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 8 September 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Present Councillors Simon Marshall - Committee Chairman

J Baird J Baker S Banwait K Etheridge M George J Hudson A Kitajewski

Samantha Marshall

V Marshall R Olliver D Powell H Randall F Stimpson

In Attendance A Jones (Town Clerk)

C Fenton (Deputy Clerk)

L 3754 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

There were no apologies for absence (all Committee members present).

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3755 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

No Declarations of Interest were received.

RESOLVED: noted.

Public Forum

L 3756 Two members of the public were present, who were keen to discuss their ideas for planting at the tiered flower bed at the junction of The Drive and Russells Crescent. The residents were keen to adopt the flower bed and outlined their plans for winter, spring and summer planting. It was suggested by members that water could possibly be made available via the Archway Garage

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3757 RESOLVED: that the residents make the Town Council aware of any likely costs and the matter be considered at a future meeting of this Committee.

L 3758 Approval of Minutes Leisure and Amenities Committee, 14 July 2015

The minutes of the above meeting of the Leisure and Amenities Committee were presented for confirmation by Committee members and signature by the Committee Vice-Chairman.

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

L 3759 Outdoor Fitness Equipment at Horley Recreation Ground

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the grant of £10,000 had now been received from the London Marathon Charitable Trust.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3760 Funfair Visit – Horley Recreation Ground

The Deputy Clerk advised that that Beach's Funfair would be now be arriving from Monday 12 October 2015.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3761 Gatwick Greenspace Partnership – Meeting of the Members' Steering Group

Members were updated on the meeting held the previous day. It was noted that Cllr Chris Mullins of Crawley Borough Council had been appointed as the Group's Chairman for the coming year.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3762 Horley Churchyards

Members were reminded that the members' tour of the Churchyards was to take place on the evening of 23 September and the next Churchyards Committee meeting was scheduled for 7 October. Cllr George advised that Rev Calvert Prentis was to leave St Bart's Church at the end of September and the Clerk added that a new Rector was yet to be appointed. Cllr Powell told members that there had been a request from a local resident to adopt a War Grave.

RESOLVED: noted.

Grounds Maintenance Update

L 3763 Members were updated on recent monthly meetings, which had been held with the Borough Council's Grounds Maintenance Operations Manager, notes of which are appended. It was noted that Frank Etheridge, the Borough Council's Head of Recycling & Cleansing would also be attending future monthly meetings.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3764 The Clerk advised that the standard of litter collection was improving, however there were some grass cutting issues.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3765 Playground Inspections

RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of the Contractor's detailed weekly and daily visual playground inspection reports.

Michael Crescent Centenary Park

L 3766 The Deputy Clerk referred to correspondence received from a local resident regarding the provision of a gate at the main entrance to the Park, where there was currently just a bollard.

RESOLVED: that consideration be given to this and other changes to the park once the Scout Hut has been demolished, the resident to be informed accordingly.

- L 3767 RESOLVED: that signage at the park be improved to confirm that dogs are prohibited from the entire park.
- L 3768 Possible Provision of Café/Toilet Facilities, Horley Recreation Ground

Members considered the report produced by Trevlyn Tanner Architects Ltd, following the completion of the first stage of the feasibility study. Of the options provided by the architects, Option 4, between the Ornamental Gardens and the playground, was considered to be the most suitable. It was noted that a further option (Option 5) had been put forward by members, placing the café at the front of the park, beyond the car park. Members stressed the need for a business plan to be drawn up and agreed that the café should be visible from the road, whilst equally not being too far away from the playground. Following further discussion members suggested that the café might be better situated along the front of the Ornamental Gardens, close to the roundabout (Option 6).

L 3768) RESOLVED: that Trevlyn Tanner Architects be appointed to carry out the second stage of the feasibility study for the sum of £2,140 plus VAT, the siting of the café to remain undecided at the present time (Option 4 or Option 6).

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3769 Refurbishment of Skate Park

It was noted that an application for funding had been made to Surrey County Council's Community Improvements Fund. Bids were to be considered by the SCC Leader on 29 October.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3770 Resident's Concerns Regarding Horley Recreation Ground

Members considered correspondence received from a local resident regarding litter and anti-social behaviour in the park. Members were reminded that there were plans to trial new style larger bins at the Recreation Ground and the Clerk reminded members of plans to upgrade the CCTV cameras.

RESOLVED: that the resident be informed accordingly

L 3771 Bonfire & Fireworks Display, 31 October 1015

It was noted that a letter had been sent to Peter Moxley of the Horley Lions, detailing the Town Council's terms and conditions for the event (a copy is appended). Included in the letter had been a suggestion that the main entrance to the Memorial Gardens be manned by Stewards to prevent free entry into the park, leading to people climbing onto the War Memorial to get a better view of the fireworks.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3772 Requests for Circus Visits

The Deputy Clerk reported that Jay Miller's Circus had made a request to visit Horley Recreation Ground in May or June of 2016. The Deputy Clerk advised that Circus Wonderland was likely to return in September 2016 so the two proposed visits would be too close together. She added that it might be possible to offer Court Lodge Fields, if John Lawson's Circus did not have any plans to return in 2016.

L 3772) RESOLVED: noted. (Afternote: it was subsequently learned that John Lawson's Circus would not be returning in 2016, however Jay Miller's Circus declined the use of Court Lodge Fields.)

L 3773 Fencing at Court Lodge Fields

The Clerk advised that the remainder of the (Raven Housing Trust owned) fencing between Raven Housing Trust land and Court Lodge Fields had been removed by Raven, leaving no clear evidence of ownership. It was noted that Raven had put measures in place throughout the estate to prevent encroachment by travellers etc and did not believe a fence to be necessary. Furthermore, Raven's Tenancy Enforcement Manager had advised that Raven did not have any evidence to indicate that it was Raven's responsibility to create or maintain a boundary. The Clerk advised that Coralie Holman, the Borough Council's Senior Asset Manager, was also aware of the present situation.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek advice from the Town Council's Solicitor in the first instance.

L 3774 Church Road Allotments

In response to a question from Cllr Randall, the Clerk advised that a survey of trees within and surrounding the allotment site had been carried out. Quotations would be sought for any urgent works and the matter considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3775 The Deputy Clerk advised that the second judging of the Church Road Allotments for Horley in Bloom had taken place in mid-August and the results made known to the entrants.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3776 Langshott Allotments

The Clerk advised that rubbish which had accumulated in an area of the site had now been removed and there were plans to re-position the concrete barriers surrounding this particular area. Problems regarding low water pressure were still to be rectified by Barratts.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3777 It was noted that the judging of the Langshott Allotments for Horley in Bloom had taken place in early August and the judges had been extremely impressed with the standard of some of the plots.

L 3777) RESOLVED: noted.

L 3778 The Deputy Clerk advised that a plot holder at the Langshott site had enquired whether it might be possible to keep bees at the site. After discussion the following was resolved:

RESOLVED:

- i) that the views of the other allotment holders at the site be sought.
- ii) that advice be sought from the British Bee Keepers' Association
- L 3779 Repairs at the Town Centre Flower Bed at the Junction of The Drive and Russells Crescent

RESOLVED: that the cost of J A Chapman replacing the broken sleepers (£255 plus VAT) be ratified.

L 3780 Horley Conservation Group (HCG)

Members were advised that the next HCG meeting was to take place at the Trinity Oaks Primary School on 2 October. All members were welcome to attend.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3781 Environment Matters

Cllr Powell advised that he had met with Michele Cooper, Catchment Officer at the Environment Agency (EA), to examine several blockages in the Burstow Stream upstream of Emlyn Meadows, as well as the blockage of fallen trees in the River Mole at Church Meadows. Michele had subsequently advised that she had issued an instruction for the EA to clear the blockages in the Burstow Stream. She had also advised that the blockage in the River Mole at Church Meadows be cleared, for flood risk purposes. Following an introduction from Cllr Kay Hammond, Cllr Powell had arranged for representatives from Specialist Group International (funded by Surrey County Council) to remove the blockages from the River Mole at Church Meadows as a training exercise. (Full details attached.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3782 Signage in Recreation Grounds

RESOLVED: that designs for new signs be drawn up, based on the signs in place at Horley Recreation Ground

L 3783 Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee (HOSAC)

Members were updated on the meeting held earlier, notes of which are appended.

RESOLVED: noted

L 3784 Horley in Bloom (HIB)

It was noted that the reception for entrants in the Photographic Competition, which had taken place immediately after the judging of the entries on 4 September, had been very successful. All the entries would be displayed at the Awards Evening on 25 September.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3785 South & South East in Bloom (SSEIB)

It was noted that the SSEIB Awards Ceremony was to take place on Friday 11 September at the Amex Football Stadium, Brighton.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3786 Horley Saturday Market

RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek clarification from the Borough Council's Parking Services Manager regarding charges which apply in the High Street Car Park on Saturdays, when the market is operational.

L 3787 Horley Carnival, 18 June 2016

Cllr George advised members that the theme for next year's Carnival on 18 June had been agreed as "Through the Ages and Beyond".

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3788 Town Centre Christmas Tree

RESOLVED: that the Town Council provide the Christmas Tree in readiness for the Christmas Fayre on 28 November. (The Horley Association of Traders to arrange the dressing of the tree with lights.)

L 3789 Diary Dates

RESOLVED: that forthcoming events be noted, in particular the Donkey Derby and Classic Car Event on 13 September and Horley Baptist Church Open Weekend on 19 & 20 September.

L 3790 Confidential Business

RESOLVED: that, "in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and that they be instructed to withdraw."

L 3791 Devolved Services and other Contractual Issues CONFIDENTIAL

Members received an update

L 3792 Grounds Maintenance Contract 2016 – 2020 CONFIDENTIAL

Members received an update.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3 November 2015

Confidential

Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting, 8 September 2015

L 3791 Devolved Services and other Contractual Issues CONFIDENTIAL

There were no major updates at present. Litter collection had improved although grass cutting had become rather erratic. The Leader of the Borough Council, Cllr Vic Broad, was still unhappy with the tone of recent correspondence received from the Town Council regarding the operation of the Grounds Maintenance Contract. Whilst it was very unlikely that Devolved Powers Agreement would be extended beyond March 2016, it was believed that the Borough Council may be prepared to consider the Town Council retaining one or two of the areas.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3792 Grounds Maintenance Contract 2016 – 2020 CONFIDENTIAL

It was noted that tender documents had been sent out to eleven contractors, who were required to respond by Friday 9 October. The Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee would then consider the tender documents received, prior to inviting contractors for interview.

RESOLVED: noted.