HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL Leisure & Amenities Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above-named Committee held at the Albert Rooms, Albert Road, Horley on Tuesday 10 July 2018 at 7.30 pm.

Present

Councillors Simon Marshall - Chairman

J Baker G Buttironi M George J Hudson

Samantha Marshall Valerie Marshall

H Randall

In Attendance

C Fenton (Head of Leisure & Deputy Clerk)

L 4443 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllrs Banwait, A Kitajewski, Powell and Stimpson be accepted, for reasons as specified in the attendance register.

L 4444 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest in relation to any items on this agenda.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4445 Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4446 Approval of Minutes

Leisure and Amenities Committee, 29 May 2018

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the above meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee, including all confidential items, be approved.

Outside Bodies

L 4447 Cllr Samantha Marshall updated members on recent meetings of the Horley RBL Committee, which she had attended as the HTC representative. Members were disturbed to notice a reference in the minutes to "8 potted"

L 4447) oak trees, which might look nice in the Memorial Gardens."

RESOLVED: that Horley RBL Committee members be reminded of previous correspondence from the Town Council, refusing permission for an Oak Tree to be planted in the Memorial Gardens"

L 4448 Cllr Samantha Marshall advised members that, due to her appointment as Vice-Chairman of the Council, it would be difficult for her to attend all future Horley RBL Committee meetings, so it would be beneficial to appoint a substitute representative.

RESOLVED: that a substitute representative be sought, to attend Horley RBL Committee meetings in Cllr Samantha Marshall's absence.

L 4449 Horley Churchyards

Members were updated on the recent meeting of the Churchyards Committee, minutes of which are appended. It was noted that the meeting had been attended by Tom Hughes from Burleys. Some concern had been raised about the cutting of the grass over the graves in the Old Churchyard, which was now the responsibility of the Borough Council. It was agreed that a representative of the RBBC Green Spaces Team be invited to attend future Churchyards Committee Meetings. It was noted that this year's tour of the Churchyards for members was still to be arranged. (Subsequently arranged to take place on 13 September.)

RESOLVED: noted.

Grounds Maintenance Update

L 4450 Members were updated on recent meetings with the Burleys Area Manager, notes of which are appended.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4451 The Head of Leisure advised that, in view of the persistently hot and dry weather, more watering of the beds in the Memorial Gardens would be required than in other years, resulting in extra costs being incurred.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4452 Cllr George reported that the large abandoned items (tents, tyres etc) had finally been removed from the Riverside Walk area by RBBC.

The Head of Leisure told members that she planned to discuss the planting of Yellow Rattle at Church Meadows at the next monthly meeting with Tom Hughes from Burleys. She explained that this would be sown in the long-grassed areas and would act as a suppressant, allowing more wild flowers to grow the following year. It was also noted that the Borough Council should be reminded to cut the exterior hedge along the Church Meadows boundary with the main road.

RESOLVED: noted.

Playgrounds and Grounds Inspections and Repairs

L 4454 It was noted that inspections were being carried out and members were updated regarding recent repairs. The Head of Leisure explained that there had been ongoing damage to the fence and benches in the Horley Rec playground, with items being set fire to, as well as part of the fence to the rear of playground, which bordered the private tennis club. It was agreed to make Smart Guard Security aware of these issues.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4455 RESOLVED: that the quotation from Bennetts to make safe the exposed foot anchors on some of the items of fitness equipment at Horley Rec, for the total sum of £260 plus VAT, be approved.

L 4456 Youth Services in Horley

Members were updated on the meeting of the Horley Partnership Network, held earlier in the day. Cllr George advised that the Youth Worker was leaving the Horley Young People's Centre and a replacement was currently being sought. The Head of Leisure confirmed that minutes of the meeting would be circulated to members.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4457 Planned Works in Playground at Horley Recreation Ground

The Head of Leisure updated members on recent meetings with playground and surfacing contractors to discuss the possible re-positioning of one item of equipment currently in an area prone to flooding, as well as to obtain quotations for the complete replacement of the current safety surfacing. Once all the quotations were received they would be discussed at a future meeting. The Chairman added that the replacement of the safety surfacing was becoming quite urgent, to prevent trip hazards etc from occurring.

L 4458 Request from Horley Bowling Club regarding Water Usage

The Head of Leisure made members aware of correspondence received from the Bowling Club, explaining that, whilst the Club was prepared to provide water to commercial organisations using Horley Rec for funfairs etc, it should be for their domestic use only and not used for any sort of commercial purpose.

RESOLVED: that the request be made known to any organisations using Horley Rec for future events.

L 4459 Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), Horley Recreation Ground

RESOLVED: that a request from a local user of the MUGA be approved and metal basketball nets be provided for the total sum of £39.30, including delivery.

L 4460 Meeting re Skate Park at Horley Recreation Ground

Members were updated on the recent meeting with young people and YMCA representatives, where possible improvements to the skate park area had been discussed. The youngsters were keen to have some form of safety barriers installed, to prevent young children and dogs from running directly across the skate park. Whilst members could see the benefit of this, the costs would need to included in future budgets and advice would also need to sought from the company that had installed the skate park, regarding any safety implications for skate park users. The young people were also keen to have spotlights on two of the lamp posts until 10.00 pm and they also wanted a bench and litter bin close to the skate park. (The last two had already been provided.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4461 Replacement Playground at Court Lodge Fields

It was noted that the new playground had been fully operational for the past month and was proving to be very popular with local youngsters. The Head of Leisure advised that designs and quotations for signage were currently being sought.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4462 Replacement Picnic Bench, Court Lodge Playground

The Head of Leisure advised that a picnic bench had been removed from the playground, on the advice of Bennetts, the Town Council's playground inspectors. She explained that the picnic bench been modified by Town

L 4462) Council contractors some years ago, with the addition of a metal cover over the table. A toddler had been slightly injured climbing up to the table during the recent hot weather. Member approved the purchase of a replacement bench, made from recycled plastic material.

RESOLVED: that a Forest Saver picnic table be purchased from Earth Anchors Ltd, for the total sum of £474, including installation tools and delivery.

L 4463 Holiday Activities at Court Lodge Fields

Members were reminded that the request from the Horley Sure Start Children's Centre to run free Summer Holiday activities at Court Lodge Fields had been approved in principle at the recent Full Council meeting. Further details had now been received about the events, which would take place on four Mondays during the school Summer holidays and would include games, a small bouncy castle and the Sure Start Play Bus. In addition, a barbecue was planned for the last Monday. Members endorsed their approval of the events, subject to receipt of evidence of Public Liability Insurance (received) and acceptance of the Town Council's usual terms and conditions.

RESOLVED: that permission be granted for the Horley Sure Start Children's Centre to hold Summer Holiday activities at Court Lodge Fields. (A copy of the Town Council's letter, detailing terms and conditions, is appended.)

L 4464 Football at Court Lodge Fields

The Head of Leisure advised that, due to the long spell of dry weather, it had not been possible to verti-drain the football pitches, prior to the start of end of season pitch renovations taking place. Burleys now planned to carry out the works at a suitable point during the football season, using a smaller verti-drainer for the task.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4465 Innes Pavilion – Internal Works

RESOLVED: that permission be granted for the tenant of the Innes Pavilion to paint the internal walls of the Pavilion, subject to the appropriate paint being used.

L 4466 Equipment at Michael Crescent Playground

The Clerk told members that Bennetts had advised that the large multi-play unit at Michael Crescent was in a poor state of repair and that it would cost a considerable amount just to bring it to a satisfactory standard in the short

L 4466) term. Members unanimously agreed that quotations be sought for replacement equipment.

RESOLVED: that quotations be sought for replacement playground equipment at Michael Crescent, using appropriate Earmarked Funds.

L 4467 Members' Tours of Recreation Areas

RESOLVED: that these take place on the following dates: 7 August – Church Meadows & Court Lodge Fields 21 August – Horley Rec, Michael Crescent & Emlyn Meadows

Tree Works

- L 4468 RESOLVED: that the quotation from Heatherlands Tree Care to remove deadwood and crown reduce an ash tree at Court Lodge Fields, for the sum of £450, be approved.
- The Head of Leisure advised that a number of residents living to the rear of the Albert Rooms had approached the Town Council regarding the very large oak tree, which was overhanging their gardens. The Clerk told members that she had instructed County Tree Surgeons to carry out a Single Tree Health & Safety Report, which would include recommendations to bring the tree to an acceptable level of risk. Quotations subsequently received for any necessary works would be considered at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: noted.

Church Road and Langshott Allotments

L 4470 Members were reminded that there was a Section 106 Commuted Sum of £18,561 for works associated with the Langshott Allotments, which included staff costs. A claim had just been made to the Borough Council for £4,418.38 for the financial year 2017 – 2018. This would leave £3,512.11 in unclaimed monies.

RESOLVED: noted

L 4471 The Clerk told members that dates were currently being arranged for the judging of both allotment sites, as part of the Horley in Bloom competition.

L 4472 North West Sector (Westvale Park) Allotments

Members were updated on the recent meeting held with Peter Boarder, where he had explained that, whilst new or improved pedestrian and cycle links were planned, including the diversion of the public footpath around the dual-use recreation ground, the only vehicle access to the southern allotment site would be from outside the development via Meath Green Lane, as the neighbourhood had been planned on the basis of encouraging people to use more sustainable means of transport. At the request of the Town Council, Peter Boarder had now approached the developers, asking the Consortium to provide toilet facilities at both allotment sites or, should this not be possible, to provide toilets at the southern site close to the Neighbourhood Centre, rather than at the northern site, which was still some years away from being made available. A response did not appear to have been received to date.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4473 Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee (HOSAC)

Members were updated on the meeting held in June, minutes of which are appended.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4474 Horley Conservation Group (HCG)

Members were updated on recent activities, which had included Himalayan Balsam clearance at Emlyn Meadows, Church Meadows and along the Burstow Stream.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4475 Environment Matters

Cllr Randall raised concern about recent work carried out to a maple tree on the river bank at Church Meadows. The Head of Leisure responded that the works had been carried out by a working party from the Horley Piscatorial Society, to ease access for fishing and help prevent anti-social activity. The works had been carried out under the terms of their Licence, which stated that the Piscatorial Society was generally responsible for the management of the bankside. Cllr Randall added that he was particularly concerned that the steep bank had now been revealed, which could be hazardous for children. The Head of Leisure agreed to raise the matter with the Borough Council's Greenspaces Manager.

Horley in Bloom (HIB)

L 4476 Members were updated on the judging of the main gardening categories, which had taken place the previous day. Thanks were recorded to the judges, as well as to the staff who had organised this year's competition. The Head of Leisure confirmed that the Borough Mayor would be attending the Awards Ceremony on 28 September. It was noted that the HIB Committee was due to meet the following week.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4477 The Head of Leisure advised that Crest Nicholson was no longer in a position to be able to sponsor the HIB Photographic Competition. There was a chance that Taylor Wimpey may offer a small donation from their Donation Box Scheme, apart from that, members were pleased to learn that both MAD Ideas and Mitchells of Horley had pledged sponsorship of £95 each.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4478 Town Centre Precinct Flowers

The Head of Leisure explained that the Peter Boarder had informed the Town Council that the Precinct refurbishment would not be commencing until mid-September. In view of this she had ordered six extra hanging baskets and six extra Heritage Half Barrels for the Precinct, the cost of which totalled £984 plus VAT, making the total cost of planters and baskets for 2018 almost identical to that spent in 2017.

RESOLVED: that the additional costs be ratified.

L 4479 Tiered Flower Bed near Station

It was noted that County Care had recently helped the local resident to tidy up the tiered bed.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4480 Horley Saturday Market

It was noted that the main trader now had a smaller van and had no need to open the height barrier at the Central Car Park.

L 4481 Horley Carnival

Cllr George advised that the recent Carnival had been extremely successful. A "wash-up" meeting was to be held later in the month, when some details of the 2019 Carnival would also be agreed. (Subsequently agreed to take place on 15 June 2019 with a "Moments in History" theme.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 4482 Letter from Historic England

The Deputy Clerk told members hat a letter had been received from Historic England, explaining that an application had been received to add the Horley War Memorial to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest ("The List"). The Co-ordinator was keen to receive any comments or further information about the War Memorial.

RESOLVED: that the letter be forwarded to members of the Horley Local History Society for comment.

L 4483 Diary Dates

RESOLVED: that forthcoming events be noted, in particular the Horley Lions Skittles Tournament in mid-July and Residents' Forum on 24 July.

Meeting closed at 9.24 pm

Date of next meeting - 4 September 2018.

Minutes of the Churchyard Committee meeting 04/07/18

Present: Rev Les Wells, Sue Middleton (sec), Thiru Jesudason, Roy Page, Michael Gardner, Richard Moore,

Michael George (Cllr), David Powell (Cllr), Carol Fenton (deputy town clerk),

Tom Hughes (Contract manager for Burleys)- present for part of the meeting

Apologies: Roger Kidd, James Baker.

- 1) Prayer The meeting opened with a word of prayer by Rev Les Wells
- 2) Tom Hughes Reported that work was proceeding satisfactorily to contract & that the workmen had received several compliments on the appearance of the churchyard by members of the public while on site.
- 3) Sue Middleton Re reimbursement of invoices by Burley's, stated that she paid cheques out to all invoices received during the month at the end of the month. So if payment appeared delayed it was because the invoice was not received on time. Tom reported, though he raised the invoices, it was then forwarded to their head office in Derby, who then forwarded to the Parish office for payment. He said he would explain to their head office the reasons for any apparent delay.
- 4) Discussion- The committee complimented Tom, that they were pleased with the work & especially, Les as he walked his dogs daily in the churchyard. Les also stated that should there be any complaints from the public it should be in writing or by email, so it could be dealt with.
 - Tom left the meeting, afterwards.
- 5) Matters relating to Churchyard maintenance Clearing of paths of weeds & backfilling of sunken graves with surplus soil from new graves delayed as Roger Kidd had not been available. Action Michael Gardner & Roger Kidd.
- 6) Old Churchyard maintenance by RBBC Though the grass verge & front lawn was mown fortnightly as per contract & looked satisfactory, the grass over the graves had not been cut on time, to date had been cut only once. The committee advised that the green spaces manager be invited to the Churchyard committee meetings. Carol suggested two names, Mark Jolly & Lee Wilcox.
 - Action Thiru to contact green spaces manager.
- 7) Minutes of the previous meeting Carol Fenton apologised that the Council grant, had not been paid into the Church a/c as she had previously stated but should have been paid now. Minutes were then passed as correct.
- 8) Matters arising
 - a) Tarmac repair- The All churches Trust had only given £500.00, though the quote from Hobart paving was for £2,462 + VAT. Discussion ensued, the final opinion being that though "a patch up job may seem cheap in the short term, it would

prove more costly in the longer term". Therefore it was proposed we seek other sources of funding.

Action – Thiru to ask Ann Golding to approach Surrey Community Foundation Trust.

b) Tree work – Grant application for £500.00 (quote from Dave Ford Tree Care for lifting of crowns of low hanging branches & trimming of a rear hedge) was turned down by Gatwick Community Trust. The committee advised we seek other sources of funding

Action – Roy to apply to Kay Hammond County councillor

Action – David Powell to approach Graham Knight County Cllr for Horley East for support

- c) Sources of other possible grants-
 - 1) For Tarmac repair —To "Keir" The Highways Contractor for Surrey County Council to approach their headquarters, suggesting it may be good PR for them.

Action - Roy to look into this.

- 2) Britannia Crest?
- **d)** War graves signage by CWCG for the old & New Churchyards has now been forwarded for faculty approval under list B for Archdeacon's approval after it was passed by the PCC.
- 9) Waste bins in churchyard Les reported he had prepared a notice stating the bins were for the exclusive use of the Graveyard users, & hoped it may deter local homeowners from dumping domestic refuse.

Michael George suggested we may leaflet the local homes with the same notice.

Action - Rev Les, to ensure notice is put up

- 10) Under any other business
 - 1) David Powell reported he supervises & maintains the 11 WW1 war graves in the Old Churchyard & the 12 WW2 war graves in the New Churchyard, in the week leading to Remembrance Sunday. He asked the contractors be asked to brush off any grass cuttings from the War Graves.
 - 2) Re- ornamentation around graves It was felt removing ornaments off kids graves would be highly emotive. Les suggested putting up the Diocesan rules as a notice in the Churchyard. This was well received.

Action - Rev Les to look into this.

- 11) Date of next meeting 10th October 2018
- 12) The meeting closed with a prayer by Rev Les Wells.

Notes of a Monthly Grounds Maintenance Meetings with Burleys representatives, held on Wednesday 6 June 2018 at 3.00 pm in the Town Council Offices, 92 Albert Road, Horley

Present:

Carol Fenton

HTC

Cllr Simon Marshall

HTC

Tom Hughes (Contract Manager) Burleys

Horley Rec: It was noted that a site meeting had been held earlier to agree field renovation work, ahead of the Carnival, due to take place on 16th June. Tom was advised that the funfair was due to start arriving on the Monday before the Carnival and would leave early the following week. Skips would be in place for Carnival stall holders etc to use and the Town Centre Caretaker would be helping to clear away rubbish during the event itself. Tom advised that the grass would be cut at the end of the current week and added that the bedding in the Memorial Gardens was due to be planted the following Tuesday (12th June).

Court Lodge Playing Fields: Carol advised that the new playground was now fully open and a formal opening would be held in due course. Tom said that the ground had proved to be too hard for the vert-draining of the pitches to take place and he now planned to have the work done with a smaller machine during the football season itself. The goal posts were due to be removed at the end of the week so that the goal mouth renovations could be carried out. It was noted that friendly football matches were due to start at the beginning of August.

Emlyn Meadows: Due to be cut at the end of the work.

Michael Crescent Centenary Park: Tom advised that the work to tidy up the boundaries of the Park would now to be carried out during June.

Church Meadows: Tom advised that the wild flower meadow areas would be checked for thistles, which would be removed if there in great numbers.

Other Matters: No matters were raised.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11 July 2018 at 3.00 pm

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Joan Walsh - Town Clerk Carol Fenton - Head of Leisure Council Offices, 92 Albert Road Horley, Surrey RH6 7HZ Tel: 01293 784765

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Natalie Hughes Horley Sure Start Children's Centre Manager

18 July 2018

Dear Natalie

"Summer Days" Children's Activities at Court Lodge Fields

I am writing to confirm this Council's approval for you to use Court Lodge Fields for children's activities on 30 July and 6,13 & 20 August 2018.

There will be no charge for the use of our grounds, however we would request that the Children's Centre meet the cost of any reinstatement / repairs which may occur as a direct result of your activities.

As previously advised, we will make the toilet facilities at the rear of the Innes Pavilion available for your use, where you also have access to power. Please do not disturb the tenant using the front of the Pavilion at any time.

We understand that you may be using a small bouncy castle on some of the days and would ask you to sign and return the attached Agreement to us. We would also request that any barbecue equipment is used at the Innes Pavilion end of the fields, where there is access to water. We trust that the barbecue equipment will be supervised at all times.

We believe that you are planning to have the Sure Start Bus parked on the fields, so you will need to collect keys from us to enable you to open the height barrier and lower the bollard onto the fields. Please ensure that the height barrier is kept shut and locked at all times, as well as the bollard.

Please could you provide evidence of your Public Liability Insurance. We would also advise that, whilst the Town Council accepts responsibility for its property, it seeks indemnity against claims or actions for loss, damage, injury or death caused as a direct result of activities or any associated event.

Please could you confirm your acceptance of these terms and conditions in writing (by email will be fine).

We wish you every success with the activities.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Fenton, Head of Leisure

Carroe Fentin

HORLEY OPEN SPACES ADVISORY COMMITTEE Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 19 June 2018 at 6pm.

Present: Cllr Simon Marshall, Cllr Valerie Marshall, Carol Fenton, Cathy Cooper, Cllr Mike George, Cllr Samantha Marshall, Cllr Fiona Stimpson, Cllr Henry Randall, Lewis Keen (HPS), Jan Spratt (HCG), County Cllr Kay Hammond.

Appointment of Chairman for 2018/19:

Samantha Marshall took the chair. Simon Marshall was proposed as Chairman by Mike George, seconded by Henry Randall and agreed. Simon then took over as Chairman.

Apologies for absence:

Kevin Lerwill (GGP), Cllr David Powell.

Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising:

The minutes of the meeting on 27 March 2018 were agreed.

Open Spaces:

Horley Recreation Ground

Simon said that the silent soldiers positioned in the Memorial Gardens looked good.

Following complaints from residents, Carol said that the positioning of the caravans had been agreed for future visits of the fair. Jimmy Beach will mark the positions with spray paint.

Fiona said that her dogs are diving into the bushes every day looking for rats, so we might have to call in the pest control officer.

On Friday afternoon some fencing that backs onto the tennis club was burnt.

There are a lot of broken branches in the rec that appear to have been broken by teenagers.

Fiona reported that a lack of maintenance by Burleys has resulted in shrubs and weeds swamping other plants, especially in the ornamental gardens.

Following a meeting with three boys from the YMCA, Mike said they have requested a litter bin and a seat by the skate park (already installed), also a safety fence around the skate park (but not the ramps) to stop people walking across it, plus some lighting. Spotlights could be mounted on existing lighting columns, switching off at 10.00 pm, however this may require a planning application. The requests would be discussed at the next Leisure Meeting.

Quotations are also being obtained for new safety surfaces in the children's play area, as these are quite old and causing safety issues. Drainage crates are not now being fitted but an item of play equipment susceptible to flooding will be moved to higher ground.

Simon reported that the rec looked good on Sunday morning and Burleys were clearing up after Saturday's carnival.

Church Meadows

Two wildflower areas have been planted and Carol said that the plants are already growing. Henry reported that the outer hedge is overgrown and this could cause pedestrians to have to walk in the road if it is not trimmed.

Bay Close Open Space

No problems reported. Valerie reported that several families were playing cricket and football there on Sunday.

Mike reported that the disused scout hut is to be reopened.

Emlyn Meadow

Valerie reported that the nettles are very overgrown on the banks and it is impossible to see the river except in one or two places.

Mike said that the local scouts did a litter pick recently that was reported in the Daily Mail.

Yattendon Road Recreation Ground

No problems reported.

Michael Crescent Centenary Park

Carol has met with the contractor. Some of the children's play equipment is in poor condition and may have to be replaced from L & A funds.

Court Lodge Playing Fields/Riverside Walk

The new playground is very popular. Some parents have complained that younger children can't use the slide but Mike pointed out that, under EU rules, if the step is too high then that piece of equipment is not suitable for younger children. We need more signage to reflect suitability.

Mike has been in discussion with R&BBC concerning litter in the wood. He said that the litter is not being cleared because three different departments at the Borough are arguing over whose responsibility it is. (Has now been cleared.)

The Piscatorial Society recently carried out habitat improvement work along the river, however concerns were raised about the safety of the lorry accessing the site.

Riverside Garden Park

Fiona reported that new benches have been installed.

The car park has not yet been repaired. Fiona said that her car still grounds despite the fact that she is driving slowly. (Work has now been completed.)

Cathy reported that there is a terrapin (or turtle) living in the lake - obviously an abandoned pet. Visitors often feed the ducks, so inevitably some of the food is eaten by the terrapin. We should ask R&BBC to put up a sign asking visitors not to feed bread to the ducks, as this is bad for them and causes damage to the lake.

Lewis reported that there are mink in the area again.

Mike asked Carol to highlight the items in the minutes that we want noted by R&BBC.

Horley in Bloom Competition:

The competition has now been launched and judging will take place on 9 July. We are struggling to find sponsors for the photographic competition, otherwise we will only have very limited funds for prizes.

Horley Conservation Group:

The planned day in March was cancelled due to the weather. Recent activities have included:

April – cutting back foliage at Tanyard Pond

May - circular guided walk around Horley

June - removal of Himalayan Balsam at Emlyn Meadow and elsewhere

Coming up - Wildlife Days on 22 and 23 June

Horley Piscatorial Society:

Lewis reported some antisocial behaviour in RGP and a car being broken into, which was reported to the police. The HPS Treasurer is meeting with the police to discuss any problems. Lewis would like to have CCTV fitted in the car park.

Cathy reported that the Holiday Inn at Gatwick is recommending holidaymakers to visit RGP if they have any spare time.

Fiona complained about speeding cyclists along the footpath and said she had a near miss with one while driving her mobility scooter.

Lewis reported that there are three different varieties of lily growing in the lake. He said that the flow of the river has been improved by adding 30 tons of gravel. This has created a new spawning area for next year and the work was partly funded by the Wild Trout Trust.

HPS has received some funding and hopes to apply for another grant – these will be used to improve the river in the Court Lodge area next year.

SGI is still operating in the Surrey area, however they no longer carry out work for Surrey County Council, so we are not sure whether they would still be willing to assist with tasks such as clearing fallen trees from the local rivers.

Riverside Green Chain (The Acres/Westvale Park)

Mike reported that the recreation areas in Westvale Park are being created piecemeal as the development is built.

Any other business:

Henry reported a traveller incursion on Earlswood Common near the golf course. They were there on Sunday and yesterday. Mike said Horley Leisure Centre staff don't always lock the barrier after having deliveries, so there was a danger that travellers might go there. Henry said that the allotment holders in Church Road also sometimes forget to lock the gate.

Kay reported that extra bus services are being put in place as the new developments are built.

Next meeting:

The next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 11 September at 6pm, before P & D. Samantha suggested asking R&BBC if another representative could be sent if Lee Wilcox was unable to attend.