

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 22 April at 7.30pm

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

*Absent **In Attendance Remotely

In Attendance Sam Adeniji (Assistant Town Clerk & RFO)
Helen Maan (Leisure & Facilities Officer)
Cllr Mike George (Non-Committee Member)**

L 5533 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

RESOLVED: that the apologies of Cllr Baker and Cllr Wotton, be accepted.

L 5534 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

No declarations of interest were made in relation to any items on the agenda.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5535 Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5536 Approval of Minutes - Leisure and Amenities Committee, held on 21 January 2025

A correction to 'Raving Housing Trust' on Page 1 of the draft minutes of 21 January 2025, requiring amendment to 'Raven Housing Trust', was agreed.

RESOLVED: that subject to minor amendment, the minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting of 21 January 2025, be approved.

L 5537 Leisure Updates

L 5519 Funding Applications for planters in West Horley: The Leisure Officer advised that the delayed YFS Your Councillor Community Fund scheme 2025/26 for new applications was expected to open shortly. It was noted that expenditure for the item had previously been approved, however the Town Council may need to cover the cost if SCC funding is not secured.

L 5521 Other Seasonal Planting: The Leisure Officer reported that the HTC Environment Working Group had decided against recommending additional wildflower planting beyond what had already been agreed, opting to explore other biodiversity initiatives instead.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5538 Horley Churchyards

L 5538) Cllr George reported on the recent meeting with St Bart's Church. He advised that their grounds maintenance contractor is sponsoring planting of the next wildflower batch near the rear hedgerow. Additionally, further advice on wall repairs had been provided to the Church; Cllr Baker planned to repaint the gates after St George's Day; and an update on the Local Government Review (LGR) implications for closed churchyard maintenance had been provided.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5539 **HTC Grounds Maintenance and Security**

The Leisure Officer reported on a recent meeting with the grounds maintenance contractor. The new postholder for the Council's contract had been informed about contract specifics, particularly regarding pitch maintenance at Court Lodge within the agreed terms. Football posts were due to be removed in the week commencing 21 April 2025. Grass cutting was proceeding through a fortnightly schedule with a full team in place. Concerns regarding litter collection performance were also acknowledged by the managing team with an agreement that urgent action would be taken.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5540 Members reported on recent site inspections and no major issues were noted. Previous flooding at Emlyn Meadows had since subsided.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5541 An issue with youths building BMX tracks and setting fires at Emlyn Meadows had been addressed by contractors, reported to the police and the problem appeared resolved. Reports of motorised vehicles on Court Lodge and at Riverside Garden Park had been dealt with, including police attendance in the latter case.

RESOLVED: noted.

Community Events in Horley

L 5542 **Horley in Bloom & Photographic Competition:** The competition, launched at the end of February, had been promoted in the 'RH6' magazine, on social media and in posters. Entries were being received. A budget review had identified some shortfalls, for which sponsorship would be sought. The Plant Swap will launch at the St. George's Day Fair, with thanks made to the Horley Town Management Group (HTMG) for their funding support.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5543 **Horley Carnival 2025:** The preparations were progressing well and some of the arena acts included strongman Mighty Smith, The Black Eagles acrobats and a Fire Brigade demonstration regarding kitchen fires was also anticipated.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5544 **Community Project Updates**

Completed/Programmed Projects: The Leisure Officer gave the following updates:

- The new pathway lighting to the Bowls Club is operational.

L 5544)

- The newly refurbished pathways near the MUGA and roundabout are complete, however awaiting final seeding.
- The new outdoor gym equipment installation is underway, following removal of the old equipment.
- The new bike rack has been purchased and installation near the skate park, is awaited.
- Resurfacing around The Innes Pavilion commenced on 22 April 2025.

A need for better communication regarding the gym equipment removal and replacement had been duly acknowledged by the contractor.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5545

Memorial Bench: It was noted that a quotation of £562 (inc. VAT & installation) for a memorial bench made from recycled materials, in memory of former Town Mayor and Councillor, the late Howard Easterbrook, had been received. The proposed location near the skate park, would replace the existing dilapidated bench with the proposed inscription: "*Howard Easterbrook, 1937-2023. Mayor, businessman and devoted father and friends whose legacy lives on in the places and people of Horley*". The proposals presented were supported by the Committee.

RESOLVED: that the cost of £562 (inc. VAT & installation) for the installation of a new memorial bench at Horley Recreation Ground with the proposed inscription, in memory of former Town Mayor and Councillor, Howard Easterbrook, be approved.

L 5546

Picnic Table: A proposal to install a picnic table at Emly Meadows was discussed, noting its potential use by residents and visitors to the local area.

RESOLVED: that expenditure of £628 (inc. VAT) for the purchase and installation of a recycled plastic picnic table at Emly Meadow, be approved.

L 5547

Use of HTC Community Buildings, Parks and Outdoor Spaces

It was noted that agreement had been given by the Town Council for the annual 'Africa Day' event by the Sussex and Surrey Africa Society at Horley Recreation Ground, on 24 May 2025, with the arrangements similar to their event held at Court Lodge Fields, last year.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5548

Compliance and Regulatory

The Leisure Officer reported that new rubber safety matting had been installed in well-utilised, muddy areas of the playground at Michael Crescent Centenary Park, including the entrance, bench area and quiet area. The matting near the table tennis table at Horley Recreation Ground had also been replaced due to excessive wear-and-tear, as stated in the RoSPA inspection report.

RESOLVED: noted.

Outside Bodies

L 5549 Gatwick Green Space Partnership (GGP): Cllr George reported that discussions with Newdigate PC to join the partnership were progressing slowly. Additionally, membership by Charlwood PC had been delayed, pending recruitment of a new Clerk. Discussions with Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT) confirmed that potential SWT projects in Horley would complement the activities of GGP, as all organisations work closely together.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5550 Horley Conservation Groups (HCG): It was noted that a letter of thanks for the group's efforts and hard work (including hedge planting at the Horley Recreation Ground playground) would be featured at the group's AGM.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5551 Horley Allotments

The Leisure Officer reported that the issue of overshadowing from trees on the railway boundary at Langshott allotments still persists and Network Rail maintained no responsibility as there is no safety hazard. The cost to cut back growth to the boundary line was quoted at £2,400 (inc. VAT). A meeting would be scheduled with the Langshott Allotment Association to assess the number of plots significantly affected and to consider other potential solutions, including alternative plots, subject to availability.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5552 Communications Received

From	Subject	Action/Comments
Surrey County Council (SCC)	Requirement to relocate the planters currently situated in the High Street and pedestrianised area during the planned public realm refurbishment works.	Leisure Officer to follow up on a temporary solution, to relocate the planters to the pavement area outside Costa Coffee, subject to suitable watering arrangements and a final decision to be made by the Committee on a permanent location once the new layout is known.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5553 Diary Dates

- 26 April 2025 - St George's Day Fair
- 6 May 2025, 7.30 pm - Annual Council Meeting
- 13 May 2025, 7.30 pm - Planning & Development Committee
- 16 May 2025, 7.30 pm - Annual Town Public Forum

L 5553)

- 1 July 2025, 7.30 pm - Leisure & Amenities Committee Meeting

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5554

Items for Future Consideration

None

RESOLVED: noted.

Meeting closed at 20:09

Date of Next Meeting: 1 July 2025

DRAFT