and roof replacement. Loft conversion with rear dormer and new staircase.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections

07. RBBC Letter Dated: 16/01/20	Application No: <u>20/00004/F</u>
LOCATION:	Horley Recreation Ground Brighton Road Horley Surrey RH6 8DA
DESCRIPTION:	Extension of the existing car park towards the north east site boundary allowing for a turning point for a fire appliance and increased parking spaces for the new pavilion cafe building approved in application 17/02088/F
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No comment - pecuniary interest

# **Planning Comments**

08. RBBC Letter Dated: 16/01/20	Application No: <u>19/02442/CU</u>
LOCATION:	Woodlands 42 Massetts Road Horley Surrey RH6 7DS
DESCRIPTION:	Application for a Change of Use from C2 (currently a 7 Bed Residential Care Home)to Sui Generis (proposed change to a 7 Bed space supported living residential scheme)house of multiple occupation, for visually impaired people with some other disabilities.
	The proposal includes a sleepover facility for a member of staff . Existing parking will retained for residents, visitors and staff. There is no change in the design or structure of the building and all existing residents are remaining as residents at the property.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections

09. SCC Letter Dated: 15/01/20	Application No: <u>2019/0199</u>
LOCATION:	2 Perrylands Lane, Horley, Surrey, RH6 9PR
DESCRIPTION:	The continued use of land as a soil processing facility, utilising imported builders' construction and demolition waste, including: the siting of a screener, single storey Portakabin, portaloo, two metal containers, concrete hardstanding, stockpiles of soils and rubble, perimeter soil bunds, lighting, water mist sprinklers, access gates, wheelwash, and the provision of car parking and fuel storage without compliance with Conditions 2, 6 and 9 of planning permission ref: RE15/02426/CON dated 25 February 2016 to allow for the crushing of brick, concrete and stone.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL	Application no. on RBBC web site is <u>19/02612</u> .
COMMENTS	No objections
Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	

# **Planning Comments**

# During the period 10<sup>th</sup> January – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

# To see plans please CTRL+click on the application number to follow the link

10. RBBC Letter Dated: 20/01/20	Application No: 04/02120/RM5D
LOCATION:	Phase 5 Horley North West Development Meath Green Lane Horley Surrey
DESCRIPTION:	Reserved Matters application for Phase 5 of development at North West Horley (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to 04/02120/OUT for the erection and installation of a substation and pumping station.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections

11. RBBC Letter Dated: 22/01/20	Application No: <u>19/02530/F</u>
LOCATION:	The Paddocks 50 Meath Green Lane Horley Surrey RH6 8HY
DESCRIPTION:	Construction of one detached house with associated landscaping.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections

12. RBBC Letter Dated:	Application No: 20/00037/HHOLD
LOCATION:	6 Lechford Road Horley Surrey RH6 7NB
DESCRIPTION:	Proposed single storey rear extension.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Ratified at meeting, 18/02/20	No objections

13. RBBC Letter Dated: 30/01/20	Application No: 20/00123/HHOLD
LOCATION:	2A Cheyne Walk Horley Surrey RH6 7PF
DESCRIPTION:	Single-storey side extension (Front elevation 5.3m wide - Back elevation 2.7m wide). The extension will be : 2 bedrooms, pitched roof, maximum height of 5.05 metres (as the original house), eaves height of 2.4 metres (as the original house), materials to match existing.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Meeting 18/02/20	No objections

# **Planning Comments**

# During the period 10<sup>th</sup> January – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

To see plans please CTRL+click on the application number to follow the link

14. RBBC Letter Dated: 03/02/20	Application No: 20/00043/HHOLD
LOCATION:	21 Vicarage Lane Horley Surrey RH6 8AR
DESCRIPTION:	Single storey rear extension. Internal rearrangement. New front porch. Render all elevations painted white.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Meeting 18/02/20	No objections
15. RBBC Letter Dated: 03/02/20	Application No: 20/00147/HHOLD
LOCATION:	23 Brighton Road Horley Surrey RH6 7HH
DESCRIPTION:	Erection of single storey rear-side extension and alteration to rear window.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS Meeting 18/02/20	No objections

16. RBBC Letter Dated: 06/02/20	Application No: 20/00238/TPO
LOCATION:	11 Clifton Close Horley Surrey RH6 9SE
DESCRIPTION:	T1 Oak - Crown lift by 1m, secondary branches only. Shorten by 1.5m the six lowest branches that protrude on the West side of the tree. T2 Ash - Fell.
	Withdrawn by RBBC

17. RBBC Letter Dated: 10/02/20	Application No: <u>20/00194/F</u>
LOCATION:	Don Ruffles 138 Victoria Road Horley Surrey RH6 7BF
DESCRIPTION:	To extend existing building with two storey and single storey extension and to convert existing shop/office building including extension into 8No. flats, 5 x 2 bed and 3 x 1 bed. Proposed new gables to North Elevation. Proposed rooflights and PV panels to roof slopes.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL	The Town Council objects on the following grounds: -
COMMENTS	i. Increased dwellings leading to an increased impact from
Meeting 18/02/20	<ul> <li>the lack of on-site parking in an already congested area</li> <li>ii. Increased roof height leading to an increased negative</li> <li>impact on existing neighbouring amenity</li> </ul>

# List of Planning Applications Planning Comments During the period 10<sup>th</sup> January – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020. To see plans please CTRL+click on the application number to follow the link

# Tree Works (Non-Felling)

A. RBBC Letter Dated: 27/01/20	Application No: <u>20/00128/TPO</u>
LOCATION:	Land Parcel Rear Of 14 Heritage Lawn Langshott Horley Surrey
DESCRIPTION:	English oak (T1): Proposed pruning (as detailed below) aims to remediate structural issues and to give sufficient clearance from adjacent property and roads. 1. Remove all dead branches with a diameter at point of origin of 50mm or greater on the north, west and south sides of the canopy, i.e. overhanging Lake Lane, overhanging Langshott Lane or the gardens of the adjacent properties in Heritage Lawn. 2. Remove low branch at 2.5m on north-west which has been truncated at 5m from the trunk and only supports some minor epicormic growth. Cut back to trunk leaving a wound of 275mm diameter. 3. Low branch to south- west at 4m which is over-extended and grows towards corner of fence of 12 Heritage Lawn. Remove entirely back to main trunk leaving wound 300mm in diameter. 4. Branch above this to the south-west with point of origin at 8m. Retain two sub-branches but remove two small descending sub-branches so that crown clearance on this corner of the tree is at least 6m. 5. Large lateral branch to south originating at 3.75m. (i) Remove lowest sub- branch with point of origin 5m from centre of trunk and which hangs low over 12 Heritage Lawn and contains some stubs showing it has been cut back historically; (ii) remove second sub- branch overhanging garden; (iii) lightly reduce other descending sub-branches from remainder of this limb to achieve 6m clearance over garden, as per branch to south-east; (iv) reduce back any descending sub-branches to give a minimum 2m clearance from roof gutters of 14 Heritage Lawn; (v) lightly reduce ends to reduce length and overhang of garden by 1.5m. 6. Lateral branch growing off subdominant stem to south-east at 8m and growing directly towards corner of building 14 Heritage Lawn. (i) Remove first descending sub-branch to W back to main limb (not to ascending stem); (ii) remove former failed hazard beam on sub-branch to E; (iii) lightly reduce any other sub- branches to give minimum 2m clearance from house and gutters of 14 Heritage Lawn. 7.
HORLEY TOWN	No objections, subject to no adverse comments from the Tree
COUNCIL COMMENTS	Officer.
(Planning Officer delegation):	

B. RBBC Letter Dated:	Application No: 20/00167/TPO
LOCATION:	32 Wellington Way Horley Surrey RH6 8JH
DESCRIPTION:	T1 - Oak - Prune to reduce the crown size by shortening the longer branches by 1.5m. T2 - Oak - Prune to reduce the crown size by shortening the longer branches by 0.75m.
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (Planning Officer delegation):	No objections, subject to no adverse comments from the Tree Officer.

# **Planning Comments**

C. RBBC Letter Dated: 03/02/20	Application No: <u>19/02273/TPO</u>
LOCATION:	Land Adjacent To 9 Priestlands Close Horley Surrey RH6 8GG
DESCRIPTION:	AMENDED PRUNING SPECIFICATION SEE CONDITION 2 AND INFORMATIVE 2 FOR APPROVED WORKS AND GUIDANCE Willow crown redcue as per imposed conditions. [sic]
HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS (Planning Officer delegation):	No objections, subject to no adverse comments from the Tree Officer.

D. RBBC Letter Dated: 11/02/20	Application No: 20/00272/TPO
LOCATION:	Land Adjacent To 11 Clifton Close Horley Surrey RH6 9SE
DESCRIPTION:	<ul> <li>T1 Oak - Crown lift by 1m, secondary branches only. Shorten by</li> <li>1.5m the six lowest branches that protrude on the West side of</li> <li>the tree.</li> <li>T2 Ash - Fell. This tree has had some recent branch failures and</li> <li>exhibits some dead branches due to suspected Chalara fraxinea.</li> </ul>
HORLEY TOWN	No objections, subject to no adverse comments from the Tree
COUNCIL COMMENTS	Officer.
(Planning Officer delegation):	

# **HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

Joan Walsh Town Clerk Council Offices, 92 Albert Road Horley, Surrey RH6 7HZ Tel: 01293 784765 Email: info@horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk www.horleysurrey-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Eddy Humphreys Executive Member for Place & Economic Prosperity Reigate & Banstead Borough Council Town Hall Castlefield Road Reigate Surrey RH2 0SH

Sent by Email: Cllr.Humphreys@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

13 February 2020

Dear Cllr Humphreys

# Horley Place and Prosperity Partnership 2020 Proposal

Thank you for consulting Horley Town Council on proposals for the creation of a 'Horley Place and Prosperity **Partnership**' and forwarding the draft Terms of Reference together with an opportunity to comment. The matter was given very careful consideration at our Full Council meeting, held on 11 February, and the following observations were made:

On reviewing the proposals for the new proposed partnership, our members felt that there was a strong focus on the regeneration of Horley through the formation of a strategic joint working group with a shared vision to achieve sustainable economic growth. They noted with positivity some of the key principles set out to acquire wide-ranging urban regeneration opportunities and public realm improvements to meet the demands of the rising population of Horley in recent years.

At the same time, however, our members raised concerns that the proposed new partnership does to some extent, overshadow earlier discussions and former plans to merge the existing **Horley Town Management (HTMG)** and **Horley Regeneration Forum (HRF)** as one group with essentially the same common purpose. They do accept that that it is not intended for the new partnership to replace HTMG as an established body. However, these new partnership proposals would undoubtedly contravene initial plans to proceed with this merger even though the recommendation had previously been supported by both groups (subject to agreement of the new Terms of Reference).

It should also be noted that HTMG representatives had already in previous years carried out extensive work to identify what was needed to be delivered to improve the town's vitality and long-term potential as well taking opportunities to pursue various funding initiatives. For example, the group acquired monies from the 'Mary Portas Fund' which have been earmarked for extra contemporary signage in the refurbished High Street Pedestrian Precinct. HTMG made a further successful bid for money from the 'High Street Innovation Fund' to investigate measures to enhance the town in the form of a revitalisation study which involved detailed public surveys and other community engagement. All of these outcomes were later published in their 'Town Vision' report.

Along with HTMG, the Town Council has also supported RBBC in bids for funding through its business case, such as, the Coast-to-Capital LEP Local Growth Fund last year. As the Town Council supports HTMG as an outside body and facilitates its meetings, it is felt that the group should be able to continue to move forward in this respect and work closer with local authorities and other agencies to enable Horley to prosper.

Moving on to the new partnership proposals you have provided, our members commented on the Draft Terms of Reference, as follows:

# > <u>Title: Horley Place and Prosperity Partnership 2020 (Page 1):</u>

- The proposed title should be renamed to capture more community identity (including business, voluntary, community and public sector partners).
- The word 'Place' lacks identity.
- Reference to the year '2020' has no meaning in this context since it is assumed the partnership, once established, would remain in existence well into the future.
- An alternative title put forward for consideration is: 'Horley Town Regeneration Group'.

# Background (Page 1):

- Strategic leadership is not just required from the business community, but also from local authorities, since Councillors are representing residents' views.
- Although an icon footbridge over the mainline railway would indeed be a positive new landmark, any proposals to remove the subway seems impractical since appropriate accessibility for cyclists, mobility/pushchair users is essential.
- Surrey County Council has already begun to deliver sustainable travel routes across the town.
- Again, Councillors would be representing residents' views on proposals for Gatwick Airport expansion plans.

# Purpose (Page 1):

• The vision described in this paragraph has already been met by members of HTMG to a large extent (as aforementioned).

# Membership and Structure (Page 2):

- The Chairmanship should be a Councillor; the Vice-Chair recruited from the business community, and both should serve a term of 2 years (as is currently the case with HTMG).
- Councillors will have Chairmanship experience, extensive knowledge of the local area and their role of public office would eliminate any potential conflict of interests.
- Councillors may also influence the development of a proposed new Horley Business Park and proposed Gatwick Airport expansion plans.

# Core Group (Page 3):

- Only <u>one</u> representative for the County, Borough and Town Councils have been proposed, with <u>three</u> members proposed from other groups eg. Resident Associations. Why is this proposed ratio higher than council representation?
- There is no mention of **business**, **voluntary or community sector groups** within the 'Core Group' and should therefore also be clearly categorised here. There is also concern that recruiting from the business sector may be difficult and major employers in Horley are not in abundance at present.

- The Core Group should be kept more confined with interested community groups invited to participate to share their levels of expertise, past experiences and future vision for Horley and where certain topics relate to their particular interests.
- The Core Group should reflect a 'PESTLE' analysis framework to examine the key factors (Political, Economic, Sociological, Technological, Legal and Environmental) influencing an organisation from the outside and to guide strategic decision-making.

# Meetings Frequency and Secretariat Support (Page 3):

• Four meetings per year have been proposed. This is considered insufficient and should be increased to six meetings per year together with an annual workplan, programme of topics and a series of dates agreed in advance.

# Ground Rules (Page 3):

• The Ground Rules proposed are considered to be patronising and should be replaced with the seven 'Nolan Principles' which form the basis of good ethical standards (Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership).

# Conclusion:

In summary, it is suggested that careful consideration should be given to the Draft Terms of Reference for the new partnership along the lines indicated above, since the earlier recommendation to combine the two groups (HRF/HTMG) have to a degree been lost in these proposals.

The proposals for this partnership are thought to be a completely separate entity to anything put forward previously. It is therefore suggested that a detailed feasibility study be undertaken before the new partnership is formed.

A pre-meeting with you along with HTMG, County, Borough and Town Council representatives is considered imperative to review these partnership proposals, set priorities and to agree the way forward.

We trust that our comments will be given due consideration and we look forward to hearing from you in the hope that the meeting we have requested may be arranged at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

Walsh

cc:

Joan Walsh Town Clerk

Borough Cllr, Andy Lynch - HTMG Chairman County & Borough Cllr, Graham Knight County Cllr, Kay Hammond Carrie Burton - RBBC Simon Bland - RBBC Cllr David Powell - HTC Chairman & Town Mayor

