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 15 July 2014 at 7.30 pm.

Present	Councillors	Simon Marshall – Committee Chairman R Bethell J Chapman M George M Goldsmith Samantha Marshall V Marshall R Olliver D Powell R Sherwin J Spratt F Stimpson
In Attendance		A Jones (Town Clerk) C Fenton (Deputy Town Clerk) John Peters – Horley Bowling Club

L 3462 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

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

Paul Monk – Horley & District Round Table

L 3463 Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

There were no Declarations of Interest, specific to the meeting, neither were there any requests for Dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3464 Public Forum – Request to hold Bonfire & Firework Display

Paul Monk sought permission for the Horley & District Round Table to hold its annual Bonfire & Firework Display at Horley Recreation Ground on Saturday 1 November. Mr Monk confirmed that there would be no funfair at the event and added that there would be a meeting with local police to ensure their presence on the day. He said the Horley Lions would be supporting the staging of the event. Cllr George voiced concerns about possible dangers to properties backing onto the Recreation Ground, which were directly behind the bonfire site, particularly if there were any last minute changes to weather conditions. Mr Monk confirmed that a risk assessment would be carried out and explained that the Round Table always worked with the Fireworks company, when setting up safety zones. He added that the size of the bonfire could be reduced if necessary and said that, although harris fencing was placed across gates which led into the Recreation Ground from residents' houses, this did not always prevent the residents from entering by this means. The Clerk confirmed that, as in

L 3464) previous years, a deposit for £100 would be requested.

RESOLVED: that the Horley & District Round Table be given permission to hold its annual Bonfire & Fireworks display at Horley recreation Ground on Saturday 1 November 2014. (A copy of the letter detailing the Town Council's terms and conditions is appended.)

L 3465 Public Forum – Request from Horley Bowling Club

Mr Peters from Horley Bowling Club asked whether the Town Council would consider carrying out repairs to the footpath and paving along the side of the tennis courts, as Club members felt that the area was dangerous and it also flooded during periods of bad weather. The Clerk replied that the Town Council hoped to be able to carry out the final phase of its footpath refurbishment works in the Recreation Ground during the current financial year and, if the work was authorised, would arrange to meet with the contractor appointed to look at the area in question. He added that he would keep the Bowling Club informed of any progress made.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3466 Approval of Minutes Leisure and Amenities Committee, 20 May 2014

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

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

L 3467 Widening of Entrance Barrier at Horley Recreation Ground

RESOLVED that this be followed up with fairground proprietor Doug Beach.

L 3468 Horley Churchyards

Cllr Powell advised that Jim Williamson was to apply to Gatwick Airport for funding for the Churchyards, on behalf of St Bart's Church. Local resident Marcia Stretch was hoping to organise a "Friends of the Churchyards" to assist with extra maintenance. Cllr Sherwin added that he had been in contact with Mrs Stretch, who had been surprised to learn about the level of the contribution made by the Church towards grounds maintenance costs. The Clerk confirmed that he had made the Rev Calvert Prentis aware of the decision taken by the Town Council at its previous meeting to defer any decision regarding the Churchyards maintenance grant and added that the matter would be discussed fully at the next Churchyards Committee meeting.

RESOLVED: noted.

(Afternote: Following further exchanges of correspondence, the meeting of the Churchyards Committee, arranged to take place on 28 July was cancelled and instead took place on 27 August.)

L 3469 Grounds Maintenance Report

Members were updated on recent monthly meetings, which had been held with the Borough Council's Grounds Maintenance Operations Manager.

RESOLVED: noted. (Notes of recent meetings are appended.)

L 3470 Grounds Maintenance Contract Jan – Dec 2015

The Clerk advised members that the Borough Council was agreeable to the Grounds Maintenance Contract being extended for a further twelve months.

RESOLVED: that Countrywide Grounds Maintenance be approached regarding a similar contract extension.

L 3471 Playground Inspections

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

L 3472 Repairs to Playground Equipment

The Deputy Clerk updated members on recent repairs carried out, in particular the refurbishment of the "Tom Thumb" toddler play equipment at Horley Recreation Ground, at a cost of £460 plus VAT.

RESOLVED: that the costs be approved.

L 3473 Application to Surrey Legacy Fund – Toddler Climbing Equipment at Horley Recreation Ground Playground

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the new equipment was now in place.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3474 Horley Lions Donkey Derby & Charity Dog Show, Horley Recreation Ground

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that a letter, detailing the Town Council's terms and conditions for the event had been sent to Horley Lions, the contents of which had been accepted. (A copy is appended.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3475 Tree Works, Horley Recreation Ground

The Deputy Clerk advised that quotations were still awaited for work on two trees at the Recreation Ground. The Clerk added that he was to meet with Richard Townsley, the Borough Council Tree Officer, to look at further trees, which may require works to be carried out. The Clerk reminded members that full tree surveys were required at all Town Council owned recreation grounds. Members agreed that, longer term, consideration would need to be given to the replacement of trees which had of necessity been felled.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3476 Replacement Flag Pole

The Clerk confirmed that, following recent vandalism, the flag pole in the Memorial Gardens had now been replaced. He added that the new pole had an internal halyard. An insurance claim had been made for the work and the insurers had paid out £408.33, the excess of £250 having been paid by the Town Council.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3477 Toilet Facilities, Horley Recreation Ground

The Clerk advised that a number of requests for toilet facilities had recently been received.

RESOLVED:

- *i) that consideration be given to leasing such facilities.*
- *ii)* that the matter be re-considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

L 3478 Replacement Play Equipment, Court Lodge Playground

The Deputy Clerk advised members that the see saw at Court Lodge playground was beyond repair and had been removed. Members considered possible replacement items. After further discussion the following was resolved:

RESOLVED:

- *i)* that quotations be sought for alternative items of playground equipment and the views of pupils at Manorfield School be sought.
- *ii) that the matter be re-considered at the next meeting of this Committee.*

L 3479 Horse Riding at Court Lodge Fields and Riverside Walk

Cllr George advised that there was evidence of horses being ridden around the edge of Court Lodge Fields, despite there being notices prohibiting this. It was believed that access was being gained via Riverside Walk, where there was a hole in the hedge at the far end, and that the horses were from a stable near the Black Horse Public House.

RESOLVED:

- *i)* that Cllrs George and Powell visit the stables concerned to advise that such horse riding activity is prohibited.
- *ii) that the Borough Council be requested to conceal the hole in the hedge at the end of Riverside Walk.*

L 3480 Metal Detecting in Recreation Grounds

RESOLVED: that the resident's permit for metal detecting be extended until 31 March 2015.

L 3481 Church Road Allotments

The Clerk advised that assistance was being sought from other allotment holders at the site to help with the mowing of the main central grass path.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3482 Langshott Allotments

The Clerk advised that a site meeting had been called to review the condition of both the replacement oak trees and the existing oak trees at the site. He added that Southern Gas Networks were currently laying a replacement gas main along the edge of the site closest to the railway line. All those on the waiting list had been contacted to seek confirmation whether or not they still required a plot.

RESOLVED: that an annual fee of £45 per plot (plus £15 registration fee) be charged until 31 January 2016.

L 3483 Himalayan Balsam (HB) Action Plan

Cllr Powell advised that all the Himalayan Balsam had been cleared from the Horley banks of the River Mole. The meeting with Joan Walley MP, Chairman of the Environment Audit Committee, was due to take place on 3 September and would be attended by himself and Cllr Bethell. Cllr Powell added that he was keen to seek funding from DEFRA (of around £50,000) which would allow groups across the country to be trained to eradicate HB in their local areas. Volunteers from the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership were also helping to clear HB from various sites. It was noted that permission had been granted to spray the HB on the opposite bank of the River Mole the following year and Cllr Powell stressed that work would need to start earlier in 2015.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3484 Horley Conservation Group

Members were updated on the Group's recent task, when pond dipping had taken place at Tanyard Ponds. It was noted that the Group would be helping to remove HB from along the Burstow Stream on two dates in July and August.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3485 Horley Open Spaces Advisory Committee (HOSAC)

Members were updated on the meeting which had taken place in June. (Notes of the meeting are appended.)

RESOLVED: noted

L 3486 Horley Saturday Market

It was noted that the existing two stall holders were now visiting the market every two weeks. A local resident had expressed some interest in reviving **L 3486)** the market and the Clerk had responded that he would be happy to discuss the matter further with the resident concerned.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3487 Horley Carnival 2014

It was noted that the Carnival had been a great success and would in future years take place on the third Saturday in June. Next year's event would therefore be on 20 June 2015 and the theme would be "Around the World".

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3488 Horley in Bloom (HIB)

It was noted that the recent judging had been very successful. (Notes of the HIB Committee meeting held in June are appended.)

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3489 Horley in Bloom Photographic Competition

The Deputy Clerk advised that a large number of entries had been received. Barratt Homes had agreed to support the competition again this year.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3490 South & South East in Bloom

Members reviewed the recent judging of the Town Centre and Horley Recreation Ground. It was noted that the judges had not been as communicative as in other years. Thanks were recorded to Town Council officers for their efforts.

RESOLVED: noted.

Town Centre Summer Planting plus Associated Costs

L 3491 The Deputy Clerk advised that, to date, £1,315 had been pledged for the sponsorship of the summer planting.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 3492 RESOLVED: that payment of £224 plus VAT to the Contractor Asbit for painting town centre furniture (railings, electrics box etc) be approved.

L 3493 RESOLVED: that payment of £625 to KM Vinyl Graphics for lamp post banners, window vinyls and sponsorship plaques be approved.

L 3494 Memorial to Henry Webber

Receipt was noted of correspondence from the Horley Local History Society, suggesting that some sort of memorial be put in place by July 2016 to commemorate the centenary of the death of Henry Webber (probably the oldest soldier to be killed on active service in the First World War).

- L 3494) RESOLVED: that the matter be referred for consideration by Full Council.
- L 3495 Diary Dates

RESOLVED: that forthcoming events be noted, in particular the Open Meeting regarding a Possible Second Runway on 18 July and Commemoration Service for the Centenary of the First World War on 3 August.

L 3496 Urgent Business for Inclusion on Future Agenda

RESOLVED: that the Funfair at Court Lodge Fields be reviewed at the next meeting of this Committee.

L 3497 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 3498 Horley Recreation Ground – Final Phase of Footpath Refurbishment CONFIDENTIAL

Members considered quotations received for the work and recommended the appointment of a contractor for consideration by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

The meeting closed at 9.18 pm

Date of next meeting: 9 September 2014