

HORSHAM FOREST NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL
Clerk: Mrs M Vinall, 40 Rookwood Park, Horsham, RH12 1UB
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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19th March 2018 SALVATION ARMY HALL, 7:30PM

Present: Mrs D Sumpter (Chairman) Messrs, N Friswell, G. Sitton,
G Stanley, B. Travers

District Councillor: CC Mr. Baldwin and CC Mr. G. Newman

County Councillors: CC Mr. A. Baldwin and CC Mrs. M. Millson

Public: 2

Press: 0

Apologies: Mr. R. Worley, Mr. M. Hough and DC Dr. D. Skipp

Mrs. Sumpter opened the Meeting by welcoming Mr. John Milne to the Meeting. After discussion It is **RESOLVED** that Mr. Milne is co-opted to this Neighbourhood Council with immediate effect and HDC will be advised of the option.

01.03.18 Minutes of Meeting held on 19th February 2018

The Minutes were proposed by Mr. Friswell and seconded by Mr. Travers. Mrs. Sumpter signed the Minutes.

02.03.18 Matters Arising

Correspondence has passed between the member of public and various officers and the member of public is now completing the appropriate diary sheets.

02.02.18 Ben Golds attendance

Following on from the informative talk from HDC Ben Golds, Ms. Helen Sissons will attend the April Meeting to talk about CIL and Section 106 monies and will respond to general questions about planning enforcement.

Separately Mr. Golds has responded to this Council's concerns about lorries accessing East Street during pedestrian hours. The following response has been received:

There are a number of restrictions in East Street both for parking and moving traffic offences. East Street has bollards in place to restrict access into East Street for all motor vehicles during the hours of 10:30 to 16:30. If a driver removes the bollards and drives down East street during these hours this is a moving traffic offence and is enforced by the police, if they park down East Street then we can issue a parking ticket but only if we can prove they arrived after 10:30. Unfortunately the bollards in place within East Street are a flimsy screw type that don't require any particular key, we have asked WSCC to look at getting something more substantial that can't be removed by anyone other than authorised officers or the emergency services.

The following link has details of mobility scooter speed limits, different class types and where they can/can't be used - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/rules-for-users-of-powered-wheelchairs-and-mobility-scooters-36-to-46> . The regulations that their use applies to relate to the Road Traffic Regulation Act which again would be enforced by the police.

Separately, it is noted that HTCP is organising training sessions for mobility scooter users. Their website: horshamscootersafety.org.uk/

Councillors have asked whether CCTV coverage of East Street could be referred to and this question will be posed to Mr. Golds.

Resolved to add the East Street problem to the discussion about the role of traffic wardens and also to ask why CCTV coverage cannot be used to determine lorry movement

09.12.2017 Brighton Road repairs

The recent inclement weather has further exacerbated the temporary road repairs. The general WSCC contract for Highways, from May onwards, has now been awarded to Ringway.

Resolved to ask Highways about the length of time that “temporary” can be used as a description.

02.01.18 20/18b Comptons Lane

DC Mr. Newman gave background information about HDC decision to refuse permission for this application. He suspects that there will be an appeal and there was discussion about whether a previous approval in Comptons Lane had set a precedent for back development. Another reason for the refusal was related to the proposed third property and access routes.

Resolved that if the developer submits an appeal, this Council will directly send a further letter of objection. Mrs. Sumpter thanked Mr. Stanley for his work so far on this matter

03.01.18 Future of Neighbourhood Councils

There has been a negative response from Trafalgar NC and Denne NC has discussed the matter but made no comment. Mrs. Sumpter feels that the matter should be kept “open” and has asked for this to be added to the Neighbourhood Chairmen and HDC Meeting.

03.01.18 Boxall Walk

CC Mrs. Millson is now actively looking at this matter and advised that she has received an email from Highways that suggests “something” is to happen in the next financial year. However, she is not sure of the terms, i.e. who will be paying for the repair? **Resolved to contact Highways to ascertain exactly what is proposed**

03.01.18 New Street roadworks

The walkabout with CC Dr. Dennis and FNC representatives has now taken place and the next stage is to ask residents in New Street and adjoining roads for their views in the form of a “letter drop”. There was discussion about whether a 20 mph speed limit could realistically be imposed and if there is an advantage by enforcing Winterton Court and Standings Court residents to access and exit their properties via Station Road. The Chairman will send round a large print of the map and asked that NC consider the draft letter and map so that the final wording of the letter drop can be agreed at the next meeting.

(see CC Dr. Dennis comment about the removal of the planters by Bedford/Barrington Road.

Resolved to organise the letter drop after the next FNC meeting

04.02.18 Data Protection Act

There is no official information but the general thought is that we must ask for approval to retain Councillor email addresses on computers; it is also thought that we can keep email addresses of those people who contact FNC by this means providing the email address is only used for the purpose of the enquiry.

However, it is understood that district councillors will be receiving training and CC Mr. Baldwin said that he will forward the WSCC PowerPoint presentation that he attended.

Resolved it will be necessary to appoint a dedicated Data Protection Officer and this cannot be the Clerk.

05.02.18 HTCP Riverside Walk

FNC contribution will be forwarded.

06.02.18 Environmental Vandalism

HDC Ben Golds referred to grass verge parking in his email

With regards to the parking on verges and pavements we currently do not have any powers to enforce this (unless there is a yellow line in place and the verge falls into the highway boundary). The highway authority (in our case WSCC) would need to apply for that particular law to be included within the Traffic Orders and the relevant powers passed down to us to then enforce. There have been discussions in the past with WSCC looking at introducing this, but these have unfortunately not progressed. We have a number of locations where we have issues with pavement and verge parking and will continue to press WSCC to keep considering this.

However, CC Mrs. Millson explained that WSCC is reluctant to follow the Brighton Plan because many roads would become impassable if cars were not parked on verges.

She referred to the fact that Highways has the right to insist that developers make good any broken verges after work is completed.

Separately HDC Mr. Lyons sent the following comment:

Regarding the verges, we do not very often put a condition on to 'make good' the verges once a development is complete. In a lot of cases this would be unreasonable as the land is outside the ownership of the developer and so technically they don't have a legal right to go on and fix it (I appreciate they shouldn't have damaged it in the first place but it is hard to prove who caused the damage). Sometimes we will put a condition on permissions for the larger sites where the access is within the ownership of the developer but this is normally covered by the Section 38 agreement with West Sussex County Council. However, even if there is no condition our enforcement team would often still just write to or phone the developer/owner and ask them 'make good' the land so it is worth letting the enforcement team know of a problem.

Resolved that this Council will write to Planning Enforcement about specific verges and at this time the state of the verge in front of the "Smugglers Mews" development is of particular concern

03.03.18 District Councillor's Report

DC Mr. Newman confirmed that he will be attending the Data Protection Act Meeting. He will also join the town centre walkabout to take place on 20th March but this Council is disappointed that FNC was not also invited.

Sadly HDC Chairman Roger Clarke has died and the current situation is that DC Peter Burgess is Acting Chairman.

There will shortly be a Council Meeting to agree the additional sum needed to progress the new Piries Place Car Park.

County Councillors' Reports

CC Mrs. Millson referred to the never ending problem of the state of the crossover at Greenways Nursing Home. It would seem that Highways has said that the crossover needs a further gully but in the meantime has stated that Greenways Nursing Home staff should sweep away excess water. Greenways staff have the opposite opinion about their role in flooding clearance.

The matter is now being discussed by Legal Department.

CC Mrs. Millson referred to the serious budgetary problems at schools and it is likely that in order to balance books, schools will have to lose staff. She would encourage all interested parties to register their objection to the budget shortage.

Schools, especially at secondary level, are likely to be over subscribed. It would seem that temporary accommodation is to be installed (huts have already been erected at Forest Boys). There is no definitive information about the new secondary school but in any event this project is not likely to come to fruition for at least 6 years. Councillors have been assured that there will be provision for all pupils in the interim but have not been advised how this is to be achieved.

CC Dr Dennis (who arrived at the meeting at 8.30 p.m.) again discussed the New Street proposals and he hopes that the letter drop can take place during May so that any proposals can be discussed at the WSCC Meeting in June.

Millais – CC Dr. Dennis understands that the Depot Road yellow line is in the current round of CPZ changes. He does acknowledge that there are parking problems in Millais and this is more evident at school closing times. Another problem is the lack of a footway on the north side of Depot Road. Should there be a voluntary one way scheme? CC Dr. Dennis suggested that Millais School is asked to become involved in discussions, especially as there is funding in the "Safer Route to School" pot.

CC Dr. Dennis will be meeting with Peter Bradley, WSCC County Engineer and the Cycling Forum to assess conditions for cyclists along local routes.

Secondary School Admissions – CC Dr. Dennis advised that WSCC has decided not to change the current procedure and this means that children should be allocated places in the schools nearest to their homes.

CC Dr. Dennis said that a Bedford Road resident has complained that items used during recent roadworks had not been removed. WSCC Highways has been asked to intervene but it seems that there is no routine process in place for redundant signage, bollards to be removed.

Planter alongside Bedford Road/Barrington Road – one suggestion following the recent site visit was to remove the planter and this would allow sufficient space to form a pedestrian crossing. It was decided not to incorporate this idea into the Bedford Road "letter drop" as it would mean extending the survey area. This does not mean that the idea has been shelved.

It is hoped that by changing the loading bay usage times etc. outside One Stop, Station Road should mean that lorries will be able to park there at all times. This will also involve additional use of the bus stop area.

04.03.18 Town Warden Scheme

Mr. Sitton has agreed to attend the HDC Meeting to discuss the town warden job specification. This Council will suggest

- East Street parking enforcement
- Litter Dropping
- Grass Verges

Councillors are asked to submit further proposals to The Clerk prior to the meeting.

05.03.18 Planning

Mr. Travers outlined recent planning applications and the Planning Committee will now submit the comments.

WSSC has issued a notice relating to the Britannia Crest application to use Wealden Brickworks as a recycling centre.

Resolved Mr. Friswell will respond to this application. The comments are carried over from the previous application relating to access to the site which will mean using roads in the new development and the height of the chimney

Dickens Way Footpath – Mr. Friswell explained that this is his first submission to WSSC to formalise the footpath. This Council will fully endorse this application.

18/0245	26 Burford Rd.	New porch and bay window; side/rear extension	Comments – see below
18/0278	3 Hernbrook Drive	Extended front porch	No Objection
17/2809	Gardeners Cottage, Hammerpond Rd.	Two storey 'annex' building	N/O, but more a separate property than an annexe! Should be a condition that the annexe cannot be sold off as a separate unit and must be used as a combined unit. Why not build on the other side, in centre of plot?
18/0294	1a Clarence Rd	Demolish existing building, redevelop with 5 no flats	Comments – see below
18/0288	69 Comptons Lane	Single storey extension, replacing existing outbuildings	N/O
18/0495	1 The Hornets	2 storey & single storey rear extension	N/O
18/0426	64 Comptons Lane	Front & rear extensions & roof conversion	HFNC is pleased to see the more traditional approach with this design compared to the previous application. However, we OBJECT to the dormers at the front as they are out of character and not consistent with the street scene and could create a precedent for future applications.
18/0551	71 Clarence Road	Two storey rear extension	HFNC is concerned about the overlooking of No. 73 Clarence Road but also overlooking of No. 40 Oxford Road

18/0518	94 Brighton Road	Demolish existing conservatory & erect single storey side extension	HFNC OBJECTS to this application as there are no plans showing any alterations to the landscape area to the outside of the property.
18/0554	4 Comptons Lane	Erection of detached 4 bed dwelling	This has been approved since 2009, and now they are liable to CIL contribution. N/O
18/0526	5 Sandeman Way	Single storey side extension & new car port & driveway alterations	N/O
18/0536	Greenways Nursing Home	Advertising signs – one illuminated, one not illuminated	HFNC OBJECTS to this proposal as it is completely out of character, would be detrimental to local residents, a distraction to traffic using a very busy road, and there is absolutely no necessity for having an illuminated sign in the first place. We do not object to the non-illuminated sign.
18/0348	26 Arthur Road	Single storey rear & 2 storey front extensions	N/O
18/0457	6 Arun Way	Erection of rear conservatory	N/O

18/0294 - 1a Clarence Road.

FNC still considers that the plans do not adequately resolve the neighbouring issues of overlooking or car parking and therefore object to what is proposed. However if permission is granted, then as stated in the inspector's report the proposed development would therefore be expected to provide at least one affordable unit or an equivalent financial contribution. FNC would need to agree this before commencement of the building.

18/0245 - 26 Burford Road

FNC disapproves the first floor overhang, making the extension detrimental to the visual amenities of the area and create a precedent that would be difficult to resist. If planning permission is approved, then it must be a condition that the windows on the side have opaque glass.

06.03.18 Treasurer's Report

Current Account £3,886.56, Reserve Account £1,281.44. The Clerk's honorarium and expenses have been paid for the month of March. Councillor expenses that have been submitted have been paid.

The Annual Meeting will take place in June and Mr. Travers will arrange for the accounts to be audited.

Resolved to ask Salvation Army for this year's rental invoice.

07.03.18 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

There were no reports under this item.

08.03.18 Correspondence received during February/March

Briefing on DC/18/1607 – 18b and 20 Comptons Lane – details of the Appeal

Correspondence relating to Redkilyn Way issues

Zurich Insurance Renewal

Highways response to Station Road (**the markings have been repainted**) but Highways will not entertain any further markings in this area

February WSCC News

Hall and Woodhouse Grants

Section 106 monies for Old Park Kerves Lane which is £5,276 already paid and there will be no further payments

Joint Action Group Meetings – HDC

Chris Stark – response to our concerns about verges

08.03.18 Any Other Business

Horse Riders' Association – bridleway route - the particular part of Hammerpond Road that is causing issues is within Nuthurst Parish and the paperwork will be forwarded to The Clerk.

Mrs Sumpter will attend the forthcoming Neighbourhood Council/HDC meeting on 20th March. She will also attend HDC's annual reception on 23rd May 2018.

Mr. Friswell will be attending the Horsham Society AGM and will not attend the April Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.