



DENNE NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL

Clerk: Miss Jenny Hartley. 88 Rusper Road, Horsham. RH12 4BN

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**Minutes of the DNC Meeting held on Thursday 20 March 2014 at 7pm
in The Church Lounge, London Road Methodist Church
London Road, Horsham.**

MINUTES

1. 2014/66 Meeting Open and Welcome from the Chairman

TM opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

Guest Speaker – Officer Jim Stobart – Sussex Police. Operation Crackdown

Jim Stobart, a Road Safety Officer from Sussex Police outlined the procedures involved in Operation Crackdown whereby members of the public can report antisocial driving by drivers acting in a dangerous manner e.g. using mobile telephones whilst on the move, speeding, tailgating, lane hogging. He gave a presentation showing how to fill out an incident form on the web page, www.operationcrackdown.org, or by telephone number 01243 642222.

Complaints are checked against the Police National Computer, logged and kept for 12 months. Second offenders are sent a letter or may be asked to attend a training course. The system covers just East and West Sussex and Brighton. There are only 2 officers in the team and they sent out 26,000 letters in 2013. He also spoke about the success of Community Speed Watch groups using SID (speed indicator device); there are 500 sites in Sussex. JS will forward a link to the presentation.

2. 2014/67 Attendance and apologies

Present: DNC Chairman Trudie Mitchell (TM), DNC Vice Chairman Martin Bruton (MB), Ian Botting (IB), Gianni Lozzi (GL), Jane Apostolou (JA), John Moon (JM) and Jo Bull (JB)

Also Present: WSCC/HDC Cllr David Sheldon, HDC Cllr David Sheldon and HDC Cllr Laurence Deakins.

Apologies for absence were received from: Judy Pounds, HDC Cllr David Holmes, WSCC Councillor Nigel Dennis and J Hartley (Clerk).

3. 2014/68 Declaration of Member's Interest

JA declared an interest in HTCP – item 8.13

4. 2014/69 Approval of Minutes from last meeting (16.01.14)

Minutes approved. Proposed by MB seconded by IB

5. 2014/70 Matters arising from last meeting and outstanding action points.

See Clerks report.

6. 2014/71 Chairman's Report

Meetings attended

24/02/2014 – Tom Crowley and 3 NC Chairs (see separate report)

27/02/2014 – Dressed for Success Awards

11/03/2014 – Horsham Unlimited

17/03/2014 – HALC with John Moon

Future meetings

24/03/2014 – Project group meeting about the North Street and Railway subways

27/03/2014 – Quarterly meeting with Helena Croft and Natalie Brahma-Pearl

04/04/2014 – Walkabout to discuss Bishopric area connectivity with Waitrose development

Horsham Unlimited 11th March

Jill Holmes usually attends on behalf of all the Neighbourhood Councils. In her absence TM attended for the presentation by Natalie Brahma-Pearl and John McArthur on the new payment scheme for the town centre multi-storey car parks.

DNC had already been briefed by Cllr. Frances Haigh (see minutes 9th December 2013). Additional notes have been circulated to members.

West Street Project

Minutes from January meeting circulated 18th March - no further update

7. 2014/72 Clerk's Report

DNC Notice Boards

The Clerk informed Members that she still awaits a response from HDC – this is being chased regularly.

I.D Cards

The Clerk informed Members that she has been in contact with HDC and this is looking positive. Photographs and the DNC logo have been emailed to HDC for review.

8. Reports From Members:

Please note that 2 items on the agenda were numbered 8.4 – these have now been named 8.4.1 and 8.4.2

8.1 2014/73 Finance

GL reported a balance of £4143.33. He also reported that he was still experiencing problems with finalising "on line" banking.

8.2 2014/74 Section 106 Agreements

See report on meeting with Tom Crowley

8.3 2014/75 Planning

MB reported that DNC have asked that the applications for Linden House DC/14/0154, (proposed new entrance) and the BritChiro Practice DC/14/0110 (advertisement panels in West Street) should be considered by the Planning Committee and not delegated to the case officer.

TM reported on the following:

Procedure Problems

TM reported on her correspondence with Hilary Coplestone relating to various problems, which the Neighbourhood Council was experiencing with planning procedure. Her detailed response had been copied to MB.

Main points including update 20th March: -

1) Delegated Decisions – DNC can request that a delegated decision is instead heard at Committee if the request is supported by 2 members of the Committee or if DNC has a material planning consideration inconsistent with the Head of Service's recommendation and wishes to address the committee.

2) DC/14/1829 - DNC received an apology for the omission of our objection on the report relating to Guildford Road. This application was deferred when the omission was pointed out by Ian Botting and refused at the deferred Committee hearing. Congratulations to IB for his persistence in this matter.

3) "Is the recommendation contrary to the Parish Council's views?" - This is a standard question for Officers' reports. DNC asked for the template to be altered to include NCs. Manny Singh, Systems Development Officer is to make the change.

4) Sporadic receipt of Decision Notices - Since the Decision list is now published weekly local councils should no longer be getting individual notifications. Manny Singh to ensure all staff are aware of this.

5) Incorrect Council Designation – DNC has had instances of applications being registered to the wrong NC, which means the correct NC fails to respond. Currently most of Horsham District is allocated electronically but historically the town comes up as Horsham Urban and is allocated manually to NCs. HDC is now creating an electronic system for the NCs

Harrington Mews

DNC queried with Andy Flack why this name is being used on advertising hoardings for the development off Farthings Hill when DNC objected to the name. He has assured DNC that the official name has been agreed as Firs Close and the use of Harrington Mews is purely for marketing purposes

8.4.1 2014/76 West of Horsham Development

TM reported that the hearing for the 'stopping up' of the old footpath had been heard at Crawley Magistrate's court on March 5th. The Neighbourhood Council had not been informed of the outcome but Berkley Homes had requested Horsham DC to take over the NEAP as soon as the new footpath was opened.

8.4.2 2014/77 Community Services – Youth

DNC is awaiting the minutes of the meeting held on 18.03.2014.

8.5 2014/78 Community Services - Older Persons

MB reported on the last meeting of the Older Persons Committee on the 10th March held at St. Catherine's Hospice Crawley where the Chairman had indicated his intention of retiring

8.6 2014/79 Highways and Transport

JB commented on the condition of the road surface in Richmond Road, in the vicinity of Collyers Sixth Form College, where the surface had sunk.

Action: JB to send detailed information to TM of complaints previously submitted

MB drew attention to a gas marker post in Old Millmeads where the concrete had broken away and exposed the steel reinforcing rods and thus created a potential hazard to pedestrians

Action: MB to send details to TM

Reported defects

Three Acres – 7 sets of defects were reported 20th March, as resurfacing is not due until 2014-5

CPZ Ashleigh Road Response

A letter and an addendum were sent to WSCC expressing the collective views of DNC.

Main concerns were:-

1) The problem was largely caused by Collyer's students and should be addressed by WSCC with the college.

2) The proposal was out of proportion with the scale of the problem - too expensive and inconvenient for residents

3) Parking restrictions would exacerbate problems of speeding in Wimblehurst Road

Hills Farm Lane Traffic Calming

Another e-mail was sent 7th March complaining that the project has been on-going since July. Work was done to increase the width of the reflective strip on the bollards 13th March and this has made a considerable improvement

Subways

The first project group meeting will be at HDC on 24th March, chaired by Evan Giles.

Diane Sumpter, FNC and Trudie Mitchell have spoken to Nigel Bird, WSCC, who is responsible for the LSTF cycle route, which will use the subways. He has said he will attend the meeting.

8.7 2014/80 Communications

MB reported that he had now updated the Council's Website.

8.8 2014/81 Park and Countryside

DNC had requested a meeting with Cllr. Jonathan Chowen to discuss ideas for improvements in Horsham Park - Evan Giles to arrange a date.

A regular meeting date also needs to be arranged between JB and Evan Giles.

ACTION: JB to liaise with Evan Giles to arrange regular meeting dates for the Park/Countryside.

8.9 2014/82 Emergency Plan

TM will attend a meeting on 21st March between the Environment Agency and Tanbridge Park residents about flooding in their area.

8.10 2014/83 Police

No further report this evening.

8.11 2014/84 Town Centre

No further report this evening.

8.12 2014/85 HALC/CLC

JM reported there were three items of interest to Neighbourhood Councils on the agenda.

Firstly - a briefing on the replacement of street lighting within the North Horsham district by a representative of SSE. Members of the Committee and some of the public gave instances of poor consultation and reinstatement of their areas following the completion of the work.

Secondly - further discussions were take place on the route of the Broadbridge Heath/Oakhill cycle in respect of Horsham Park.

Thirdly there were also further discussions in respect of the station underpass.

Horsham Association of Local Councils meeting 17th March 2014 JM reported that the main item on the agenda concerned a presentation on flooding issues by Jamie Fielding and Jo Higgs from the Environment Agency who informed the meeting on the separate roles of the Agency, the West Sussex County Council and the District Council. Flooding in the Billingshurst and Pulborough areas were illustrated by photographs and potential flood maps of these areas. Included in the photographs shown was one showing the effect of flooding in the new Highwood estate, Horsham. Questions were asked by Members from both Billingshurst and Pulborough which were the areas that bore the brunt of the recent flooding.

Again the attendance was poor when an invitation was given to two speakers on such an important subject. The May meeting at Henfield has a speaker from the NHS and in July at Steyning there will be an opportunity to learn more about Operation Crackdown

9. 2014/86 HTCP

JA's report was circulated prior to the meeting.

JA notified the Chair that HTCP would be applying for Open Space funds in relation to the Westrock development. TM commented that there might not be any funds available from this development.

TM congratulated JM on the HTCP article in the District Post and and on the installation of benches on the Riverside Walk.

DNC had previously agreed to consider sponsoring a bench; JA informed members that a plaque would cost £95. Members voted to sponsor one bench

Action: JA to supply details. DNC to decide location of bench and wording for plaque

10. 2014/87 Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Forum

The Inaugural Meeting of the above forum will be held in the Salvation Army Worship Hall Booth Way on Saturday 29th March from 10.00 am to 12noon. The main business of the meeting would be to form a Steering Group and to agree the Constitution. A minimum of 21 signatories is required for Blueprint to be able to apply to HDC for designation.

DNC members are encouraged to attend and sign up as members to show the strength of support, even if they are unable to play an active role.

Frances Haigh reported that names of twelve prospective candidates for the Steering Group had been received and that funding had been received to enable to project to move forward.

11. 2014/88 Members Questions and Comments

Matter raised by DNC resident Mrs R Harper

Mrs Harper who lives in Talbot Place expressed her concern over the lack of provision for ground floor disposal of rubbish from restaurants: some had no space and other areas formerly used for this purpose had now been designated as 'smoking areas' and consequently there was no space for refuse bins. She also complained about noise caused by staff late at night and asked if time restrictions could be imposed on waste disposal.

12. 2014/89 Reports from County and District Councillors

HDC Cllr - Laurence Deakins

Waitrose: local members have had meetings with Waitrose on planning conditions relating to the new premises in the Bishopric. At the firm's request opening hours would not be for twenty-four hours; provision will be made to enable delivery lorries to turn round on site.

Proposed second runway at Gatwick Airport: an exhibition will be held on 3rd May, in the Drill Hall Denne Road

HDC Cllr - Frances Haigh

Horsham Park: paths were not being swept and were in a dangerous condition.

High Ropes: the installation in the Pavilions had been delayed until May/June

Market Traders: several were not happy with the new charges, which affected holiday terms.

Restructuring of Horsham Council staff: this was being implemented and new positions advertised.

Strategic Planning Framework proposals: these would be submitted to the Council for approval in April.

12 2014/90 Date of Next Meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____