

# **HORSHAM TOWN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

**ACTION PLAN  
2011-2016**



*Let's Make Horsham Even Better.....*



Horsham is a delightful historic town and is regarded as a thriving, supportive community that appeals to both residents and visitors. Over the centuries Horsham has evolved from ancient Saxon settlement, through Victorian expansion and now into a beautiful town with good road, rail and air links. There is a population of around 50,000 and yet the town retains many aspects of its market town past, has been carefully renovated and developed to provide excellent shopping and cultural opportunities. Horsham District is regarded to be one of the top 10 places to live in England

As winner of South East and the Britain in Bloom National Competition, the Town is a blooming delight from Spring to Autumn.

Local employers include large companies such as RSA, Novartis and the RSCPA who together with many smaller firms provide a sound commercial base. Shopping is well served by the Swan Walk Retail Centre, and a large number of boutiques supply something a little different. The new restaurant quarter offer a gastro treat. Horsham has 3 conservation areas and many listed buildings. The Carfax is the hub of the town complete with Victorian Band Stand and War Memorial.

The Causeway is especially pretty and leads to the 12th Century to St Mary's parish church.

The green jewel is Horsham Park with its many attractions. Other features include Warnham Nature Reserve, Denne Park, St Leonards Forest and Chesworth Farm much of which is included in the High Weald area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and South Downs National Park.



## What is Horsham Town Community Partnership?

The Horsham Town Community Partnership was formed in 2010 and is an umbrella core group composed of members of Denne, Forest and Trafalgar Neighbourhood Councils, Horsham Society and Horsham in Bloom.

The purpose of the Partnership is to represent the aspirations of local organisations and residents, and through this, work on projects or issues

affecting the town and its residents. The Partnership is registered as a company limited by guarantee and as such can apply for funds i.e. grant funding that other organisations like Horsham District Council or Neighbourhood/Parish Councils can't apply for.

The objects are to benefit the built-up area of Horsham town and its community by working on issues and projects of interest and concern to the area.

The Community Partnership is action orientated through volunteers. Any action worked on by the Community Partnership are actions that have been highlighted through consultation and views expressed by local people.

**The two most important resources for HTCP projects are people and funding.**

It is for the Community Partnership, backed by local community opinion, to decide the priority of any actions undertaken and to find the resources to work on projects. Through public consultation this 5 year initial Action Plan has been drawn up.



## A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE (HOUSING, PUBLIC TRANSPORT, CYCLING, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE)

WHAT	HOW	WHO
Clear River Arun, Boldings Brook, Red River and Riverside Walk of debris.	HTCP to co-ordinate existing groups to work together effectively and encourage new groups to join in.	Local groups such as Green Gym, Tritar, Hills Farm Lane Conservation group Environment Agency, WSCC, HDC, Youth Groups, YMCA.
Encourage and help more business recycling especially for small businesses.	Monitor HDC activity on their new service that addresses this. HTCP help with publicity regarding this new service.	HTCP, WSCC, and HDC.
Extend cycle routes.	HTCP to work with organisations to help facilitate better and joined up cycle routes.	HTCP, Horsham Cycling Forum, HDC, WSCC.
Promote awareness of public transport and promote its greater usage.	More accessible publicity for travel information and co-ordination.	HTCP to work with all transport providers HDC, WSCC and local press.
Encourage renewable energy in business and residential premises.	HTCP to work with Greening Horsham Campaign and other groups on environmental issues.	HTCP, Greening Horsham Campaign, Environmental Agency, HDC Sustainability Team.
Promote the use of open space, keep community space in community use.	HTCP to consult with organisations involved with community open space.	HTCP, Green Gym, HDC Health Walks, Horsham Society, HDC.

You can see that the Action Plan has been divided into 4 areas of concern with 'What' needs to be done, 'How' it's to be done and 'Who' by.

HTCP is run by a volunteer Management Committee and a team of Directors. Minutes of their meetings can be seen on the HTCP web-site.

Major projects such as the Riverside Walk project are run by a separate volunteer team under a Project Manager.



North Street, Horsham



## OPPORTUNITY FOR (ECONOMY, EDUCATION AND SKILLS, FACILITIES AND AMENITIES, TOURISM )

WHAT	HOW	WHO
Upgrade the Drill Hall for wider community use with possible transfer of asset to the community	HTCP to pursue this issue and investigate the long term future of the Drill Hall and viability of the lease agreement.	HTCP working with HDC.
Support Christmas lights and encourage all relevant parties to support them financially	Further upgrading of Christmas lights, liaising with town traders to help with this financially.	Horsham Unlimited, HDC.
Establish need for Post Office services and seek alternative ways to provide them as necessary	Find out what is required and what is missing to provide a better more accessible system.	HTCP to consult with Post Office Services and local groups.
Set up a late night internet cafe for local residents	Pursue places that already exist that could provide a late night internet cafe within their premises.	HTCP to liaise with late opening venues in the Town.
Support local producers	Pursue the feasibility of a local produce venue that could provide a facility for the sale and display of arts and crafts produce made within a 10 mile radius of Horsham.	HTCP to work with other organisations.
Encourage arts events in the Town	Research what is already available, and what is demanded.	HTCP liaising with other arts organisations.
Encourage and facilitate more concerts in Horsham Park	Research what is wanted.	HTCP to work with Arts and Events organisations

Workshops have been held with HDC Officers, Town and County Councillors, Parish and Neighbourhood Councils, Police Representatives, Representatives from Town Voluntary Groups, Head teachers of Town Schools, Youth Group Workers, Ethnic Group Leaders and Representations from District Community Partnerships and Volunteers. These workshops helped prioritise the issues raised by the consultations and looked at ways that they could be addressed. Liaising with these groups ensured that actions were not duplicated and that groups could work together to best advantage.



Drill Hall, Horsham



## BETTER HEALTH FOR ALL (GENERAL HEALTH, HOSPITAL, COMMUNITY TRANSPORT, OLDER PEOPLE, CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES)

WHAT	HOW	WHO
Bookable transport for care homes that do not have their own transport.	Pursue the co-ordination of what is available, the training of volunteer drivers and collate this information to liaise with existing transport schemes to provide a more co-ordinated service.	HTCP liaising with community transport schemes, HDC, WSCC, local press.
Improve transport to East Surrey Hospital.	Help in publicity and better accessibility of what is already available.	HTCP to liaise with transport groups.
Encourage more holiday play schemes (under 13) and re-establish lost ones.	Research on what is available and required. Liaise with HDC.	HTCP, HDC and other groups such as Horsham Matters, Senior Schools, school PTAs
Expand and improve local Community Car scheme.	Co-ordinate what is available and help in publicity for what is available.	HTCP, Community Car Scheme Groups, HACVS, Charities, local press.
Youth incentive scheme to encourage young people to get involved in local issues and take "ownership" of their facilities.	Research what is needed and what incentives can be got for recompense.	HTCP, YMCA, HYPER and other youth groups. local schools, NCs and NH PC, Churches Together.
More ways to help teenagers find info on holiday jobs, etc.	Research what is needed and what is already available.	HTCP, Connexions, YMCA, HYPER, Horsham Children Can Do, (Horsham Matters) Horsham 100 Matters), Horsham 100 (Tanbridge School) local schools and colleges.

To make all this happen Project Groups are set up with volunteers who wish to take that project forward. Most project groups will come together for a particular project until it is completed.

Overall control is vested in HTCP, who manage and oversee the projects.

Y Centre, Albion Way,  
Horsham



## STAYING AND FEELING SAFE (CRIME & DISORDER, FEAR OF CRIME, RESPECT, ROAD SAFETY)

WHAT	HOW	WHO
Better lighting in public places at night, eg Horsham Park and North St subway	Consultation on Park routes required, and areas that need better lighting in the Town.	HTCP liaising with HDC, WSCC and British Rail.
Additional Police Community Support Officer for the Town.	Re-allocation of Police Offices and PCSOs in Town Centre at crucial times, extra recruitment of volunteer specials.	HTCP liaising with Police and HDC.
Promote care and respect for the Town and its inhabitants and greater public involvement	Launch a respect campaign.	HTCP liaising with Social Services and Youth Groups, YMCA, HYPER, local schools and colleges, Horsham Matters.
Encourage Community Watch Schemes and re-establish lost ones	Research what ones are active and which have been lost, and where new ones could be instigated.	HTCP liaising with Police, new housing schemes, local insurance companies (Royal Sun Alliance)
Secure cycle storage in the Town	Research cycling storage provision in the Town, and where secure cycle storage could be provided.	HTCP liaising with Horsham Cycling Forum, Cycling Proficiency groups, Aviva, HDC and WSCC.
More safe road crossings.	Review the existing crossing points in the Town, and identify accident black spots or where there is a particular need.	HTCP giving review findings to WSCC.
Promote safe driving and cycling	Research where there are problems with unsafe driving and cycling, and ask WSCC Highways to monitor the problem with electronic equipment for analysis.	HTCP to liaise with Police, Horsham Cycling Forum and WSCC.

What next? The information in this plan is very much a work in progress. Some proposals will be readily achievable and some will take more planning before they can be implemented. The Plan is therefore a living document subject to ongoing review.

**You Can Help.** To progress the actions, volunteers are always needed. If you are interested in finding out more please visit our website: [www.horshamtowncommunitypartnership.btck.co.uk](http://www.horshamtowncommunitypartnership.btck.co.uk)





**Website:**[www.horshamtowncommunitypartnership.btck.co.uk](http://www.horshamtowncommunitypartnership.btck.co.uk)  
**Volunteer Contact:** [horshamtowncp@gmail.com](mailto:horshamtowncp@gmail.com)  
or call Jane Apostolou on 077761 735 139

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**Abbreviations used:**

**HTCP—Horsham Town Community Partnership**

**HDC—Horsham District Council**

**WSCC—West Sussex County Council**

**AiRS—Action in Rural Sussex**

**PTA—Parent Teacher Association**

**HACVS—Horsham Area Council for Voluntary Service**

**YMCA—Young Men's Christian Association**

**NC—Neighbourhood Council**

**NHPC—North Horsham Parish Council**

**HYPER—Horsham Young Peoples Elected Representatives (Horsham Youth Council)**

**PCSO—Police Community Support Officer**

**TRITAR—Tanbridge Park River Clearance Group**