



# Horsham Town Community Partnership

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## Minutes of the Twelfth Annual General Meeting

held on 30th October 2023 at 7.30pm at Roffey Millennium Hall, Horsham

### Present:

David Searle (HTCP Chairman), Diane Sumpter (HTCP Treasurer and Chair of Horsham Forest NC), Martin Bruton (HTCP Director and Horsham District Older People's Forum), Ron Bates (HTCP Director and Horsham Society), Roland Knight (HTCP Director), Sue Brundish (HTCP Director and Horsham in Bloom), Trudie Mitchell (Horsham Denne NC and Blueprint), Nigel Hillpaul (Horsham Denne NC); Ruth Fletcher (HDC Councillor and Blueprint), John White (HTCP Member)  
Sara Doy (HTCP Minute Secretary).

1. **Welcome by Chairman:** DSe welcomed everyone to the 2023 AGM.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Morag Warrack (HTCP Member and Chair of Horsham Trafalgar NC).
3. **Acceptance of AGM minutes convened on 26<sup>th</sup> October:** Proposed by RL, seconded by SB and agreed by all.
4. **Chairman's Report and review of progress to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (David Searle):** A report by the Chairman had been circulated prior to the AGM (See Appendix 1).
5. **Accounts and Treasurer's Report (Diane Sumpter):** The audited accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 were distributed prior to the AGM.

DSu confirmed that the accounts are in a healthy state. RB asked if there is money allocated for the Mobility Scooter training. DSu confirmed there is.

Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by MB, seconded by RK, and agreed by all present.

### 6. Retirement & Election of Directors:

The Articles of Association require that one-third of the Directors should retire at each AGM. A retiring Director is eligible for re-election.

RK and DSe stood down. RK and DSe volunteered to stand again.

NH was elected as a new Director representing Horsham Denne NC.

All present agreed.

7. **Election of Chairman:** RB was elected as the new Chair. Proposed by MBr, seconded by Dsu and agreed by all present.

### 8. Company Procedures (Diane Sumpter):

**SAIL address:** SAIL is a single alternative inspection local address where a registered company can store their statutory records. This was historically set up for HTCP with DSe's address to cover the Youth paperwork. The only way to remove it would be to obtain a Court Order. It was agreed that DSu would get the address changed to her own address.

**Bank Signatories:** DSu and DSe will remain as signatories.



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**Companies House:** DSu reminded members that if there are any changes e.g. change of address, retirement, they should letter her know as Companies House need to be advised.

## 9. Mobility Scooter Skills and Safety Sessions (David Searle):

The training sessions were very popular pre-Covid, but recently uptake has been slower and the training usually now takes places in peoples' homes. The five trainers, including DSe and RK, were trained at the Queen Elizabeth Foundation based in Carshalton, and will attend a course run by the DVLA Power Wheelchair and Mobility Scooter Retailer Training Scheme in November. Completion of this will result in Kite Mark certification.

DSe thought that this project would sit better with the Horsham District Older Peoples' Forum, rather than HTCP, and proposed that it should be handed over to the Forum, together with the money allocated to the project. This was seconded by RK, and agreed by all present.

## 10. HTCP Future (Ron Bates)

**Projects:** The only current projects are the Riverside Walk and the Bus Map. RB gave a presentation on HTCP at the last Blueprint meeting. Blueprint cannot manage projects, but it may be possible for HTCP to 'piggy back' onto projects arising from the Blueprint plan.

RB suggested one project could be to improve the route of the Riverside Walk on the Warnham Road/ Rookwood Golf Course / Gorringes Brook section. The Cycle Forum would like to be involved to improve the route for cyclists.

Other possible projects are Ben's Acre, and North of Horsham, making use of the new bridge.

DSe commented that in addition to S106, funding could be obtained from other sources e.g. BIFFA. He suggested that communications with Legal & General be re-started regarding the section of the Riverside Walk that will go through the North of Horsham development. This area may be used for a new Business Park.

NH offered to contact L & G.

RF offered to facilitate meetings with relevant people at HDC.

Cycling and walking routes would be an attractive addition for residents moving into the new development.

RB commented that in 2011 residents were asked what they wanted HTCP to achieve which formed the basis of the Action Plan. Blueprint also asked residents what they wanted to see in the Blueprint Plan, and projects were identified.

**Horsham District Community Partnership Forum:** RB circulated a list of achievements and activities organised by other Community Partnerships in the District.

## 11. A.O.B: None



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## 12. Next AGM:

Date to be confirmed for October 2024 subject to the accounts being finalised.

## Appendix 1.

### Chairman's Report for HTCP 2023 AGM

I will be standing down as Chairman of HTCP at this year's AGM. I became Chairman in 2017 when Jane Apostolou stood down. During my time as your Chairman and with the support of my fellow Directors we have continued to improve the 13 mile Riverside Walk with grants approaching £100k and organised the annual walk. Amongst other things we have undertaken skills and safety sessions for users of mobility scooters and produced an integrated bus map for Horsham Town and developed HTCP website.

The RSW is now a well-known local attraction which is not only used by new and old residents and visitors to the town but Estate Agents are using the RSW to market their properties. From 2015 to 2021 an annual walk has been organised which sponsored local charities each year. The walks have always been well supported by our MP Jeremy Quin and the Chairman's of HDC. The number of walkers taking part each year has grown and in 2021 the number reached 450. The Scouts took over the event in 2022 and it remains a very popular event.

The Mobility Scooter, Skills and Safety Sessions started in 2017 and to date 130 have attended the sessions. Tutors were trained at the Queen Elizabeth Foundation based at Carshalton. Funding for the project was given by the Police, Horsham District Rotary Club, Hall and Woodhouse, Tesco, WSCC and HDC. COVID interrupted the sessions and it has been difficult to regenerate the same level of interest. I attended the launched of the DVLA Power Wheelchair and Mobility Scooter Retailer Training Scheme at the House of Lords this year and we have been invited to attend the training session in November 2023.

The integrated bus map of Horsham Town continues to attract a number of views on our website. Hard copies of the map are on display at the Railway and Bus Stations, Carfax, and Hospital. Each bus stop and individual routes are shown in different colours on the map and below are time tables of each route. This gives the bus travellers the opportunity to plan their route and visitors to the Town to find their way around.

With other initiatives such as attending consultation meetings with HDC regarding the future of Rookwood Golf Course, supporting the re-wilding of Horsham Town it has been a very busy 6 years. It



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is with this in mind I have decided to stand down as your Chairman and hand over to my replacement. I will remain on the Board for the time being to support the incoming Chairman.

I would like to thank all my fellow Directors for their support over the past 6 years and with the new Chairman in place I wish you all every success in developing and growing HTCP to meet the wishes and aspirations of the residents of Horsham Town and North Horsham.

David Searle  
Chairman  
October 2023