

Horsham Denne Neighbourhood Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th September 2019



Venue: The Church Lounge, London Road Methodist Church, London Road, Horsham

Item	Detail
1	Meeting Opened at 7.00pm and Welcome from the Chairman
2	Attendance and apologies for absence: Attending – HDNC: Chair – Trudie Mitchell, Gianni Lozzi (left 8pm), Judy Pounds, Nigel Hillpaul, Rodger Whitefield, Christine Osborne. Clerk – Sara Doy HDC Cllrs. Ruth Fletcher, Frances Haigh Apologies – HDNC: Ian Botting HDC Cllr. Peter Burgess; WSCC Cllrs. Nigel Dennis, Morwen Millson
3	Declaration of Members' Interests TM – Blueprint; JP – Wimblehurst Road Residents' Association (W.R.R.A.)
4	Approval of Minutes from last meeting (15.8.19). The minutes were approved by GL and seconded by RW.
5	Matters arising from last meeting and Action points All action points dealt with or in hand.
6	Chairman's Report <u>Meetings attended:</u> 04/09/2019 HDC Council Meeting for Novartis hearing (see 8.3) 13/09/2019 LCWIP (see 8.7) 16/09/2019 FNC Meeting (see 8.11) 17/09/2019 Neighbourhood Councils' Quarterly Meeting 18/09/2019 Alden Court Opening (see 8.3) <u>Future Meetings:</u> 24/09/2019 Town Centre

	25/09/2019 Park Management Plan 27/09/2019 Horsham in Bloom Presentations 06/10/2019 Civic Evensong <u>Neighbourhood Councils' Quarterly Meeting:</u> For the purpose of this meeting most of the items discussed have been covered in other parts other agenda: Hospital Carpark, Travellers, Railway Subway, Novartis, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and Youth Services. It was pointed out that the audio recordings of Council Meetings need improving; the recent discussion on the Novartis development missed the names of several speakers and had two breaks in transmission missing at least one speaker and the final decision. It is recognised that the audio service is not obligatory but if provided it should be accurate. A request was also made to assist Blueprint by providing maps which are not accessible to the NCs. Meeting notes will be circulated as soon as available.
7	Clerk's Report <u>HDNC Councillor Vacancy:</u> HDC Voluntary Sector Support included a short item in the Volunteering section of the 26th August edition of their Newsletter, however there has been no response to date. SD has been looking into getting an advert put on Indeed, the job advertisement website. She was informed that it is possible to place an advert free of charge so will submit the details of the vacancy soon. <u>Age UK New CEO:</u> The new CEO, Simon Dowe, has offered to come along to a meeting and talk about the work of Age UK Horsham District. ACTION: SD to invite the Age UK CEO to the October meeting. <u>Resident enquiries:</u> A resident of Parson's Walk: Reported the grass cutting contractors had not cut the nettles but later advised that the contractor had cut them. A resident of Tanbridge Park: Reported that street lights next to a footpath are being obscured by trees and making it hard to see when it gets dark. She had contacted WSCC and someone visited the site but said no action was required. SD to see if resident can provide lamp post numbers and photographs. Residents of Henderson Way: Emailed to enquire what work is currently being carried out by Berkeley's behind their property. They complained of noisy machinery carrying out groundworks, tree felling and a lack of information. TM checked with Berkeley's who advised that self-seeded trees are being removed to create a viewing area for the football pitches. Berkeley's did inform HDC, Saxon Weald and Southern Housing who own some of the properties of the work, but they apologised for not informing privately owned residences.

	Out of date bus information: The resident who originally contacted HDNC regarding the noticeboards outside the Train station and in the Carfax emailed again for an update. SD contacted WSCC Bus Infrastructure Officer who advised that there is no one to update the boards and they are to be removed. <u>Compliance issues:</u> 7 Wimblehurst Rd: SD emailed Compliance regarding the black painted wall on the new extension as this property is in the conservation area and paintwork was not included in the application. Co-op, Tanfield site, Guildford Rd: SD emailed Compliance to check if permission is required for the large advertising banner which has appeared on the building adjacent to the Co-op. Acknowledgements from Compliance were received on 12/9/19 advising that investigations will be carried out within the next 15 working days. <u>Letter to HDC Cllr. Philip Circus regarding use of Hop Oast recycling site by non-drivers:</u> SD received a reply from PC advising that people are not allowed to walk across to the recycling area due to safety reasons. Apparently there have been quite a few people injured at the site. He suggested the matter should be raised with the WSCC Councillor. ACTION: SD to check which WSCC Councillor to contact.
	Reports from Members:
8.1	Finance <u>Monthly report:</u> GL provided a report: Payments made since 17.8.19: WSCC Clerk's July salary = £320.00 Horsham in Bloom planter sponsorship = £165.00 Balance at 17.9.19 = £5389.82
	Section 106 and CIL Nothing to report.
8.3	Planning <u>DC/18/2687 Horsham Enterprise Park (Novartis site):</u> This application was discussed at a Full Council Meeting on 4th September. JP attended and spoke on behalf of HDNC. There was unanimous agreement to defer the decision pending more information on the traffic survey, safety audit and police report. JD commented that there was some confusion regarding seating at the meeting, and also if

	questions could be asked. It is disappointing that the concerns regarding overdevelopment and density of the site were not added to the amendment. <u>Alden Court:</u> TM attended the official opening of Saxon Weald's new development in the Bishopric on 18th September. This has created 21 attractive shared ownership properties in the area where there were dilapidated garages. Conversations took place about potential involvement in the Novartis site but it is unlikely. <u>7 Wimbleshurst Road:</u> JD commented that the pavement has been left in a poor state following the building works. (See also item 7).
8.4	West of Horsham Development <u>Arun East Bridge road works:</u> The work in Hills Farm Lane has been completed including the two central refuges and the temporary traffic signals have been removed; however there has been a delay in obtaining permission to connect the street lights and as yet there is no date for completion.
8.5	Community Services – Youth There should have been a progress meeting with 4theYouth (the new providers) in September but nothing has been arranged. At the Quarterly Meeting Adam Chalmers was asked to follow up on this and also if there should be a new agreement between the NCs and 4the Youth. JP emailed Nick Jenkins at HDC with a reminder that an update is needed.
8.6	Community Services – Older People Nothing to report.
8.7	Highways and Transport <u>Hospital Car Park:</u> The hospital is placing an order for two refurbished parking machines as the current ones are now beyond repair. Areas to be included in the second phase of the national parking programme are in the process of being agreed. Horsham expects to hear in the next month if it is being taken forward, this would end the involvement of HDC in managing the carpark. Phase 1 of the national programme has taken longer than expected hence the delay. There is still no news on the layout of the carpark. <u>Warnham Road Crossing:</u> HTCP has already submitted its application to WSCC, through the Community Highways Scheme, to install a pedestrian crossing point opposite the Nature Reserve. TM had a conversation with the person who submitted the form and was told no action is required from HDNC. <u>Gordon Road one-way TRO:</u> TM asked JP if she had heard when the TRO would be implemented. JP said that she had been advised that a build out needed to be installed to narrow the entrance to the road and a drain needed to be moved first.

	ACTION: SD to ask Chris Stark, WSCC Highways, for an update. <u>Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Programme (LCWIP):</u> TM attended the stakeholder meeting on 13th September. The consultant seems to have concentrated on cycling more than walking routes and there is limited time to identify and audit the main desired routes by the end of November in order to be eligible for government funding. RF suggested including a pedestrian link between the Highwood development and Newbridge Nursery. FH suggested a change to the Albion Way, East Street junction to make it easier for pedestrians to cross. <u>Railway Subway:</u> There has still not been a response from Network Rail to the HDC request for permission to paint the ceiling. HDC have now established another contact at Network Rail and hope this may be more successful. TM also requested that the walls are deep cleaned and weeds removed from the footpath / car park area.
8.8	Communications <u>Website:</u> RW advised that the map has been corrected and that Function28 has added a disclaimer and copyright to the website.
8.9	Park/Countryside and Leisure Nothing to report
8.10	Emergency Plan <u>Salt Audit:</u> IB has completed the annual assessment of salt boxes and SD has submitted the information to WSCC.
8.11	Police / Neighbourhood Wardens <u>Speedwatch Update:</u> TM, IB and a representative from Trafalgar NC attended a presentation given by PCSO Erica Baxter to the Forest NC meeting on 16th September. She emphasised that the system is working well and deters reoffending; potential sites have been identified in all three NC areas although it is unlikely that Hills Farm Lane can be used. PCSO Erica Baxter advised against purchasing a tablet since they do not work in all circumstances. TM suggested it may be better to use the allocated funds to leaflet agreed site areas to attract volunteers. The Wimblehurst Road group may wish to borrow the NC equipment but a protocol and insurance cover needs to be arranged. <u>Neighbourhood Wardens:</u> IB attended the regular meeting and reported that the main issues are a noticeable increase in drug taking, anti-social behaviour and graffiti. Wardens are

	raising their profile by attending events in the town and involvement in stakeholder meetings.
8.12	Town Centre <u>Travellers:</u> The encampment moved from Horsham Park to the Needles Recreation Ground before leaving the district. There was good communication from HDC during this disruptive period and all areas have been cleaned up. HDC have introduced deterrent measures at some sites but are endeavouring to strike a balance between welcoming the general public and keeping out trespassers. <u>Walkabout:</u> Notes from the meeting on 23rd July have not been issued yet by HDC <u>Causeway Meeting:</u> Residents in Causeway invited interested parties to a meeting on 22nd August to express their concern about an increase in anti-social behaviour, both in terms of the number of people involved and the frequency of incidents. Unfortunately no one from Denne NC was able to attend at short notice but District and County Councillors gave advice on whom to contact. The Police and Neighbourhood Wardens will increase the number of patrols in the area. (Post meeting note: the resident who organised the meeting emailed to say that the situation has improved considerably thanks to action from the Police, Neighbourhood Wardens and District Councillors.) <u>Christmas Lights:</u> JP attended a meeting with HDC on 11th September: the new contract for 3+2 years has been awarded to Gala. The intention is to create different themes in different areas of the town in order to encourage the public to move around. Illustrations of the themes have been circulated to members. <u>Beeches Buffet:</u> The owner spoke to RW regarding trying to make the area outside the café in East Mews more attractive e.g. putting up hanging baskets, but they were not sure who to contact. FH said she would speak to Garry Mortimer-Cook.
8.13	HALC /CLC IB attended the meeting on 12th September; his report has been circulated to members.
9.	HTCP See item 8.7.
10.	Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Forum The consultant attended a steering group meeting on 14th September and hopes to have a first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan ready by the end of September. The group was given advice on how to proceed with allocating green spaces; but obtaining maps still remains a problem and this has been raised again with Barbara Childs.

11.	Members' Questions and Comments <u>Broken paving slabs near King and Chasemore:</u> NH reported broken slabs round the base of a tree, which had caused an accident. ACTION: NH to supply address of nearest building and photographs. <u>East Street pavement defects:</u> RW commented on the areas marked up for repair during the July Walkabout which have still not been rectified.
12.	Reports from District and County Councillors HDC Cllr. Frances Haigh <u>Park Place:</u> Businesses have been badly affected by the work to Pirie's Place and the new car park, over the last 18 months. Dust and rats have been a particular problem. Barbara Childs, HDC Director of Place, has said there will be a thorough clean up. The setts at the end of the road are loose, caused by the large construction vehicles and takeaway drivers using it. JP commented that there are also quite a few residences close to this area. FH is trying to find out what assistance may be available. <u>Everyman Cinema:</u> Elderly and disabled residents have complained about the difficulty of accessing the new Everyman Cinema as the door was very heavy to open and no assistance was offered. Buildings Control have made the door easier to open, but some of the other units in Pirie's Place also have problems with the same type of door. <u>Trees to be removed in the Carfax:</u> Vicky Wise, HDC, has circulated information about replacement trees. <u>Cricketfield Road footpath lighting:</u> TM asked if there was any update on this issue. FH responded that there is no further information yet as Brian Elliott HDC, has been concentrating on the opening of Pirie's Place carpark. HDC Cllr. Ruth Fletcher <u>Highwood downgraded Boulevard bridge:</u> RF queried if WSCC have taken over responsibility for the emergency access road. TM commented that the bell mouth work had not been carried out yet. ACTION: TM to check with Berkeley's.
13.	Meeting closed at 8.15pm Next Meeting: 17th October. ACTION: SD to check with members regarding date for combined November and December meeting.