

HORSHAM DENNE NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16th August 2018

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

Item	Detail
1	Meeting Opened at 7.00pm and Welcome from the Chairman
1.1	WSCC Contraflow Cycling Presentation to Neighbourhood Councils (See Appendix 1) by Peter Bradley, WSCC Highways and Transport, Project Manager – Improvements Attending presentation only: David Dufton – Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Councillor (HTNC); Marilyn Vinall – Clerk to Horsham Forest Neighbourhood Council (HFNC).
2	Attendance and apologies for absence: Attending – HDNC: Chair - Trudie Mitchell, Ian Botting, Gianni Lozzi, Nigel Hillpaul, Godfrey Newman, Christine Osborne, Rodger Whitefield. Clerk – Sara Doy WSCC Cllrs. Morwen Millson, Nigel Dennis (arrived 7.25pm) Apologies – HDNC: Judy Pounds; HDC Cllr. Peter Burgess
3	Declaration of Members' Interests Trudie Mitchell – Horsham Blueprint
4	Approval of Minutes from last meeting (26.7.18). The minutes were approved by IB and seconded by CO.
5	Matters arising from last meeting and Action points All Action points had been dealt with or were in hand.
6	Chairman's Report <u>Meetings attended:</u> None

	<p><u>Future Meetings</u></p> <p>17/08/2018 Walkabout with Neighbourhood Wardens 31/08/2018 West of Horsham 11/09/2018 Horsham Unlimited. ACTION: TM to ask if JP is available. 17/09/2018 HALC. ACTION: IB to inform SD if he can attend.</p> <p><u>Quarterly Meeting:</u> No response yet from HDC to action points in the notes.</p> <p><u>Director of Place:</u> Barbara Childs, previously HDC Head of Strategic Planning, has been appointed.</p>
7	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p><u>Planning Application responses:</u> SD explained that although there are 21 days to respond to applications it is not always possible for SD to wait until the final deadline before submitting the official HDNC response. It would be helpful to receive responses from members within 14 days of notification of consultations in order to give SD time to discuss applications with TM at the Chair and Clerk meetings which are usually held every Monday.</p> <p><u>Newsletter:</u> SD has created a draft newsletter in 4 page leaflet form to get an idea of the layout and how much content can be included. The wording now needs to be worked on. CO and IB offered help with this. SD will obtain quotes for the printing and her son is available to deliver the newsletter at the end of August/beginning of September, if agreed. ACTION: SD to get quote for printing.</p>
	<p>Reports from Members:</p>
8.1	<p>Finance</p> <p><u>Monthly report:</u></p> <p>Balance at 25.7.18: £6954.43 Refund of HDC GDPR training £20 Less payments: Clerk's July wages - £320; Hire of Hall (April to July) - £136 Leaves balance at 16.8.18: ££6518.43</p>
8.2	<p>Section 106 and CIL</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>

<p>8.3</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p><u>Building Lines:</u> The question arose as to whether building lines or covenants are material considerations in planning applications. Emma Parkes, Head of Development at HDC confirmed there are no set rules for building lines. It largely depends on the character of an area, general distances to highway verges etc. In larger estates there may be covenants on the land which may prevent boundary treatments; however this is not a planning matter and would not prevent permission from being granted. In the event that such an application was acceptable the applicant would need to seek to remove or amend such covenants if they existed.</p> <p><u>34, Richmond Road DC/18/1311:</u> HDNC objected to this application and it was refused</p> <p><u>Holmes Park DC/18/1186:</u> Confirmation has been received that the size of the parking bays has not been reduced to accommodate the additional spaces, therefore no objection.</p> <p><u>Prewett’s Mill DC/18/1149:</u> Confirmation has been received that the change to the height of the roof is minimal to alter the slope and will not increase the number of apartments, therefore no objection.</p>
<p>8.4</p>	<p>West of Horsham Development</p> <p><u>WSSC Land:</u> Consultation is taking place about the proposed relocation of fire services which includes a blue light hub on WSSC land within the Highwood area and a satellite site in the Harwood Road area. At the moment technical assessments are underway and a planning application will be submitted in due course.</p> <p>Cllr. Millson added that it would provide up-to-date facilities and be a training centre for the District (currently some training takes place airside at Gatwick Airport which is difficult to access). The Ambulance service is keen to move to the satellite site, which will be at the Roffey end of Harwood Road, in North Horsham.</p> <p>TM enquired how tall the high rise training tower would be. MM said it would probably be as tall as the current one in Hurst Road.</p> <p>ACTION: TM to check with Miranda Shawcross.</p> <p>All members present were in favour of the relocation.</p>
<p>8.5</p>	<p>Community Services – Youth</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
<p>8.6</p>	<p>Community Services – Older People</p> <p><u>Mobility Scooters in Tesco’s:</u> CO contacted Tesco’s to find out if users of mobility scooters in the stores are covered for accidents and damage, and is awaiting an answer.</p>

	<p>TM had checked with Gill Buchanan regarding the Scooters in Swan Walk and was told they belong to HDC. (Post meeting note: Ben Golds, HDC Head of Parking Services, advised that borrowers have to take part in mandatory training, use is free and is covered under the HDC Public Liability insurance.)</p> <p><u>Horsham District Older People's Forum</u>: The next meeting is to be held in Colgate on 29th August.</p>
8.7	<p>Highways and Transport</p> <p><u>Hospital Car Park</u>: The trial reversing the entrance and exit was delayed and is now due to take place on 23/24 August between 6.00 and 11.00.</p> <p><u>Overgrown Vegetation Hills Farm Lane</u>: HDC have cleared overgrown vegetation obstructing the pavement on their land to the west of the road.</p> <p><u>WSCC</u>: Seb Willemsen, Local Highway Engineer has resigned and Tom King has been promoted to this position.</p>
8.8	<p>Communications</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
8.9	<p>Park/Countryside and Leisure</p> <p><u>Friends of Horsham Park</u>: To protect the Park, an application will be made to register the green spaces in the Park as an Asset of Community Value which the Friends believe will give the Park greater protection from development over the next 5 years. However the only protection available is that if the landowner wishes to sell and a local community group wishes to buy, they can trigger a 6 month moratorium.</p> <p>HDNC has been asked to support the application but its benefit was queried. GN believes there is a Covenant in place that means the Park cannot be built on.</p> <p>ACTION: GN to check that there is a Covenant in place. Members agreed to wait for more information on the Covenant.</p> <p><u>Enchanted Horsham</u>: TM visited the event which received mixed reviews from the public and a report was sent to HDC and the organiser. It is recognised that some aspects need improving but overall it seemed successful and it is hoped to hold a similar event next year. HDNC will be included in any review.</p> <p>RW had heard on social media that some people thought it was overpriced.</p>
8.10	<p>Emergency Plan</p> <p>Nothing to report</p>

8.11	<p>Police / Neighbourhood Watch / Security</p> <p><u>Joint Action Group (JAG)</u>: No issues were raised by HDNC for the meeting held today.</p> <p><u>Neighbourhood Wardens</u></p> <p><u>Steering Group</u>: IB attended the first meeting with the wardens on 14th August which was chaired by Sharon Cadman and attended by representatives from HFNC and HTNC. Reports were circulated prior to this meeting. IB said that the Wardens had covered most of the area but not in depth yet. At the moment they are patrolling together and work Wednesday to Sunday. So far they have not encountered any abusive or obstructive behaviour and the general opinion was that the Wardens are getting on well. The next Steering Group Meeting is on 18th October.</p> <p><u>Area Visit</u>: TM will walk and drive round the Denne area with the Wardens on 17th August to point out the main trouble spots.</p>
8.12	<p>Town Centre</p> <p><u>Town Walkabout</u>: Adam Chalmers is following up on maintenance work that needs doing on land belonging to Sainsbury's.</p>
8.13	<p>HALC /CLC</p> <p><u>HALC Meeting 26/7/18</u>: No one from HDNC attended as it clashed with the last HDNC meeting. The minutes have been circulated.</p>
9.	<p>HTCP</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
10.	<p>Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Forum</p> <p>At the Steering Group Meeting on 6th August a discussion took place about insufficient funding to pay for consultants to write the plan; there has still been no response from the HDC directorate about this problem and a reminder will be sent by Andrew Cooke.</p> <p>The Blueprint AGM will be at 10.30 on Saturday 15th September, it is hoped all HDNC members will attend. AC has announced that he will resign as Chair so nominations are required.</p> <p>Ron Bates is submitting an article to WSCT asking for support and volunteers.</p>
11.	<p>Members' Questions and Comments</p> <p><u>Gated entrance to Highwood</u>: GN reported that the Ambulance Crews have had problems</p>

accessing the gated entrance as their operators are not passing on the access code. Greg Charman at HDC is looking into the problem. GN is aware that some residents are insisting that the gate be removed completely, but this could lead to the road being used as rat-run. TM added that the planning application to downgrade the bridge has been permitted and she will check the timescale to carry out the work.

Post meeting note:

1) Olivia Forsyth, Berkeley's, has confirmed that the ambulance service have visited the site and are satisfied with the access arrangements.

2) Councillor Lee has confirmed that he has contacted SECAMBS (South East Coast Ambulance Service) who admitted that they failed to follow the correct procedure. Also he is aware that some residents want the road re-opened, but he entirely supports the road closure.

Access to Riverside Walk: During construction of the Arun East bridge the Riverside Walk footpath has been diverted, GN reported that he had a problem finding the route.

ACTION: TM to check signage.

Benches: GN raised the issue of lack of benches/seats on access routes into the Town for people to rest if required.

ACTION: GN to suggest suitable locations.

12. Reports from District and County Councillors

WSCC Councillor Morwen Millson:

Speeding in Blackbridge Lane: MM has been contacted by a resident regarding a petition calling for action to be taken over speeding following a number of near accidents.

Tree needing attention outside Blackbridge Court: The land owner has been contacted and will arrange for maintenance to be carried out. In the meantime the tree will be monitored.

Albion Way gulleys: The gulleys have been cleared and repaired where necessary.

Grass Cutting: The schedule was paused for 4 weeks during the hot weather from 30th July as the grass was not growing.

Cabinet Reshuffle: Roger Elkins has taken over from Bob Lanzer as WSCC Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure.

Highways Contract: The new contract has been deferred until next year.

Velo South: There have been many complaints about the proposed road closures; MM seconded a motion to cancel the event, but it was voted down and the event will go ahead on

23rd September. Some access issues are being addressed including for Carers.

Town Centre Maintenance: MM asked if a meeting has been arranged yet between WSCC, HDC and HDNC regarding maintenance issues. TM is not aware of any meeting. MM noted that the cobbles in the Carfax may need to be replaced.

ACTION: MM to check regarding the meeting.

Pavement near Bus Station: CO reported that the pavement by the Church and Dentist needs attention. **ACTION:** MM to check.

Parking Charges: MM confirmed that in future the public attending CLC meetings will have to pay to use the carpark at Parkside.

Budget: WSCC has a £5million overspend so far this financial year and the budget will have to be cut by £17.5million next year. It is estimated that by 2020 all the council budget will go on care.

WSCC Councillor Nigel Dennis:

Wimblehurst Road: There is to be another meeting with Wimblehurst Road Residents' Association and the Leader of the Council on 19th September.

ND also reported that a post has been knocked down on the corner of Wimblehurst Road, and North Parade. The policy is not to replace posts, but the trip hazard needs to be sorted out.

TM mentioned that HDNC has received an email from the Clerk of NHPC asking for information on the traffic calming proposals, as a small section of Wimblehurst Road is in the NHPC area.

ACTION: SD to ask Jane Apostolou, Chair of WRRRA, to provide information.

Bus Consultation: There was a large response to the consultation in favour of maintaining the service, however it is not a statutory requirement so the service is likely to be squeezed.

Schools Admission Consultation: RW is aware that some parents missed the deadline for responding to the consultation and there is a lot of discussion regarding admissions on the Horsham Parents Facebook Forum. ND responded that the subject is a 'hot potato' and there is a need to wait until the new Secondary School in the North of Horsham development is built.

13. Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Next Meeting: 20/9/18.

Appendix 1: WSCC Contraflow Cycling Presentation to Neighbourhood Councils

by Peter Bradley, WSCC Highways and Transport, Project Manager – Improvements

The WSCC Walking and Cycling Strategy is working on developing a range of different cycling schemes to encourage people to 'get moving', cycle rather than drive, and improve air quality and health. There is approx. £100k funding available for design and development and once the initial trials are in place it would be possible to access other central funding. The Horsham District Cycling Forum supports the initiative. Contraflow cycling has been introduced in many towns e.g. Portsmouth and Chichester, and has not caused problems. During the last 5 years there have been 168 accidents in the Horsham District involving cyclists and all but 3 were with motor vehicles.

The following six contraflow sites are being looked at in Horsham:

1) **Park Terrace East** (HFNC area): This has good visibility and the cycle lane would be away from the parked cars which are only on one side. It would just need signage and road markings.

2) **Barrington Road** (HFNC area): This road is narrower than Park Terrace East with parked cars on both sides of the road. Therefore there would be a risk for people getting out of their cars. There is a minimum of six passing places if all the bays are occupied. The traffic speed and flow is low. Three accidents occurred on nearby roads but none in this road.

3) **West Parade** (HTNC area): This road is very narrow but has low traffic flow. PB is concerned about interaction with the junction at the traffic signals with North Parade and how cyclists would exit. A Toucan crossing has been suggested. DD, who lives in this road, raised the concern of residents; he mentioned a bad accident that occurred recently as well as large vehicles getting stuck and having to reverse out. MV commented on how bad visibility is at the Trafalgar Road junction. The possibility was raised about routing cyclists through White Hart Court instead but this is a private road / path.

4) **Godwin Way/ Fitzalan Road** (NHPC area): Fitzalan Road is very busy and with pedestrians crossing to the shops and short-term car parking on both sides of the road; so contraflow here would probably not be appropriate. RW suggested that a route could be put through the car park which would come out next to the Millennium Hall, which should be wide enough for cyclists and pedestrians. MM thought it might be dangerous for cyclists to turn right at this point onto Crawley Road.

5) **Lynd Cross area (north/south Springfield Road to bus station)** (HDNC area): Cycling is already permitted but the markings have been worn away. Use could be made of the planters to mark a cycle route. The problem does not seem to be the area from Springfield Road, past

the Catholic Church, but more around the bus station area where buses are reversing. Cyclists are most likely to use this route to cycle to the Sainsbury's/John Lewis area. PB said one option could be to encourage cyclists to use the pavement by A1 Insurance.

There is general concern from members regarding any cycling in the Lynd Cross area and near misses between cyclists and pedestrians. NH commented that cycle lanes have been tried in East Street and North Street but are ignored by pedestrians; and he raised the issue of liability and enforcement.

TM enquired if a proper cycle lane in Albion Way could be considered. PB said in theory this would be possible but the high cost would be prohibitive and there would be an implication on road congestion.

PB said at this stage he is gaining views and listening to concerns. TM said that it would be rash to decide on a scheme in the Lynd Cross area before the Town Vision is decided. PB answered that in the short term a scheme could be tried out which could inform future decisions.

CO enquired if time constraints could be imposed i.e. cycling only allowed before 9am and after 6pm.

NH asked how a trial could be monitored. PB said there would be a survey of pedestrians, incidents reported to the Police would be monitored and video recordings used.

TM said the Police are not involved in all incidents and suggested that the new Neighbourhood Wardens could report any issues.

6) Carfax (Chart Way Bridge to Black Horse Way): PB said that at present the surface is not suitable and cyclists would be opposing the flow of buses. On the positive side the traffic speed is low. The flat areas are used as pedestrian crossings so there would need to be signs and publicity to alert people that they need to look both ways.

Pirie's Place: TM asked if cycling is officially permitted. PB said that a route through Pirie's Place is being looked into. It may be possible to have a permitted route from Park Way through to East Street.

Signage: GN said that signs need to be made easier for cyclists to understand. PB responded that it is the Government Highways Dept. that determines the signs. CO added that the signs are placed too high, particularly for children to read.

Pedestrian areas: – TM said that HDNC is against cycling in the pedestrian centre. MM commented that pedestrians usually want to take the shortest route, and cyclists are the same. Cyclists would not want to use Albion Way as it would take longer.

Liability: Members discussed what would happen if there was an accident. PB said it would be for the police to decide liability.

Independent Safety Review: PB said this would be carried out for any proposed designs.