



Horsham Town Community Partnership

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Minutes of Directors Meeting held on 24th July 2019 at Roffey Millennium Hall, Horsham at 7.30pm

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Attendance and Apologies:

Present:

David Searle (DSe) - HTCP Chair and representing North Horsham Parish Council,

Diane Sumpter (DSu) - HTCP Treasurer and representing Horsham Forest NC

Martin Bruton (MBr) - HTCP Director and representing Horsham District Older People's Forum

Sue Brundish (SB) - HTCP Director and representing Horsham in Bloom

Ian Botting (IB) - HTCP Director representing Horsham Denne NC

Martin Boffey (MBo) - representing Horsham Trafalgar NC

Peter Burgess (PB) - HDC Councillor & Cabinet Member for Horsham Town (left 8pm)

Sara Doy - Minutes Secretary

Apologies:

John Lee (JL) - HTCP Director

Ron Bates (RB) - HTCP Director and representing Horsham Society

3. Conflicts of Interest: None

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd April 2019, approval and any issues arising from the minutes:

The minutes were proposed by DSu, seconded by IB, and approved.

5. Cabinet Member for Horsham Town - Peter Burgess

HDC Councillor Peter Burgess introduced himself as the new Cabinet Member for Horsham Town. PB explained that there had been no Cabinet Member for this area for four years and he hopes to attend one of the Neighbourhood Council's, or North Horsham Parish Council's meetings each month. He will have responsibility for the Town Vision and a contract for this is being let. He meets with the PDAG advisory group in August. The Town Vision will look at various improvements for the Town Centre e.g. the Iron Bridge, Queen Street, East Street, West Street and the Bishopric. It is a long term plan for the next 4 years and will look at businesses and connectivity around the Town, housing and the Park. There will be a consultation. As other Cabinet members deal with the Park, Safety etc. there will need to be a 'matrix' input.

PB said that Pirie's Place car park is looking good and the Hotel is now open. PB and DSe have discussed how HTCP can support PB and vice versa.

Those present put forward ideas:



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MBr, Chair of the Horsham District Older People's Forum, said the Forum would encourage making the Town old people-friendly.

DSu commented that there is no bus service near to Waitrose and the cobbles in the Carfax need to be replaced. MBr suggested a surface should be used which is suitable for mobility scooters and those in wheelchairs.

PB thinks that the Forum surface needs attention as when wet it is slippery.

PB advised that money from the E.U. is to be used to provide digital signs for the rural car parks, and one in the Forum. But he hopes that the signs could also be installed elsewhere in the Town. DSe suggested the HTCP Bus Map could be put on it.

MBr would like to see more public Wi-Fi available which would be useful in the Town and in the Park and could be aimed at the elderly, children and tourists.

MBo reported that the paving slabs in the Bishopric outside Collingwood and Batchelor are very uneven but WSCC Highways will not deal with it as it does not meet the intervention levels.

MBr spoke of an elderly resident who forgot to display her parking ticket and received a fine. He contacted HDC to see if there is a referral system and was assured that there is. PB commented that the plan is that all car parks will use the ANPR system and this could be used to recognise registration numbers of specific people.

6. Chairman's Report dated 18th July 2019 : This was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

6.1. Riverside Walk Footpath Improvements

Anna Chapman HDC Parks and Countryside has been appointed to cover for Evan Giles whilst he is on sick leave. Anna has been HTCP's contact for S106 Grants. HDC is currently in the process of appointing her replacement but in the meantime DSe has been given a contact to revisit our application for improvements adjacent to Ben's Acre.

The Rookwood Golf Course lease is about to expire and through Peter Burgess, Barbara Childs Director of Place, has advised the following:

"The SHELLA includes sites put forward for development around a majority of our towns and villages. Rookwood is one of these sites. No decisions have been made on which sites will be included in the Horsham District Local Plan Review. There will be public consultation on any proposals, which will also be subject to examination by an independent inspector, who will have the final say.

Whatever the future of the golf course, whose lease has recently been extended, HDC guarantee that Warnham Local Nature Reserve will be protected as will the Riverside Walk.



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They also agree that the Riverside Walk should be included in the list for designation as a public footpath"

Mike Powell is working with Nigel Friswell of the Horsham Society to include the RSW in the list for designation as public footpath.

MBo raised the issue of a section of the RSW in the HTNC area between the Millennium Bridge and Guildford Road which floods. DSe responded that this section had been previously discussed. The solution would be to install a boardwalk but it would cost up to £30k and there is only £13k left in S106 funds.

6.2. Mobility Scooter Skills and Safety Sessions

Currently 66 people who have attended these sessions and all have said how much they have enjoyed the 90 minute sessions. In addition some have returned for a further session with a particular request to be taken out in the Town Centre and Swan Walk.

DSe has been advised that HDC has agreed a grant of £790 (not yet received) and Horsham Masonic Lodge has given £100 both for the continuation of the project. This is in addition to a Scooter Tutor donating his £100 fee from undertaking work for Clearwell Mobility.

Groundwork the organisation employed by Tesco to manage their Bags of Help scheme has advised HTCP came third in the recent poll and HTCP has been awarded £1000 for the Mobility Scooter Skills and Safety project. A meeting of the Group will be convened on Thursday 25th July to discuss in detail how the money will be spent in accordance with the application. £350 has already been spent on a series of 3 adverts in the District Post.

At the invitation of Crawley Town Access Group HTCP has carried out 2 successful sessions at the Hawth Theatre. Hopefully they will request further sessions. Henfield Community Partnership has invited us to Henfield to run 2 sessions. A presentation was given to Horsham Phoenix Stroke Club who meet at Forest Boys School and we are currently waiting to hear when we can return during the summer holidays to run sessions in the playground.

DSu offered to advertise the training in the HFNC newsletter.

6.3. Horsham Town Integrated Bus Map

No further progress.

6.4. Annual Riverside Walk

The 2019 RSW Event was successfully held on Saturday 6th July. This year the event supported QE2 School who will advise the amount raised once the final figure is known. The event was started by Spiderman with Jeremy Quinn MP and Kate Rowbotton, Chair of HDC in attendance. Peter and Karen Burgess joined us at the refreshments breaks at Warnham and new House Farm.



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The Event had a record 320 that joined the walk this year with 200 completing the 13 mile walk back to the Ruby Club. A number of complimentary emails have been received thanking the organiser for such a nice day and saying how much they enjoyed seeing places around Horsham that they never knew existed.

DSu commented that a lot of people thought the event was run by HDC so it should be publicised that it is sponsored by the Neighbourhood Council and NHPC.

7. Updates

7.1. Trafalgar NC: MBO confirmed that he is the new Chair and they have one new member, with a total of 5 members. HTNC is looking at spending some money on planting for an area in Victory Road.

7.2. Forest NC: DSu said a Speed Watch scheme is being set up.

7.3. Denne NC: IB provided information from HDC regarding installing additional benches. HDC have said that there is a possibility that they will install and maintain two new benches. IB also reported a broken bench on the Riverside Walk in the HTNC area. **ACTION:** DSe to deal.

7.4. Horsham in Bloom: SB said that the sponsorship of railing planters and hanging baskets had been very successful.

Nature Garden: The 10 year lease expires next year, then HDC will have total responsibility for it. There will be a need for volunteers to maintain the area and stage.

Competitions: The full remit of competitions are being run this year including the Neighbourhood Cup Awards.

Chair: SBr will stand down at the next AGM.

7.5. Horsham District Older People's Forum: MBr advised that the next meeting and AGM will be held on 3rd September at the Roffey Millenium Hall. On 22nd November there will be MP Question Time with Nick Herbert MP.

At the Meeting on 3rd September there will be a talk by a Solicitor on Wills and Powers of Attorney, and a talk by an HDC Community Link Advisor.

Community Transport Groups: MB said there are plans to improve the service by setting up one telephone number that will direct people to the nearest group, and to share buses between groups.



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7.6. North Horsham Parish Council:

New Bohunt School: This is to be built on the North of Horsham development.

Legal & General Capital: DSe attended a meeting to discuss the future route of the RSW through the North of Horsham Development.

BIFFA: DSe attended a meeting recently. The amount of rubbish going to the landfill is going down due to the increase in recycling.

8. Horsham District Community Partnership Forum:

8.1. QR Codes: At the last meeting DSe heard that Henfield have a walk with signs showing QR codes which provide information and historical facts about the area. DSe suggested that this could be used for the Riverside Walk e.g. the history of Leechpool Woods.

8.2. Maintenance Grant: See Item 11

8.3. Memorandums of Understanding: HTCP are required and have in place a Memorandum of Understanding with the 3 Neighbourhood Councils, North Horsham Parish Council and HDC.

The Forum also believes that there should be a similar MoU with WSCC. Those present were asked if they would support this. All present agreed that it is not necessary at the moment.

DSu advised that the MoU between the NCs and HTCP needs to be reviewed.

ACTION: All Neighbourhood Councils to review the MoU with HTCP.

9. Public Seating - (See item 7.3)

10. Heritage Trail: No update

11. Finance

11.1. Accounts: DSu confirmed that Eddie Case will produce the Accounts ready for the AGM.

11.2. Mobility Scooter payments: This shows as overdrawn on the Accounts but is awaiting a grant payment. DSu is pursuing.

11.3. Statement at 24.7.19:

Current Account balance = £2525.36

Deposit Account = £3128.22



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DSe said that if there is sufficient money left he suggests that a donation of £50 is made to the Rugby Club for use of their car park and toilets.

11.4. HDC Maintenance Grant: DSu has been assured by HDC that HTCP will receive £1000.

11.5. Grants/Donations: £1000 from Tesco Bags of Help Scheme; £100 from the Masonic Lodge; £100 from Clearwell Mobility; £790 from HDC for the Scooter Training.

11.6. Blueprint: DSu advised that as Blueprint will be receiving £6000 grant money it has been agreed that this will be held in the HTCP account.

12. Recruitment of New Directors and Chairman

No new Directors have been found yet.

ACTION: DSe to contact Mary Crosbie.

13. A.O.B:

Proposal to install a pedestrian refuge in Warnham Road near the Nature Reserve: John Lee is dealing with this scheme. WSCC Cllr. Nigel Dennis previously supported a proposal to install a pedestrian crossing at this location but it was turned down. WSCC Highways will need to approve the proposal. Members were asked if they supported it and all present agreed.

The location is half in the HTNC area and half in the HDNC area therefore the two NCs will be also be asked if they support the proposal.

14. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting.

The next meeting and AGM will be held on Thursday 10th October.

MB gave his apologies in advance.