

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 14 April 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Present Councillors Jack Chapman – in the Chair
 R Bethell
 M George
 M Goldsmith
 Samantha Marshall
 V Marshall
 R Olliver
 D Powell
 R Sherwin
 J Spratt
 F Stimpson

In Attendance A Jones (Town Clerk)
 J Walsh (Administrative Officer)
 P Moxley (Horley Lions)
 R Somers (Horley Lions)

L 3645 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

***RESOLVED:** that the apologies of Cllrs J Baird , Simon Marshall, M Robinson and the Deputy Clerk be accepted, for reasons as specified in the attendance register.*

L 3646 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

No Declarations of Interest were received.

***RESOLVED:** noted.*

L 3647 Public Forum

Peter Moxley addressed members, regarding the Bonfire & Fireworks Display, planned to take place at Horley Recreation Ground on Saturday 31 October 2015. He explained that the Horley Lions had taken over responsibility for this annual event, which would be run, for the most part, as in previous years. Local farmers Simon Court and Ian McCubbine would be assisting with setting up the event on the Saturday morning. Members expressed concerns about the damage caused by the tractors in 2014 and Cllr Stimpson suggested that the tractors only travel across grassed areas if completely unavoidable and, as far as possible, remain on the tarmac pathways. The Clerk also stated that, for the past two years, the nails etc had not been satisfactorily cleared from the bonfire site and the Town Council had been required to bring in another contractor, the cost of which had been met by the Horley Round Table. Peter Moxley agreed that the clearance of the site would be well monitored and noted that this was a public health issue. The Town Council wished the Horley Lions every success with the event and other Lions events were noted, namely the Horse Show on 24 May and the Skittles Tournament, week commencing 6 July.

L 3647)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3648 **Bonfire & Fireworks Display, Horley Recreation Ground**

RESOLVED: that the request by the Horley Lions to hold the annual Bonfire & Fireworks Display on 31 October 2015 be approved, subject to the following:

- i) a letter, detailing the Town Council's terms and conditions for the event to be agreed by the Horley Lions.**
- ii) A deposit of £200 to be paid prior to the event.**

L 3649 **Approval of Minutes
Leisure and Amenities Committee, 24 February 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 3650 **Horley Churchyards**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Churchyards Committee was due to take place on 29 April. Members were advised that the Church had sought quotations for the maintenance of the New Churchyard only and presentations were to be made to the Church Evaluation team on 15 April, the successful contractor starting with immediate effect.

RESOLVED: noted.

Grounds Maintenance Report

L 3651 The Clerk advised that Emanuel Flecken, the Borough Council's Parks Operations Manager, had been appointed to take over from Robin Davis, job title still to be confirmed. He added that there were currently no adverse issues to report regarding grounds maintenance operations.

L 3652 **RESOLVED: noted.**

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.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3653 **Playground Inspections**

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

L 3654 Repairs to Playground Equipment

The Clerk advised that the re-painting of the roundabout at Michael Crescent Centenary Park was imminent.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3655 Playground Improvements

It was noted that a number of comments had been received from local residents about the play equipment at Court Lodge and Michael Crescent playgrounds, suggesting improvements were needed. Cllr George reminded members that the see saw at the Court Lodge playground was removed as it had become unsafe. Cllr Olliver suggested that any improvements at Michael Crescent should be delayed until the demolition of the Scout Hut had taken place.

RESOLVED: that improvements to the play equipment at the Court Lodge and Michael Crescent Playgrounds be considered at a future meeting.

L 3656 Possible Provision of Café/Toilet Facilities, Horley Recreation Ground

The Clerk advised that a site visit to the Pavilion at Redhill Memorial Park was planned, with the architect responsible for its design.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3657 Outdoor Fitness Equipment at Horley Recreation Ground

Members were advised that a pre-contract site meeting had been arranged with representatives of Wicksteed Leisure Ltd, the company appointed to supply and install the new equipment. This was due to take place on the following day.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3658 Footpath refurbishment, Horley Recreation Ground

The Clerk confirmed that the works were now complete and had generally been well received. The Bowling Club Secretary had expressed some concern about weed growth on the refurbished path adjacent to the tennis courts and the contractor was to rectify this. Cllr Stimpson questioned why the area around the roundabout had only been partly re-furbished and the Clerk replied that the remainder had not been included in the quotation for the works, however this work could be considered at a future date.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3659 Court Lodge Fields – Visit by Funfair

It was noted that, due to a clash of dates, M&L Pleasure Fairs would be unable to visit Court Lodge Fields this year, however they were keen to return in 2016.

L 3659) *RESOLVED: noted.*

L 3660 Church Road Allotments

Cllr Bethell advised that the grass was growing fast long the central grassed pathway and members considered how this matter might be addressed. (It was subsequently learned that the work had been undertaken by an allotment holder.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3661 Langshott Allotments

The Clerk advised that, to date, 45 plots had been let, with a further viewing planned for 16 April. Barratts still had to address a number of snagging issues; the field gate leading to the Riverside Green Chain was yet to be properly secured, the Portaloo was to be replaced and exterior fencing repairs were still outstanding. The Financial Agreement between the Borough and Town Councils was still being finalised.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3662 Horley Conservation Group

Members were updated on planned activities. It was noted that willows in the balancing pond off Wheatfield Way were due to be coppiced on 19 April and invert shelters installed at Tanyard Pond on 16 May.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3663 Himalayan Balsam (HB)

It was noted that concerns raised by John Davies of the Piscatorial Society regarding possible harm to fish as a result of spraying HB had been discussed at the recent meeting of the Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee. Cllr Powell had been unable to attend the meeting and had subsequently responded that the herbicide "Roundup" was fully approved by DEFRA and the Environment Agency (EA). Cllr Powell was also fully certified to spray on land and water. Cllr Powell had advised John Davies that herbicide was directed from a nozzle onto only the tips of the HB plants. There was no forward or side spray and on days of little wind there was no risk of water or land being affected. Any plants close to the water's edge were pulled up by hand to avoid spraying adjacent to the watercourse. Members expressed concern at exchanges taking place directly between Cllr Powell and John Davies and stressed that any dialogue should take place via the Town Council Office. They stressed their immense appreciation of the work carried out by Cllr Powell and urged him to continue with the programme.

RESOLVED:

- i) that the Clerk seek confirmation from the EA that there has been no change in EA guidance regarding the use of herbicides.***
- ii) that the application for this year's Herbicide Spraying Permit be processed.***

L 3664 Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee (HOSAC)

Members were updated on the meeting held on 31 March. (Notes are appended.)

RESOLVED: noted

L 3665 Horley in Spring

It was noted that the residential and commercial sections of the competition were to be judged the following day and the schools entries during the following week. Numbers of entries were not high.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3666 Horley in Bloom (HIB) and Horley in Spring

Members were updated on the meeting held on 7 April, notes of which are appended. It was noted that the Horley in Bloom competition was about to be launched.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3667 South & South East in Bloom (SSEIB)

It was noted that the judging for the town centre, Horley Recreation Ground and Church Road Allotment (plot to be decided) was to take place on the morning of 14 July. Cllr George updated members on the recent SSEIB Seminar, which he had attended with the Deputy Clerk

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3668 Summer Planting – Wild Flower Meadows

The Clerk advised that it was hoped that the Town Council would be able to order wild flower seed alongside Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, at a significantly reduced price, however no discounts had been available this year. The Town Council had therefore ordered seed directly from Pictorial Meadows at a total cost of £1,169.04 plus VAT for Horley Recreation Ground, Memorial Gardens and Church Meadows. This compared with costs of £1,127.55 plus VAT, spent in 2014. It was noted that Cllrs Powell and Hammond had provided funding of £500 each in 2014. Cllr Powell was unlikely to be able to sponsor the same item from his 2015 Member's Allowance, however he may be able to fund another part of the summer planting.

RESOLVED: that the purchase of wild flower seed from Pictorial Meadows, at a cost of £1,169.04 plus VAT, be ratified.

L 3669 Horley Saturday Market

It was noted that the market was continuing to operate on a weekly basis, with up to four traders attending.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3670 Horley Carnival, 20 June 2015

Members were updated on the meeting held earlier. It was noted that new attractions this year would include Birds of Prey and Punch & Judy shows. Catering stands would reflect the "Around the World" theme.

RESOLVED: *noted.*

L 3671 Diary Dates

RESOLVED: *that forthcoming events be noted, in particular the St George's Day Fayre on 25 April, elections on 7 May, VE Day Ceremony on 8 May (Memorial Gardens) and VE Day Celebrations on 9 May (Town Centre Precinct).*

Prior to the close of the meeting, members thanked Cllr Chapman for the huge contribution he had made to the work of the Town Council, during his many years of service.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Date of next meeting: 2 June 2015 (Provisional)