



HORLEY TOWN PLAN

Strategy for the enhancement and
on-going development of Horley

2016/19



Horley in Spring

Horley

“Attractive, vibrant and well managed”

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the future strategy for the enhancement and on-going development of Horley as an attractive, vibrant and well managed place to live, work, shop and relax.

2. OUR VISION

Over the next ten years, Horley will become an increasingly successful town offering more employment opportunities, an enticing shopping environment, high quality neighbourhoods, excellent cultural and leisure amenities and a supportive range of facilities for residents of all ages.

To achieve this, it is considered that the town needs:

RESIDENTIAL

A fully sustainable twenty first century town focused around a high quality, vibrant and accessible town centre.

The Town Council's website to be enhanced to retain Horley Town Council's function as a "first port of call".

COMMERCIAL

A better town centre with a greater range of independent, specialist shops and a more attractive pedestrian environment.

Better quality facilities for retail and other local businesses.



Horley Conservation Group

ENVIRONMENTAL

A town that functions efficiently and is underpinned by a state of the art transport network and modern supporting infrastructure.

Improved public transport, walking and cycling links and roads.

New and improved community and cultural facilities.

Monitoring of the wetlands of Horley and liaison with Environment Agency.

EVERYONE

To deliver added value by focusing on what is doable and affordable, constantly seeking to achieve best value.

Horley Town Council will do its utmost to ensure that this vision is delivered.

3. HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL – ITS CURRENT ROLES

The Town Council works independently and in partnership with other agencies and organisations in providing, maintaining, and modernising existing facilities. These currently include:

- Playgrounds, sports facilities, and community halls
- Security surveillance CCTV of HTC owned parks
- Commenting on local planning applications, and representing the interests of the town at public inquiries
- Dialogue with principal authorities with regard to devolving service provision where these can be better delivered locally
- Providing community leadership by representing the town at ceremonial and civic events and by co-coordinating community events and celebrations
- Electing a Town Mayor and a Deputy Town Mayor at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council. The Town Mayor represents the Town Council, and, by extension, the Parish of Horley at ceremonial and community events
- In co-operation with other local agencies, taking a central role in community development
- Working closely with neighbouring Councils
- Reviewing contacts with outside bodies to ensure Horley's interests are well represented



Horley town centre



Horley meadow flowers

- Consulting residents on a number of projects likely to affect them
- Producing an e-newsletter giving details of Town Council initiatives and providing local organisations with the opportunity to publicise their activities
- Giving members of the public the opportunity to address Town Councillors and ask questions at each Town Council meeting
- Publishing an Annual Report at its Town Meeting, covering its activities during the previous twelve months and outlining its budget and plans for the coming year
- Taking a central role in community development by supporting and encouraging local groups, particularly those involving youth and the elderly
- Encouraging the development/enhancement of both new and existing community groups through its Edmonds Fund grants programme
- Reducing all aspects of antisocial behaviour, working in liaison with Surrey Police

4. HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL – DELIVERING THE VISION

SEEKING SOURCES OF REVENUE

Horley Town Council accepts that it is not always possible to break-even on those facilities offered to the public, for which a charge is made. These facilities include allotments, football pitch and function-room hire. It is active in seeking business sponsorships and grants for capital projects and seeking other funding from agencies such as Sport England, the Lottery and the London Marathon Charitable Trust.



Memorial Gardens



Langshott allotment holders

ENSURING THE TOWN COUNCIL OPERATES IN AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT WAY

The Town Council provides local residents with clearly accessible information and regular access to Councillors and complies fully with the Transparency Code. It holds the Town Meeting each year and supports focus group meetings and attends meetings at outside bodies. Regular eNewsletters and an annual Town Guide are provided as well as ensuring that up to date information is provided on its website.



Riverside lilies

WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILS

The Town Council works closely with its neighbouring local authorities, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and Surrey County Council. Horley Town Council is regularly engaged in cooperative initiatives with third parties such as The Horley & District Chamber of Commerce, and the Horley Town Management Group. The Town Council works with many partners and local community groups to host events such as the Horley Carnival and Circus and Funfair visits to our parks.



R Olliver and Horley residents

5. A SOUND FINANCIAL BASE



Horley in Bloom



"Memorial Gardens" Photograph by F Robertson



Riverside Garden Park

Horley Town Council recognises that there is a balance to find between providing quality services and ensuring that the foundation for everything that is undertaken is based on sound finances.

Our underlying principles in managing our finances over the next 3 years will be:

- Maintaining the Town Council's Reserves at an appropriate level
- Aiming to ensure that any services taken on by Horley Town Council from Borough and County Councils will have a minimum cost effect on its budget, unless the Town Council decides to provide a higher standard of service to Horley residents
- Sourcing additional funding for all major projects

6. OUR 5 YEAR PLAN

Horley Town Council has a number of projects and activities planned to deliver the priorities for Horley, as described in this document. The funding for all these actions comes from a variety of sources including Council Tax, Borough and County Council funds/grants, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and external sources of funding and income. Horley Town Council manages its available funds carefully to ensure that maximum value and benefit is delivered to its residents. It continues to work closely with both Borough and County Councils to secure essential funding for key capital projects, which should include funding which has resulted from the major developments within the town. (See table of projects overleaf.)



Playground, Horley Recreation Ground

OUR 5 YEAR PLAN

ACTIVITY AREA	ACHIEVED 2015/16	SHORT TERM ACTIONS <1 YR
Allotments	Langshott allotments taken on	Resurface car park at Church Road allotments
Council Offices		On-going maintenance
Court Lodge Fields		Establish additional football pitches for use by junior teams
Education		
Emlyn Meadows		
Horley Recreation Ground	Grant £10k secured from London Marathon Ch Trust for outdoor fitness equipment	Build replacement skate park Improve Ornamental Gardens Carry out feasibility study and consult re Café Project
Innes Pavilion	New flooring achieved 1/2016	Continue to improve and maintain building eg replace glazing in pavilion
Michael Crescent Centenary Park		Demolish scout building

MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS

2-3 YRS

Manage further sites in Horley North West Sector

Additional parking spaces

Playground equipment to be replaced

Court Lodge MUGA (or similar teenage facility):
Ideal site is on or near the old Scout compound

Work with County Council to secure post 16 education facilities in Horley

Town Council to seek to take ownership of Bolters Wood

Refurbish public Tennis Courts (Tennis Foundation & LTA to be consulted)

Build new café

Expand Outdoor Gym

Replace outdated changing rooms

Consider more usage as a community hall

Redevelop site

LONG TERM ACTIONS

3-5 YRS

Provide toilet at Church Road Allotments

Continuous refurbishment

OUR 5 YEAR PLAN

ACTIVITY AREA	ACHIEVED 2015/16
Activities	
Communications Strategy	
Community events	Establish Horley Carnival as a regular event (achieved)
Green Spaces	Himalayan Balsam volunteer task force formed for its removal from river banks
Help and Support for residents	Offering “One stop shop” for Horley residents
Horley in Bloom	
Publications	
Security	Replace outdated CCTV equipment at Horley Rec
South and South East in Bloom	Continue to enter the competition and implement suggestions made by judges where appropriate
Tourism	

SHORT TERM ACTIONS

<1 YR

Promote walks and rides with Gatwick Greenspace Partnership

Develop a strategy and make full use of all social media channels

Development of nature trails and education facilities

Create health circuits and exercise areas

Maintaining and enhancing this service

Work with other organisations to develop the competition further

Online Events Calendar

Continue to provide Town Guide for all residents

Enhance CCTV equipment at other sites

MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS

2-3 YRS

Aim for gold status

Promote local history with History Society

LONG TERM ACTIONS

3-5 YRS



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