

HORSHAM DENNE NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th April 2017 at 7pm



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

Item	Detail
1	Meeting Open and Welcome from the Chairman Meeting opened by Trudie Mitchell.
2	Attendance and apologies for absence: Attending – HDNC: Chair - Trudie Mitchell, Jane Apostolou, Judy Pounds, Ian Botting, Nigel Hillpaul WSCC Cllr. Nigel Dennis (arrived 8.20pm) Apologies – HDNC: Martin Bruton, Gianni Lozzi, Clerk Sara Doy; HDC Cllrs: Peter Burgess, Adrian Lee; WSCC Cllr. David Sheldon.
3	Declaration of Members' Interests Trudie Mitchell – Horsham Blueprint; Jane Apostolou – HTCP
4	Approval of Minutes from last meeting (16.3.17). Approved by JA, seconded by JP
5	Matters arising from last meeting and Action points Covered in the agenda.
6	Chairman's Report <u>Meetings attended</u> 27/03/2017 Prewett's Mill landscaping (see 8.3) 30/03/2017 SSALC Conference 05/04/2017 Visitor Economy (see 8.12) 05/04/2017 West of Horsham Site Visit (see 8.4) 12/04/2017 Arun Bridge East Site Visit (see 8.4) 13/04/2017 HDC/NCs Quarterly Meeting (Cancelled – rescheduled 31/05/2017) <u>Future Meetings</u> 27/04/2017 HALC AGM – IB to attend 09/05/2017 Horsham Unlimited

	<p><u>David Sheldon:</u></p> <p>It has proved difficult to arrange a date for a meal to thank David Sheldon for his contribution to HDNC over many years.</p> <p>Members agreed a gift of wine instead, up to a value of £30.</p> <p><u>SALC Conference:</u></p> <p>TM attended the conference for Parish and Town Councils on 30th March. A couple of the presentations were not so relevant to Neighbourhood Councils but in general the conference was well worthwhile and valuable contacts were made with WSCC and Parish On-line mapping. Presentation notes have been circulated to members.</p>
7	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>None</p>
8	Reports from Members:
8.1	<p>Finance</p> <p><u>Bank Account:</u> Balance at 17.3.17 = £2726.62</p> <p>Payments made since 17.3.17: WSCC February wages = £320; WSCC March wages = £320; HTCP Riverside Walk Event = £100; HALC Conference = £5.</p> <p>Balance at 18.4.17 = £1981.62</p> <p><u>HDC Grant:</u> £4936 was received on 19th April, so the balance is now £6917.62.</p> <p><u>Outstanding invoices:</u> There are invoices totalling approx. £700 still to be paid in this financial year.</p>
8.2	<p>Section 106 and CIL</p> <p>None</p>
8.3	<p>Planning</p> <p><u>Prewett's Mill DC/16/2923:</u> TM had a site visit with Katja Griffiths, landscape architect for the applicant, and Mike Lewis, Sainsbury's on 27th March to discuss possible improvements to the Mill Bay Lane area. KG will draw up a plan and contact WSCC who own part of the area. ML agreed to arrange for some pruning of overgrown vegetation and cleaning the railings along the path.</p> <p>ACTION: TM to chase for an update</p>

	<p><u>Pelham and Waverley Courts DC/16/2936:</u> This application was approved at the Committee Meeting on 4th April.</p> <p><u>Pavilions Car Park DC/17/0586:</u> Following a meeting with the Case Officer amended plans were received which clarified the location of parking spaces but there is still a query regarding pedestrian access and further information has been requested.</p> <p><u>18 Oliver Road DC/16/2605:</u> An appeal was lodged against refusal on 23rd March.</p> <p><u>St Mark's Court DC/17/0684:</u> A permitted development application has been lodged to convert the building into 203 apartments. Although we are not consulted on such applications a response will be submitted regarding overdevelopment and lack of parking.</p> <p><u>16, The Crescent DC/17/0657:</u> The next door neighbour has been in contact with TM several times objecting to this application. HDNC has given advice but does not fully support the objection. MB will respond to HDC.</p>
8.4	<p>West of Horsham Development</p> <p><u>Site Visit 5th April:</u> TM and Janet Fraser, Hills Farm Conservation Group walked both the North and South sites with Olivia Forsyth, Berkeley's. Draft Notes have been circulated.</p> <p><u>Arun Bridge Application DC/15/1826:</u> An amended plan has been submitted for the location of the northern pedestrian refuge in Hills Farm Lane and this satisfies HDNC concerns about the visibility. Our objection will be withdrawn if remaining concerns about safeguarding the recreation area from unauthorised vehicles, while maintaining direct access for pedestrians, can be achieved by conditions.</p> <p><u>Landscaping Handover to HDC:</u> Anna Chapman, HDC will be inspecting to check that landscaping conforms to the planning requirements before it is transferred to HDC for maintenance. A message has been sent to AC asking for a particular gap in screening alongside 14-16 River Walk to be checked.</p> <p><u>Windrum Close:</u> The destruction of some wooden bollards has been reported to Saxon Weald.</p>
8.5	<p>Community Services – Youth</p> <p>The next meeting is in May.</p> <p><u>Co-op Local Cause:</u> JP informed members that Horsham Matters has been appointed a Co-op Local Cause. Customers can choose to allocate that their spending will help raise funds for new equipment to support 16 Youth Clubs and Groups in the District.</p> <p>ACTION: SD, MB and NH to publicise information on the HDNC website and noticeboard.</p>

8.6	<p>Community Services – Older People</p> <p>None</p>
8.7	<p>Highways and Transport</p> <p>Hills Farm Lane: Cllr. Adrian Lee contacted TM on 20th March asking for support for his endeavours to prevent speeding in Hills Farm Lane. TM gave an update on previous efforts undertaken by HDNC, traffic calming measures and the proposals for the junction with the new access road to the Arun East Bridge.</p> <p>See also item 12, report from Cllr.Lee</p> <p>IB reported that the worst area is where vehicles enter Hills Farm Lane from Guildford Road; the worst times are 5pm to 10pm on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.</p> <p>ACTION: TM to inform Cllr. Lee</p> <p>Albion Way Staircase: The overgrown ivy preventing access to the handrail was reported to Love West Sussex on 11th January; it was eventually cleared on 7th April.</p> <p>Twittens: Nigel Friswell from the Horsham Society is researching public footpaths which are not registered on the definitive WSCC map. In order to safeguard these footpaths for the future proof has to be found to confirm the paths have been used in the last twenty years. Our help has been requested to publicise the request and a list of paths in the Denne area will be issued shortly. Members may have personal experience or know of someone who can provide evidence.</p> <p>Nigel Friswell will provide an up to date list of footpaths requiring proof of continuous use. NH asked if a map could be made available.</p> <p>ACTION: TM to check.</p> <p>East Street: NH stated that there is still a problem with vehicles driving too fast, especially after the street reopens at 4pm.</p>
8.8	<p>Communications</p> <p>Website gov.uk: MB has suggested that HDNC should acquire a .gov.uk domain name in order to enhance the status of the Neighbourhood Council and enable members to use a non-personal e-mail account. The cost will be approximately £600 p.a. including V.A.T.</p> <p>Members agreed that the cost of £600 p.a. cannot be funded out of the present grant. Comment was made that the use of the suffix could raise unrealistic expectations of what the Neighbourhood Council can actually achieve. Further investigation is required regarding the possible legal liability, any interest from the other NCs and why HDC should be expected to pay.</p>

	<p><u>HDNC Website Management:</u> MB has requested that someone else takes over management of the website.</p> <p>None of the members present has the necessary technical knowledge or any experience. NH indicated that he may be willing to take over but would require training. This could only be done when MB is available in person.</p> <p><u>Publicity and Membership:</u> It is time HDNC produced another newsletter and new ideas are required to increase our membership.</p> <p>Members discussed the current low membership and the need to attract more volunteers. There is general apathy and there are many alternative organisations that have a more specific and exciting focus. JA suggested contacting Tom Crowley for support and help with publicity from HDC as there is a possibility that HDNC could fail and HDC would lose a tier of government.</p> <p>Also, much more support is needed from the District Councillors.</p> <p>ACTION: JA and JP to ask Wimblehurst Road Residents' Association.</p> <p>ACTION: TM to contact Tom Crowley</p> <p>ACTION: TM to contact the other Neighbourhood Councils about a possible article in the AAH magazine.</p>
8.9	<p>Park/Countryside and Leisure</p> <p><u>Horsham Park Update from Anna Chapman, HDC:</u> The tennis courts have been re-fenced and have opened temporarily next week prior to colour coating the surface.</p> <p>The fencing at North Parade car park has been completed; there is still the small pathway next to the gates to install. No progress yet on the map of the park.</p> <p>There is a proposal to host the Christmas ice rink in Horsham Park; discussions are taking place on a suitable location with the volley ball court area as a possibility.</p> <p><u>High Ropes:</u> TM asked Cllr. Jonathan Chowen if any information was available on the performance of the operation. HDC is satisfied with the fee received for its presence at The Pavilions but has no information on its success or otherwise.</p> <p><u>Horsham in Bloom:</u> Confirmation has been received that the HDNC sponsored basket will be located at the railway station.</p>
8.10	<p>Emergency Plan</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>

8.11	<p>Police / Neighbourhood Watch / Security</p> <p>The weekly update is circulated.</p>
8.12	<p>Town Centre</p> <p><u>Visitor Economy:</u> There is a districtwide project in conjunction with the Rural Town Community Partnerships to increase the visitor economy. Horsham Town has also been included as its activities have an impact on the whole district. Jane Apostolou, HTCP was asked to organise a key stakeholder meeting for Horsham Town with the consultants on 5th April and TM attended. Notes taken by Alicia Smith, NHPC have been circulated to members. The meeting concentrated on how Horsham is perceived by visitors, what are its assets and how these can be better promoted. The consultants will analyse the information received and will be running two workshops in June to feedback the findings from the consultation process, present the initial themes for the strategy and brand narrative and explore who would like to be involved in taking the process forward. TM has asked for HDNC to be included.</p> <p><u>Post office:</u> The Crown Post Office is now open in WH Smith. Concern was expressed at the insufficient space in queues to manoeuvre double buggies or mobility scooters. Queues have extended into the WH Smith area, and also the post box is difficult to reach when there is a queue.</p> <p><u>ACTION:</u> Members are requested to report any incidents of overcrowding or other problems to SD.</p> <p><u>Horsham Unlimited:</u> The minutes of the meeting on 14th March have been circulated to members.</p> <p><u>Shelley Fountain Basin Decorative lights:</u> The fairy lights have been removed but no decision has been made on any replacement. The current up-lighting is ineffective from the distance. This matter will be discussed at the next HDC/NCs Quarterly Meeting on 31st May.</p> <p><u>Hop Oast:</u> Cllr. Nigel Dennis confirmed that charges for disposal of non-household waste have been suspended. NH stated that it now frequently takes 20 to 30 minutes to dispose of waste and it is difficult to see when parking bays are available. There is no longer a member of staff managing the queue and allocation of bays.</p>
8.13	<p>HALC /CLC</p> <p><u>HALC Conference 8th April:</u> IB reported that the Conference was of little relevance to HDNC. The Age UK Presentation and a similar presentation by the Police had been seen at other meetings and other presentations were on Health and Wellbeing and Clinical Commissioning. The official minutes have not yet been issued.</p>

9.	<p>HTCP</p> <p>The monthly report was circulated by JA prior to the meeting. The main points relevant to the HDNC area were :</p> <p><u>Annual Riverside Walk Event 15th July 2017:</u> The preparations for this event are well underway. The support of the three Horsham Neighbourhood Councils and North Horsham Parish Council is being acknowledged in all publicity on the event.</p> <p><u>Riverside Walk Footpath Improvements:</u> The next section to undergo footpath improvements is an area of 545 metres in the Hills Farm Lane location. Funding for this has been derived from appropriate allocated S106 funds and 3 tenders from HDC approved contractors have been considered, the lowest tender has been accepted and work will now start shortly.</p> <p><u>New projects:</u> TM asked if there was any update on the new projects being considered by HTCP. JA replied that the matter is still confidential but information should be public by June.</p>
10.	<p>Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Forum</p> <p>There was a Steering Group Meeting on 3rd April and the decision was made not to include site allocations in the Neighbourhood Plan. The main thrust of the NP will be to protect green spaces and conservation / heritage areas and to include a design brief.</p>
11.	<p>Members' Questions and Comments</p> <p><u>Peel House:</u> IB queried a WSCT article about Easter Sunday working at the Peel House construction site in Barttelot Road. This quoted HDC saying that no conditions could be applied to working hours for this application.</p> <p>ACTION: TM/SD to ask HDC for an explanation.</p>
12.	<p>Reports from District and County Councillors</p> <p>HDC Councillor Peter Burgess Cllr. Burgess provided a report prior to the meeting as he was unable to attend.</p> <p><u>Horsham Football Club:</u> The application for the new Club ground at Hop Oast has been approved.</p> <p><u>North of Horsham:</u> The outline application for the North of Horsham development will go to Planning North on 28th April. It will be an all day sitting.</p> <p>HDC Councillor Adrian Lee Cllr Lee provided a report prior to the meeting as he was unable to attend.</p> <p><u>Hills Farm Lane Speeding:</u> Cllr Lee had a meeting with Inspector Steve Chalcraft at Horsham Police Station. He was supportive and agreed to speak to the Traffic Department to discuss the</p>

	<p>possibility of increased police visibility in Hills Farm Lane, and to carry out a formal risk assessment of the road as part of the process of considering additional enforcement action such as speed traps.</p> <p>Cllr. Lee will also speak to the Schools Liaison Officer for Tanbridge House School to see if they can take any action.</p> <p>Following the County Council election on 4th May Cllr. Lee will speak to the new County Councillor for the area to discuss what other actions could be taken e.g. speed humps.</p> <p>Cllr. Lee advised that there is a website, Operation Crackdown; that enables members of the public to report abandoned vehicles and anti-social driving.</p> <p>See also item 8.7</p> <p>WSCC Councillor Nigel Dennis:</p> <p><u>Hurst Road:</u> This will be fully resurfaced this financial year.</p> <p>London Road: A complaint was made to ND regarding the hazardous 'rat running' south from North Parade to Albion Way. This has led ND to consider reviving an old proposal to allow northbound traffic only from the carpark to North Parade; however this may cause lengthy detours for some vehicles. The matter will not be discussed until after the WSCC election on 4th May.</p> <p><u>HDC Electoral Boundary Review:</u> ND has submitted a proposal that all of Hurst Road should be included in Denne rather than Holbrook West. The current proposal would mean the WSCC Hurst Division would include four HDC wards. There was no prior consultation between HDC and WSCC, who have submitted an objection.</p> <p>TM asked ND if he could inquire about the St Mark's Court planning application in regard to parking and shared access.</p>
13.	<p>Meeting closed at 9pm.</p> <p>Date of next meeting: Date to be decided and will include the AGM. Apologies from MB and JP.</p> <p>ACTION: SD to arrange date and check how many members will be available.</p>