

**L 5020 Approval of Minutes
Leisure and Amenities Committee, 17 November 2020**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the above meeting of the Leisure & Amenities Committee, including all confidential items, be approved. (To be signed by the Committee Chairman in due course.)

L 5021 Outside Bodies - Horley RBL Committee Meetings

It was noted that notes of recent Committee Meetings had been circulated to members.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5022 Future Remembrance Parades in Horley

The Head of Leisure told members that the issue of responsibility for the future Horley RBL Parades had been discussed at the recent HTC/RBBC Liaison Committee meeting. The RBBC Director of Commercial & Investment Activities was investigating whether RBBC would be able to insure the 2021 and future RBL Parades, as well as who might be responsible for organisation, marshalling etc. Further information was expected in due course.

RESOLVED: that further updates be provided at the next meeting of this Committee.

Horley Churchyards

L 5023 Members were shown photos of the fully refurbished Lychgate at St Bart's Church. It was noted that the Church had recorded thanks for the Town Council's donation towards the work.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5024 The Head of Leisure advised that the Spire & Roof repairs at the Church were estimated to cost in the order of £500,000. Provided sufficient funds had been raised, the scheduled date for the work was Spring 2022.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5025 The Head of Leisure added that the next Churchyards Committee meeting was due to take place on 3 March.

RESOLVED: noted.

Grounds Maintenance Update

L 5026 The Head of Leisure said that there had been some issues with litter and glass clearance over the Christmas period, however these matters had now been resolved. It was noted that idverde had been experiencing high levels of Covid infections amongst their staff, including the Area Manager.

L 5027 ***RESOLVED: noted.***

L 5028 ***RESOLVED: that the purchase of an additional covered litter bin from Earth Anchors Ltd, in the sum of £439 plus VAT be ratified, to be sited at Court Lodge Fields.***

L 5029 The Head of Leisure told members that it had not been possible to site litter bins adjacent to the car park at Horley Rec, due to the wiring from the new Lamp Posts preventing this.

RESOLVED: that the two recently purchased litter bins be sited at either end of the path leading to the new Horley Rec café, enabling fairground and Carnival vehicles to have access onto the park for future events.

L 5030 ***RESOLVED: that quotations be sought from idverde for the provision of wildflower meadows at Church Meadows and the Memorial Gardens.***

Playgrounds and Grounds Inspections and Repairs

L 5031 ***RESOLVED: that receipt be noted of routine inspection reports from Bennetts.***

L 5032 The Head of Leisure reported that the Director of Bennetts had recently tested positive for Coronavirus and was experiencing severe symptoms. A further member of the team had also tested positive. The remainder of the staff were continuing to carry out routine tasks for HTC, additionally a section of the fencing at the Horley Rec playground had been replaced following recent vandalism and the tennis courts had been locked and relevant closure notices displayed, in line with the current Government Lockdown.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5033 ***RESOLVED: that in view of the current UK Government Lockdown, the deep cleansing of parks equipment continue, subject to weather conditions and be reviewed at the March meeting of the Leisure Committee.***

L 5034 Closure of Parks Equipment, Horley Recreation Ground

The Head of Leisure advised that, in line with the recent UK Government Lockdown, the tennis courts had been padlocked shut and closure notices displayed on the skate park, fitness equipment and MUGA. Bennetts were replacing the closure signs as needed, to ensure that HTC Insurers' requirements could be fulfilled, however reports were regularly being received of youths congregating in the area of the Skate Park at Horley Rec. Surrey Police had been informed and would patrol the area when they were able to.

RESOLVED: that, to enforce the Government's Lockdown Message and the closure of equipment, a suitably worded banner be purchased, to be displayed on the fencing of the MUGA.

L 5035 Hedge at Horley Bowling Club

The Head of Leisure told members that Bowling Club members were concerned that foxes were accessing the bowling green and causing damage. Club members had noticed gaps in the Bowling Club hedge, which they thought could be partly responsible. They were also considering whether the height of the surrounding fence should be raised as a further deterrent. Cllr Baker said to members that it was extraordinarily difficult to keep foxes out of areas such as this. The Head of Leisure explained that, under the terms of the Lease between the Town Council and the Bowling Club, the Council was required to maintain the fence and hedge surrounding the Club. She confirmed that the fence was in excellent condition, although there were some gaps in the surrounding hedge. Members confirmed that the Town Council would not consider raising the height of the existing fence and that, should the Club wish to undertake this, it would be at their own expense and with the prior approval of both HTC and possibly RBBC (should planning permission be needed).

RESOLVED:

- i) that the Bowling Club be informed that any increase in the height of the surrounding fence would be at their own expense and subject to the agreement of both HTC and RBBC (should planning permission be required).***
- ii) that the Head of Leisure and Committee Chairman attend a site meeting with Bowling Club representatives to discuss possible improvements to the hedge line.***
- iii) that updates be received at the next meeting of the Committee.***

L 5036 Café in the Park, Horley Recreation Ground

It was noted that the Town Clerk was due to meet with the Café Operator later in the week to discuss their plans for the opening of the building.

- L 5036)** Given the current Lockdown, it was thought unlikely that the café would open until late Spring, although the Operator would continue to bring their mobile catering unit to the park on certain days of the week. Cllr George said that Susy Radio were keen to attend the formal opening of the Café and bring their Outside Broadcast Unit along. Members suggested that this be combined with a formal opening of the refurbished tennis courts, possibly with community coaching available on the day.

RESOLVED: that arrangements for the Café opening be put in place in due course.

L 5037 Football at Court Lodge Fields

The Head of Leisure confirmed that once again all football was currently suspended, in line with current UK Government restrictions. Cllr George told members that families were playing football on pitch 4 (the junior football pitch) and were causing damage to the goal mouths.

RESOLVED: that idverde be contacted regarding remedial action, which might be taken on pitch 4. (Goal mouths on pitch 4 were subsequently sanded and goal posts temporarily removed for the sum of £287 plus VAT.)

Community Events in Horley

- L 5038** The Head of Leisure advised members that sadly the Carnival Committee had made a decision to cancel this year's Carnival. It was hoped that the planned arena acts would be attending on 18 June 2022.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 5039** The Head of Leisure reminded members that provisional permission had been given to Circus Wonderland to visit Horley Rec in September, although this would of course be subject to any Government restrictions which might be in place at the time. She reminded members that the visit by the Circus the previous September had been very successful and very well received.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 5040** **RESOLVED: that permission in principle be given to the Horley Lions to hold their Dog Show & Family Fun Day on Sunday 19 September and their Bonfire & Fireworks Display on Saturday 30 October, subject to any Government restrictions which might be in place at the time.**

- L 5041** It was noted that the Horley Lions had provisionally booked the Cricket Club for their Skittles Tournament in early September.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 5042** The Head of Leisure told members that Beach's Funfair was keen to visit Horley Rec this year. Members expressed concern that it would be difficult to control the number of people attending events such as funfairs.

RESOLVED: that the possibility of funfairs visiting Horley in 2021 be considered in more detail at the next meeting of this Committee.

- L 5043** ***RESOLVED: that the possibility of holding Horley in Bloom in 2021 be considered in more detail at the next meeting of this Committee.***

L 5044 **Horley Allotments**

The Head of Leisure advised that annual invoices for the renewal of tenancies at the Church Road Allotments would be sent out within the next few days.

RESOLVED: noted.

Tree Works in Horley

- L 5045** The Head of Leisure advised that County Tree Surgeons had been appointed to carry out the works identified in the recent tree surveys carried out at Horley Rec, Court Lodge and Langshott Allotments. They planned to commence the work during the last week in February.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 5046** ***RESOLVED: that the quotation from Heatherlands Tree Care to cut back the lateral branches of five oak trees at the Langshott Allotments for the sum of £950 plus VAT be approved, the works to be carried out in the 2021/2022 Financial Year, once necessary planning approvals had been received from RBBC.***

L 5047 **Surrey County Council Tree Planting Initiative**

The Head of Leisure told members that, following the list of suggestions for tree planting being submitted to the Trees Team at SCC, some trees had now been spotted at some of the suggested sites! To date trees had been planted on the grass verge outside the Church Road Allotments, as well as on the grass verge opposite "Q Garden", at the junction of Russells Crescent and The Drive.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5048 **Horley Conservation Group (HCG)**

The Head of Leisure reported that individual members of the Conservation

- L 5048)** Group continued to keep the area around Tanyard Meadows tidy with their own litter picks. The area within the Community Orchard was also being kept weed free by HCG volunteers. Unusual wildlife had been spotted at Tanyard Meadows, including an avocet and a white fronted goose.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5049 Other Environment Matters

It was noted that GGP Volunteer tasks were still on hold as a result of the ongoing Government restrictions. Members of the Horley Walkie Talkies community group were carrying out litter picking in pairs. The Head of Leisure added that the Town Centre Caretaker was not currently working as he was in the Extremely Vulnerable category and was therefore shielding.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5050 Horley in 2020 Photography Competition

The Head of Leisure advised that the judging of the competition was in its final stages and the results would soon be made public.

RESOLVED: noted.

Summer Planting 2021

- L 5051** The Head of Leisure confirmed that SCC Cllr Kay Hammond had provided £2,000 from her SCC Members Allocation for Summer planters in Court Lodge and Lee Street. Thanks were recorded to Kay for her ongoing support of this project.

RESOLVED: noted.

- L 5052** **RESOLVED: that the quotation from Amethyst Horticulture to provide Summer planters for 2021 (including those funded by Cllr Hammond), for the total sum of £5,551 be approved.**

- L 5053** **RESOLVED: that consideration be given to the provision of town centre hanging baskets at the next meeting of this Committee.**

L 5054 Diary Dates

Members were reminded that the virtual Residents' Forum meeting was due to take place on 27 January.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm. Date of next meeting – 23 March 2021