



Horsham Town Community Partnership

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Minutes of HTCP Directors' Virtual Zoom Meeting held on 20th April 2022 at 7.30pm

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Directors and Members to the Zoom Meeting.

2. Attendance:

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

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

Roland Knight (RK) - HTCP Director and Volunteer

Morag Warrack (MW) – HTCP Member and representing Horsham Trafalgar Council (arrived 7.50pm)

Ian Botting (IB) – HTCP Director and representing Horsham Denne Neighbourhood Council

Chris Glover (CG) – HTCP Director and representing Friends of Horsham Park

John White (JW) - HTCP Member and Volunteer

Sara Doy – Minutes Secretary

Apologies

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

3. Conflicts of Interest: None

4. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 12th January 2022.

Approval of the minutes was proposed by MBr, seconded by RB and agreed by all.

5. Chairman's Report (David Searle)

The Chair's report was circulated prior to the meeting.

5.1 Riverside Walk Improvements : There is nothing to report on future improvements. The walk continues to attract more walkers during the weekends and weekdays. Now that the weather is improving the number of walkers is expected to increase and the website is expected to receive lots more views from people looking for information and a map of the walk.

Pete Crawford, HDC Parks & Countryside Manager, is to meet DSe on 26th April to look at improvements to the RSW parallel to A264, under the railway line. This WSCC land is very boggy.

When Liberty was involved with the North of Horsham development, they had promised to improve it, but then L & G took over and nothing has been done. PC is keen to do something about it.

Hammerpond Road: The bridge handrails are broken and the decking and supporting beams are rotten. HDC have provided timber so that the repairs can be carried out, but the supporting beams will still need to be replaced.



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5.2 Mobility Scooters: The Mobility Scooter team have met to review and update the training materials. It was agreed that the sessions will recommence on Thursday 12th May in Horsham Park Barn and thereafter every 2 weeks. The Tutor will be having a trial run of the practical part of the session on 29th April. A Covid risk assessment has been produced and has identified the need to provide masks, sanitiser and wipes which will be purchased from the remaining Tesco Grant.

Publicity is needed to attract participants. Leaflets have been put out at Tesco's and Doctors' Surgeries.

5.3 Integrated Bus Map: JW has negotiated permission to display a copy of the map at the bus station. JW has updated the map and replaced the maps in the noticeboards at the railway station, Carfax, bus station and Hospital.

5.4 Re-wilding Horsham Town: The project to re-wild Horsham Town was a great success and promoted the community working together. A copy of the Creative Waves Evaluation Report has been distributed to members. Lynda Spain, HDC Economic Development Officer, has sent an email thanking HTCP for supporting this initiative and making it such a great event.

5.5 Queen's Green Canopy: RK and DSe met Mark Pullen, HDC Trees and Contracts Officer, at the site of where the RSW floods adjacent to Cootes Avenue. The possibility of planting trees to support the Queen's Canopy initiative in this area to limit flooding, was discussed. It is unlikely that this would prevent flooding and could introduce more issues for HDC. The only solution to the flooding issue would be to construct a timber raised walkway. The cost would range between £30k and £50k depending on the length constructed.

The possibility of planting trees in other areas of the RSW was discussed. MP is more in favour of planting low level plants in front of the existing tree lines. He agreed to discuss the proposal with the Parks and Open Spaces Team and will come back with a proposal in time for the application to be made and planting to take place in the Autumn.

IB commented that the first section of footpath in the area that suffers from flooding could just be re-routed rather than construct a timber walkway for the whole length.

DSe added that the Neighbourhood Councils would be consulted about any planting of bushes. It would probably be in the Hills Farm Lane area (HDNC).

5.6 HTCP Maintenance Grant: DSe has made an application and sent in an invoice to HDC for this year's £500 maintenance grant. The person dealing with the application is currently on holiday.



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5.7 Entrust Membership Renewal: DSe has renewed the membership.

5.8 Warnham Road Pedestrian Crossing: A previous Director, John Lee, took on this project to install a pedestrian refuge on Warnham Road, adjacent to the Nature Reserve. The hazard of crossing the road at this point was highlighted during the annual RSW Event and JL pursued the installation. DSe is pleased to advise that the work has now been completed.

5.9 HDC The Big Conversation: DSe has booked his place for the 4th May at Parkside Offices. Members and Directors can book a place individually if they wish.

6. Financial Report (Diane Sumpter)

The draft accounts were circulated prior to the meeting.

The balance at 31.3.22 was £5665.10 (General account = £2530.51; Deposit account = £3134.59)

i) Accounts: DSu advised that the finances are in a healthy position. She will ask Eddie Case to carry out the audit.

ii) Company House: No changes.

iii) Web hosting and printing: JW advised that the cost is £75.00

iv) Online banking: DSu is still looking into this.

7. Updates from Other Organisation

7.1 Neighbourhood Councils

i) Horsham Forest NC:

S106: DSu said that the three Neighbourhood Councils are having discussions with HDC regarding S106 money but have so far only received limited information.

Blueprint referendum: This has been held up due the water neutrality issue. RB said he would raise the subject of Blueprint at the HDC Big Conversation.

ii) Horsham Denne NC:

IB commented that he understood that there is a lack of visibility about where S106 funds are.

iii) Horsham Trafalgar NC:

Queen's Jubilee: MW said that the £200 available from HDC for Jubilee events is being used for an event in Rushams Road.



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HTNC does not consider that the renaming of the Forum to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee is a good idea. They have suggested a sculpture of a horse might be appropriate.

Signage: HTNC is looking into cycling signage and the '20 is Plenty' traffic calming scheme.

The Leonard Crosbie Service to the Community Award: This was awarded to Jane O'Sullivan, Keep Rookwood Green, and posthumously to Wendy Jackson.

7.2 North Horsham PC

North of Horsham Development: DSe attended a meeting with Biffa. They want to build a hydrogen plant but it would use a lot of water, so it may have to be built elsewhere.

New footbridge over the A264: This has been completed and students will use it to walk to Bohunt School. Morrison's has got the go ahead.

7.3 Horsham District Older Peoples Forum

i) **Chatty Cafes:** HDOPF are working with HDC and the Neighbourhood Wardens across the District.

ii) **MP Question Time 1/4/22:** Andrew Griffiths was unable to attend so Jeremy Quin stood in.

iii) **Meetings:** These will now take place at Lavinia House but can also be joined using Zoom. The next meeting is 7/6/22.

7.4 Horsham in Bloom

SBr provided a report prior to the meeting as she was unable to attend.

Attempts are being made to revive the organisation using social media, but there hasn't been much interest. HiB still hold some money and SBr will suggest that it is passed to HTCP for the purpose of buying trees and plants for the RSW e.g. fruit trees in Hills Farm Lane.

MBr commented that it was a shame as HiB had carried out such good work in the past. DSu added that Horsham Green Spaces may have taken over this type of activity; most green areas have their own groups. DSe commented that there is a general problem with finding volunteers.

7.5 Horsham Society (Ron Bates)

i) **AGM:** This is planned for 27/4/22 at 7pm and will take place in The Barn, Causeway. There are vacancies on the executive committee, the planning committee and Editor for the newsletter.

ii) **Town Walks:** These are to start up again in April 2022 until September, every Wednesday and Sunday starting at 2.30pm outside the Museum.

iii) **Morrison's** – There is to be a meeting to discuss the design.



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7.6 Friends of Horsham Park (Chris Glover)

Newsletter: CG said he needed to get in touch with Sally Sanderson as has he not been receiving the newsletter.

7.7 HTCP Website – JW reported that there is not much activity possible due to the Scouts taking over organization of the RSW Event.

8. Horsham District Community Forum Meeting 22/3/22 (Ron Bates)

RB reported that all the Forums are applying for the £500 grant.

9. A.O.B

i) Riverside Walk: CG mentioned a boggy area near Lemmington Way where a lot of Ash trees have been cut down. He queried if the chippings from the felled trees could be used to put down on the path. DSe responded that mesh would also need to be put down.

ii) Pondtail Road railway bridge Community Highways Scheme: CG enquired when the scheme would go ahead. MBr advised that the scheme had been approved, is out to tender, and work should be carried out this year.

ii) Bug Trail: MW enquired if the money came from the Re-wilding Horsham Town scheme. DSe explained that it was from the Welcome Back Scheme rather than the Re-wilding scheme.

8. Next Meeting

Wednesday 27th July 2022 7.30pm via Zoom