

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Leisure & Amenities Committee



Minutes of a meeting of the above-named Committee held at the Ramsey Room, Ground Floor, Horley Baptist Church, 289 Court Lodge Road, Horley RH6 8RG on Tuesday, 20 January 2025 at 7.30 pm

Present Cllrs Hannah Avery Lynne Burnham* Samantha Marshall
Jante Baird Emma Fagan Robert Marr
James Baker* Cec Hughes Tom Turner**
Jordan Beech

Absent** *In Attendance Remotely**

Also in Attendance Sam Adeniji (Assistant CEO & RFO)
Helen Maan (Leisure & Facilities Officer)
Cllr Mike George (Non-Committee Member) **

L 5604 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that it be noted, Cllr Turner was in attendance remotely. Cllr Baker and Cllr Burnham were absent.

L 5605 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Baird declared a Non- Pecuniary Interest in Agenda item 3 (Public Forum – Horley Remembrance Proposal) as she is a close friend of a speaker from the Horley Women’s Institute.

RESOLVED: noted

L 5606 Public Forum

Horley Remembrance Proposal

Two members of the local Women’s Institute attended to explain their ideas for a yarn project to knit poppies for placing on the railings surrounding the Memorial Gardens, to commemorate the Horley Remembrance events. This would be a community-wide project involving local schools, guides, scouts, craft groups and other members of the public. The WI will be liaising with the Horley branch of the Royal British Legion to seek their permission and support. The Chairman thanked the attendees for making their suggestion to the Committee and Members were minded to support the request with agreement from Horley RBL. An application could also be made to the Council Grants scheme towards cost of materials.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5607 Approval of Minutes – Leisure and Amenities Committee, held on 14 October 2025

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting of 14 October 2025 be approved.

L 5608 Leisure & Amenities Committee Updates

The Leisure Officer reported the following updates:

L 5582: Horley Bowling Club - The club had indicated in recent correspondence that their internal infrastructure improvement works (approved by the Town Council), is not expected to commence until October 2026 at the earliest.

L 5589: Michael Crescent Park replacement fencing - Quotations for the project had had been received but the works had been superseded by other priority works required beforehand.

L 5593: Horley Recreation playground drainage - The French new drains had reduced the amount and incidents of flooding but had not resolved problem entirely.

L 5593: Surrey County Council Nature Fund - The Town Council had unfortunately been unsuccessful in a bid for a grant for a river assessment of the Burstow Stream at Emlyn Meadow. The fund was reportedly oversubscribed four times over. Additionally, the S.106 officer at Reigate & Banstead Borough Council advised that the River Assessment would not be eligible for S.106 funding from the Westvale Park development.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5609 Horley Churchyards

It was noted that tree maintenance at the Churchyards continues, with recent pollarding and felling completed by the Borough Green Spaces team, to address safety concerns.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5610 Recreation Ground Members Inspection

Cllr Hughes noted that on her last inspection of Horley Recreation Ground, there had been numerous areas that had seemed very waterlogged, especially the Jubilee Gardens. The Leisure Officer pointed out that additional French drainage of this area is the second part of the drainage project, if deemed necessary. There were also other waterlogged areas of the playground close by that did not have French drainage in place. She further advised that the path in the middle of the playground is still frequently under water and there may be an opportunity to raise it up in the future.

RESOLVED: noted.

L5611 HTC Grounds Maintenance and Security – Any Other Matters

Vandalism: The Leisure Officer reported that there had been reports of dogs hanging off the swing seats at Court Lodge, apparently to train them for dog fighting. Residents are encouraged to report any illegal activity of this nature to Surrey Police and the RSPCA.

MUGA Line Painting: It was noted that the lines on the Multi Use Games Area had been repainted at a cost of £1,020 plus VAT (and covered from the maintenance budget).

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5613 Horley Carnival

It was reported that this year's event is scheduled for 20 June 2026, featuring a BMX display among other area events and stall holders. Sponsorship remains a challenge and financial support from SCC Cllr Jordan Beech, through his Member allocation fund, and been confirmed and gratefully received.

RESOLVED: noted.

L5614 Horley in Bloom Competition

The renamed 'Horley Awards Night' (formerly Horley in Bloom) was noted. The competition had been rebranded to include broader community achievements. New categories for small front gardens are also being considered.

RESOLVED: noted.

L5615 Community Events in Horley – Any Other Matters

Horley Remembrance Commemorative Events: The Leisure Officer Reported that two new ‘Silent Soldiers’ had been purchased at a total cost of £350 plus VAT to replace the two that had previously been repaired after being vandalised and had become very worn. Costs were covered from the L&A Earmarked Fund.

RESOLVED: noted

L5616 Community Projects Update

The Leisure Officer reported that a grant of £27,000 from the Surrey County Council YFS Community Projects Fund, with the support of SCC Cllr Andy Lynch, had been secured for an extension to the outdoor gym equipment at Horley Recreation Ground. Additionally, a grant of £11,000 was awarded from the Surrey County Council YFS Community Projects Fund, with the support of SCC Cllr Andy Lynch, for a teenage shelter at Court Lodge with neurodiverse play equipment.

She added that repairs to the Innes Pavilion roof windows were necessary at a replacement cost of £6,500 plus VAT, due to leaks that are damaging the fabric of the building. This will be funded from the L&A Earmarked Fund.

The Leisure Officer confirmed that no immediate financial provision was available for replacement fencing at Michael Crescent Park, as the replacement windows at the Innes Pavilion, Court Lodge had to be prioritised for security and safety reasons.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5617 Horley Town Park

The Leisure Officer shared a Press Release from Reigate & Banstead BC with an informative update on the planned delivery of a new Town Park at Tanyard Meadows, to be funded from S.106 developer contributions. The Town Council would be kept informed on the proposals for design features and new facilities, as a key stakeholder.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5618 Seasonal Planting 2026

The Committee considered arrangements for town centre hanging baskets and summer planters. The Leisure Officer suggested an increased programme of extra tiered planters placed in suitable areas beyond the town centre, similar to that achieved in Horley West with impressive displays in shopping areas. Other locations suggested were Horley Recreation Ground roundabout and outside the Café Pavilion as well as Court Lodge car park; Michael Crescent Park; and the roundabout on entry to the Acres shopping area, Langshott. The Leisure Officer will source quotations.

RESOLVED: that quotations be acquired for extra tiered planters in suitable areas beyond Horley town centre, for consideration at the next committee meeting.

L5619 Use of Community Building, Parks and Outdoor Spaces

The Leisure Officer reported that the Funfair had booked to return at Easter along with the Circus in September and Bonfire Night for a date to be confirmed in October.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5620 Gatwick Greenspace and Horley Conservation Group Update

It was reported that the group had undertaken some electrofishing at Tanyard Pond to control non-native species, thanks to a substantial grant from SCC Cllr Jordan Beech and is moving toward independent operations with its own insurance. The group had also planted willow hedging at Emlyn Meadows with whips that had been supplied by the Surrey County Council free tree giveaway scheme.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5621 Beekeeping Request for Church Road Allotments

The Leisure Officer advised that a tenant at Church Road Allotments had applied to keep bees on their plot. The Committee agreed to the request in principle, pending the applicant acquiring the appropriate insurance and undertaking the necessary training.

RESOLVED: That the Beekeeping Request from a Tenant of Church Road Allotments, be approved, subject to the applicant obtaining suitable insurance and Bee Keeping training, as set out in the Council's Beekeeping policy.

L5621 Security at Allotments

It was reported that there had been a break-in at the Langshott Allotments Tenants Association's container and various equipment and tools were taken. This has been reported to the Police.

Additionally, new fencing has been erected at Church Road allotments to close gaps and prevent access.

RESOLVED: noted.

L5622 Diary Dates

27 January, Full Council Meeting

10 February, Planning Meeting

RESOLVED: noted.

Meeting closed at: 20.39

Date of Next Meeting: 21 April 2026