

# DENNE NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL



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## AGM Draft Minutes

*Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 7pm*

*The Church Lounge, London Road Methodist Church  
London Road, Horsham.*

Item	Detail	Lead
1	Meeting opened and welcome from the Chair	TM
2	Attendance and apologies for absence:  Present: Trudie Mitchell, Gianni Lozzi, Jane Apostolou, Ian Botting; WSCCllr. Nigel Dennis, HDCllr. Tony Hogben  Visitor: Nigel Hillpaul  Apologies: Jenny Hartley, Clerk; HDCllrs. David Skipp, Peter Burgess, Adrian Lee and Connor Relleen; WSCCllr. David Sheldon	TM
3	Election of Chairman of DNC for the Council Year 2015/16  Trudie Mitchell: proposed by JA, seconded IB	
4	Election of Vice - Chairman of DNC for the Council Year 2015/16  Martin Bruton: proposed by GL, seconded JA	TM
5	Appointment of DNC Financial Officer/Treasurer for the Council Year 2015/16  Gianni Lozzi: proposed by TM, seconded IB	TM
6	Appointment of Members to Fulfil DNC Roles and Responsibilities  Postponed to July Monthly Meeting because of low attendance	TM
7	Approval of the AGM Minutes from the meeting held on 15/05/2014  Proposed by IB, seconded GL	TM

8	<p>Chairman's Report – 2014/15</p> <p>Our numbers are still below our full complement but nevertheless we have coped well with a very busy year.</p> <p>Regretfully John Moon decided to retire before the Neighbourhood Council elections on June 18<sup>th</sup> – his wisdom and experience will be much missed and I wish to record my appreciation for his contribution.</p> <p>Unfortunately Jo Bull resigned in November for family reasons.</p> <p>My thanks go to all members for their contributions throughout the year but especially to our Vice Chair Martin Bruton who has run our website and chaired the Planning Committee.</p> <p>Thanks also to our Tree Warden, Andrew Dickinson who has provided excellent reports for us throughout the year.</p> <p>Our contact with Horsham District Council has been less regular and less fruitful than we would have wished. The un-minuted quarterly meetings with the Town Cabinet Member and Director of Community Services have resulted in little feedback or action. Following the HDC elections there is no Cabinet Member for the Town so the format will have to change again.</p> <p>During the year we have had presentations from the Clinical Commissioning Group, Adopt A Street and Horsham Co-workers.</p> <p>We submitted responses to many consultations including the Horsham District Planning Framework, the Broadbridge Heath Quadrant, the Clinical Commissioning Group Proposals which threatened town centre surgeries and the Controlled Parking Zone proposals.</p> <p>We participated in the Bishopric Enhancement project and were very pleased at the way the area has been opened up by removing overgrown vegetation.</p> <p>Major issues included:</p> <p><u>North Street and Railway Subway improvements and further work around the Station area.</u></p> <p>Work has taken place on the station forecourt including a taxi shelter as requested by DNC</p> <p>The subways project is still ongoing but progress has been slow. The LSTF Cycle Route has been installed and WSCC have agreed to resurface the subways in the financial year 2015-6; lighting has also been improved. Decisions have to be made soon on whether remedial work and fencing will be done by Network Rail or contracted out to HDC and how it will be financed.</p> <p><u>West of Horsham</u></p> <p>Site visits, together with the Hills Farm Conservation Group, have taken place throughout</p>	TM
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the year to monitor progress and discuss any problems

The Windrum Close affordable housing development was completed on time, handed over to Saxon Weald and the houses are occupied.

Work on the grade-separated junction across the A24 is complete on the Berkeley's side but the junction cannot fully open until the western side is completed by Countryside. The new footbridge over the A24 was opened in Spring 2015.

The NEAP (playground) finally opened in May after over a year of legal nit-picking and snagging with HDC.

The Extra Care home is under construction and on target completion September 2016. The Mill Apartments are likely to take 3 years to complete.

Meanwhile applications have been submitted for the bridge over the R.Arun and the first phase of the Southern Site.

### Planning

The Planning Committee has been very busy again with 200 applications received since our last AGM. We have expressed our concern at the large number of prior permission applications to turn office space into residential – what long term consequence will this have on the economy and ambience of the town?

We have had discussions with the applicants for Linden House and Prewett's Mill and have had some influence on amending these applications.

We objected to the applications for The High Ropes Course at the Pavilions, Hurst Road Sheltered Housing, Norfolk House, Envision House and Griffin House.

We welcome the opening of the John Lewis Partnership stores on 18<sup>th</sup> June but are concerned that obligations will not be fulfilled regarding the Albion Way crossing and connectivity with the town.

We are still experiencing inaccuracies in the planning system but hope these will be resolved with the recent restructuring

### S106

There has been no progress on the projects listed in connection with Open Spaces funding but Denne was asked to provide £20,000 for a disability swing in the Park. We objected to this because of lack of consultation and because we consider it to be a project that benefits the whole district and funding should be shared – this will be discussed further with HDC.

### Highways and Transport

There have been the usual problems with potholes and blocked drains but our major achievement was persuading WSCC to change the sequence of the traffic signals at the

	<p>Albion Way / Park Way junction. This has improved the flow of traffic considerably.</p> <p>We have also had discussions with SSE concerning the installation of new lampposts in our area. Following a request from a resident we succeeded in getting posts relocated in London Road.</p> <p><u>Youth Provision</u></p> <p>We have attended Quarterly Progress meetings but now need discussions with HDC regarding future funding for Youth Work Provision.</p> <p><u>Police</u></p> <p>We have had better regular contact with our local PCSOs.</p> <p><u>HALC and CLC Meetings</u></p> <p>Thanks to John Moon and Ian Botting who have represented Denne at these meetings.</p> <p><u>Horsham Town Community Partnership</u></p> <p>Martin Bruton continues to represent Denne as a director on the board but we now receive reports directly from Jane Apostolou who is Chair of HTCP. The main progress is on the Riverside Walk project which we fully support.</p> <p>Finally I will repeat what I said last year and hope that 2015-6 will prove successful for Denne and our Council continues to challenge and support activities and projects in our Neighbourhood. We are now involved in so many different activities and our views are taken seriously by HDC and WSCC.</p> <p>Thanks again to all members of DNC for their contributions over the year and to Jen Hartley, our clerk who has given me so much help and support</p>	
9	<p>Annual Financial Report – 2014/15</p> <p>Attached</p>	GL

Meeting closed 7.25

Signed: