

# HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Leisure & Amenities Committee



Minutes of a meeting of the above-named Committee held on  
Tuesday, 30 June 2026 at 7.30 pm

|                      |              |                                                               |              |                   |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <b>Present</b>       | <b>Cllrs</b> | Hannah Avery                                                  | Jante Baird  | Jordan Beech      |
|                      |              | Lynnette Easterbrook                                          | Maggie Evans | Emma Fagan        |
| <b>In Attendance</b> |              | Cec Hughes                                                    | Robert Marr  | Samantha Marshall |
|                      |              | Martin Saunders                                               |              |                   |
|                      |              | Cllr Mike George                                              |              |                   |
|                      |              | Sam Adeniji (Assistant CEO/Responsible Finance Officer - RFO) |              |                   |
|                      |              | Helen Maan (Leisure & Facilities Officer)                     |              |                   |

**L 5645 Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

***RESOLVED: that apologies from Cllr Mearring be accepted, Cllrs Burham & Chester were absent***

**L 5646 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Cllr Saunders declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 13: **New Horley Town Park Reigate & Banstead BC Early-Stage Design Consultation, Tanyard Meadows**, due to proximity to his home address.

***RESOLVED: noted.***

**L 5647 Public Forum**

A local resident attended the meeting to share his written proposal (submitted to the Council before the meeting), to use a piece of Horley Recreation Ground for use as a paddleball court, through a lease agreement at a peppercorn rent. The Committee Chair thanked the speaker for taking the time to prepare and present the proposal. It was agreed to include the item on the next Leisure Meeting for discussion.

***RESOLVED: that Standing Orders be suspended to move agenda item 19 Communications Received, to the Public Forum part of the meeting.***

**L5648 Communications Received: Proposal for use of part of Horley Recreation Ground for use as Paddleball Court**

***RESOLVED: That the proposal be formally considered at the next Leisure Committee meeting.***

**L 5649 Approval of Minutes**

Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 21 April 2026.

***RESOLVED: that the minutes of the above Leisure and Amenities Committee, be approved.***

**L 5650 Leisure Updates**

The Leisure Officer gave the following updates:

**L 5650)**

**L5632 Skatepark Graffiti** – A workshop with local youths was due to be held with Uncle Stubbs (graffiti artist) at the YMCA but the outcomes were yet to be made known.

**L5638 Duke of Edinburgh Award, Community Activities at Horley Recreation Ground**

– A reply email was sent from the Council to the school but there have been no further requests for activities on Council land.

**L5639 Horley Recreation Ground Masterplan** - A follow-up meeting with Allen Scott Landscape Architects is set for 8 July 2026, to take the project forward.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5651**

**Horley Churchyards**

Cllr George reported that St Bart's Church had been notified of the grant awarded from the Town Council to undertake required tree works, following receipt of a Grant Scheme application. Additionally, the councillors had been offered two dates for the annual Churchyard walk and 4 September 2026 had been chosen.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5652**

**HTC Grounds Maintenance and Security**

The Leisure Officer gave the following updates:

- **Contractor Meetings:** She had met with the Grounds Maintenance Contractor to show him the sites expected to be transferred to the Town Council from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, under the Community Asset Transfer programme.
- **Maintenance and Repairs:** Since the new bike rack has been installed at the Skatepark in Horley Recreation Ground, it has come under persistent attack from anti-social behaviour. This has led to it being removed and stored elsewhere for safekeeping. The bike rack will be repositioned at another green space locally, in due course.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5653**

**Community Events in Horley**

The following updates were received:

- **Horley in Bloom (HIB):** Cllr George reported there are 34 entrants this year which is down on last year but this is believed to be a result of the extreme heat we have experienced. Preparations are now underway to begin judging on 13 July. A new trophy has been purchased and another will be repurposed to reflect some new environmental categories. Surrey Wildlife Trust has agreed to present a short talk at the awards evening, on 'how to adapt your garden to support nature & wildlife'.
- **Horley Carnival:** Cllr Baird advised that the weather conditions were perfect for the event, for the first time in some years. The BMX bike displays thrilled the spectators and the omission of the Funfair was generally well received. There were fewer floats again this year, due to the challenges of getting adequate insurance cover, however this had been more 'walking' entries.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

The Leisure Officer gave the following updates:

- **Court Lodge Playground:** Despite long delays in its installation, the neurodiverse equipment and teenage shelter at Court Lodge, funded by Surrey County Council Your Fund Surrey, had finally been fully delivered.
- **Wildflowers:** The wildflower planting at various Council sites had been completed. Given the extreme weather, there is no guarantee the seeds will germinate well but this would be kept monitored.
- **Hanging Baskets:** Due to the summer closure of the High Street and extra delay to the re-opening of the precinct, the hanging baskets have not yet been put up. Alternative Street Lamp licences have been applied for from Surrey County Council and are awaiting approval.
- **Planters:** Due to road closures for the High Street public realm works and other issues arising, the tiered planters could not be placed at their intended locations. They were relocated at the Horley Recreation Ground, outside the café, which was well received, from numerous positive comments both to the office and on social media.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

#### **Pickleball Court Lining, Horley Recreation Ground**

The Committee considered a request from the local pickleball club to mark out the remaining unlined tennis court for pickleball use. Members were concerned that having all courts lined for pickleball would be a disadvantage to those wishing to play tennis and that it was important to keep one court exclusively for the use of tennis. It was therefore unanimously agreed by the Committee to decline the request.

**RESOLVED: that the request from the local pickleball club, to line mark the remaining unlined tennis court for pickleball use, be declined and the club informed of the decision.**

#### **Banners at Michael Crescent Park**

The Committee considered a proposal to permit advertisement banners on the railings at Michael Crescent Centenary Park, after a few public requests had been made. It was agreed that the location of the park made adequate oversight difficult and should be refused. Horley Recreation Ground would therefore remain the only suitable site for banner displays, under the Council's adopted policy and terms as stated.

**RESOLVED: that the proposal to introduce advertisement banner displays on the railings at Michael Crescent Centenary Park, be refused.**

#### **Play Equipment at Horley Recreation Ground**

The Committee considered whether there was a need to replace some of the younger children's play equipment in the playground at Horley Recreation Ground, or whether funds would be better spent on installing surfacing around the gym equipment. It was felt that spending money on replacing play equipment might be wasteful until the full results of the Horley Recreation Ground Masterplan are evaluated. As it is unlikely that the gym

- L 5657)** equipment location will be moved as a result of the Masterplan, it was agreed for the Leisure Officer to seek estimates to install gym equipment surfacing, as suggested.
- RESOLVED: that the Leisure Officer seek quotes to install surfacing for the gym equipment at Horley Recreation Ground, for consideration at the next Committee meeting.***
- L5658      Horley Town Park**
- The Committee viewed the Town Park information shared by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council and completed the online feedback form for submission before the closing date of 12 July 2026.
- RESOLVED: that the Town Council's responses to the public survey for the new Horley Town Park, be approved.***
- L 5659      Use of HTC Community Buildings, Parks and Outdoor Spaces**
- The Leisure Officer reported that the Funfair was returning at the end of July and that every Monday from 27 July 2026, the Tennis Courts would be closed for a few hours every day whilst the R&BBC School Holiday Club use the courts for pickleball sessions.
- RESOLVED: noted.***
- L 5660      Compliance & Regulatory**
- The Leisure Officer reported that there had been some vandalism to a bench at Court Lodge Field that had necessitated repair by the Council's park contractors.
- Surrey Fire and Rescue had undertaken a Fire Risk Assessment of the Innes Pavilion and had found no areas of significant concern.
- RESOLVED: noted***
- L 5661      Three Yearly Tree Survey 2026**
- To contents of the Three Yearly Tree Survey report were noted by the Committee. The remedial works required would be progressed in due course.
- RESOLVED: that the cost of £2,350 plus VAT for the Three Yearly Arboricultural Inspection of Trees at all Town Council sites, be ratified.***
- L 5662      Horley Bowling Club – Stage 1 Improvement Works to the Bowling Green**
- The Leisure Officer advised that Horley Bowling Club made a request to the Council, to erect a small, temporary works compound for a skip near the club site (as indicated in the location plan provided) for the duration of the Stage 1 improvement works to the Bowling Green. The request had been granted, subject to conditions in a written Letter of Agreement which the Committee supported with an assurance that the land be reinstated to its full condition after the works were completed.
- RESOLVED: that permission granted to Horley Bowling Club to erect a small, temporary works compound for a skip near the club site for the Stage 1 improvement works to the Bowling Green, subject to conditions, be ratified.***
- L 5663      Outside Bodies**
- Gatwick Greenspace Partnership (GGP):** The Leisure Officer reported that GGP had recently removed Himalayan Balsam from the river bank at Emlyn Meadow. Due to

**L 5663)** recent weather conditions, there was less of the invasive plant found than in previous years. In addition, he had spoken to a number of meadow users, all of whom were enthusiastic about the new mowing regime and raised no substantive concerns regarding the risk of their pets contracting ticks.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5664 Allotments in Horley**

The Leisure Officer noted that Langshott Allotments Tenants Association (LATA) had made a grant application to replace the communal tools that had been lost in the container burglary (subsequently approved by Council, subject to conditions).

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5665 Communications Received**

The Leisure Officer noted that there had been reports of a homeless person sleeping in Church Meadows and also at Horley Recreation Ground. The JET team at Reigate & Banstead Borough Council had been notified.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5666 Diary Dates**

- **25 July:** Opening of Funfair
- **13 September :** Horley Lions Dog Show

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5667 Items for Future Consideration: To note any urgent business for inclusion on future agenda.**

To consider a written proposal for use of land at Horley Recreation Ground for a paddleball court.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**L 5668 Press Release: To agree items for inclusion.**

None were presented.

**RESOLVED: noted.**

**Meeting closed at: 21:20**

**Date of Next Meeting: 13 October 2026**