

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

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

District Councillor: Dr D Skipp

County Councillors:

Public: 2

Press: 0

Apologies: CC Mr. Baldwin and CC Dr. N. Dennis (both attending CLC Meeting)

Mrs. Sumpter welcomed two members of the public to the Meeting. One member of public wished to discuss matters that are of great concern to him and the second member of public attended as an Observer.

During recent weeks there has been correspondence from the member of the public that raised a number of issues. This correspondence was shared with the District Councillor who has followed up a number of the issues and there is a response from Jonathan Perks, Principle Rights of Way Officer, regarding the footpath issues.

The member of public was most concerned about noise coming from two occupants of the industrial estate, Southern Gas Networks and Flexible Manufacturing Systems. He advised that FMS is working until 2.00 a.m. and resuming work at 6.00 a.m. (not on Sundays). He described the noise from this work on a sound chart as between 85-90 decibels. During the month of January, he believes that FMS, during weekdays worked throughout the night. During the Summer months, employees play music throughout the night.

There is floodlighting that is directed downwards and this is waking up dogs. He can also hear employees using their mobile phones. He is also concerned about the bird alarm as this is waking up dogs.

Relating to SGN Gas Yards, he said that this operation continues until about 3.00 a.m. in the morning during which time equipment is manoeuvred and as vehicles reverse, there is a constant bleeping sound.

He would like to know whether HDC has granted permission for these hours.

With reference to the issues concerning the footpath and overgrown vegetation, these were not discussed at the meeting.

The member of public then left the Meeting.

01.02.18 Minutes of Meeting held on 18th January 2018

The Minutes were proposed by Mr. Hough and seconded by Mr. Stanley. The Chairman signed the Minutes.

02.02.18 Matters Arising

Ben Golds' attendance at Meeting

Everyone agreed that Ben Golds' Presentation was useful and positive as it enabled Councillors to understand all the issues relating to car parking. Separately he is to be asked about lorries accessing East Street.

Following on from this Presentation, Councillors suggested that other HDC department staff should be asked to attend a meeting so that this Neighbourhood Council can have a better understanding of matters that are continuously being raised.

Resolved to invite a Planning Officer to attend to discuss the impact of CIL; also a session with a Planning Enforcement Officer will be welcomed

Resolved to ask Ben Golds for information relating to East Street usage

2.1 20/18b Comptons Lane

There is no further information. The comment was made that the decision-making process may now be out of the time schedule and this may lead to an appeal..

3.7 Sandeman Way Footpath

Mrs Sumpter informed members of the quote and wording which they confirmed was acceptable. Payment for the sign would be made once the sign was ready. HTCP who will arrange for the sign to be appropriately placed "warning – road ahead, take care when crossing". It continues to be regrettable that Highways will not add a sign on the road to warn motorists that pedestrians access directly on to the road.

Resolved to continue to press for this sign

09.12.2017 Brighton Road repairs

The comment was made that the outcome to "improvements to repairs" has resulted in a far worse road surface. Whilst not in our area, there is a very large pothole before the traffic lights and opposite the Mobility Centre.

Resolved to write to Highways and contact Denne NC

9.12.2017 Future of Neighbourhood Councils

Although FNC had not formally been advised, it is understood Trafalgar NC is not in favour of the suggestion to join-up the NC's and Denne NC is very uncertain about the idea. Mrs. Sumpter suggests that The Neighbourhood Plan should include a section on the future of the unparished area e.g. by forming a town or parish council and also discuss this at the next quarterly meeting with HDC.

03.01.18 CC Report – Boxall Walk

There does not seem to be any progress regarding the state of this footpath.

Resolved to ask CC Mrs. Millson for another response

New Street Roadworks

It is confirmed that CC Dr. Dennis is visiting the area in the company of Ms. Dumbrell and Mr. Sitton later this week. Mrs. Sumpter is keen to receive residents' comments about how recent roadworks and temporary changes to the road system have impacted on their travel movements.

03.02.18 County Council and District Council reports

DC Dr. Skipp advised that the Meeting on 21st February will discuss the budget for 2018/2019.

CC Mr. Baldwin submitted a written report – extracts below:

- 1. Council Tax – WSCC have agreed to increase the County Council's tax by 4.95% from April 2018. WSCC will be spending an extra £5million on children's services, £14.8m on adult services and £ 2,500,000 one-off investments including tackling homelessness, repainting white lines and road signage and installing more solar panels in schools.*
- 2. Bridge – next to Kinglea school- over Harwood Road. Last week the surface of the steps was renewed and it looks great – I tried it today! It was due to be done over the Christmas holidays when the school was closed but this did not happen because of the bad weather.*
- 3. Cycle racks at Forest school – the school obtained 3 quotations for additional cycle shelters. Ignoring the most expensive one the other two came in within a few hundred £ of each other at about £30,000. The money should be paid over to the school this week to enable them to place the order and get the work done*
- 4. Outside Horsham railway station – I was contacted by a resident before Christmas re the uneven paving outside the front of the station especially in the vicinity of the phone box. I reported it and work did start a couple of weeks ago to repair the uneven paving slabs but on Friday I noticed the work had not been finished and the plastic hoarding still there. I reported it to the Station Manager on platform 3 on Friday morning and he has promised me an update this week. Although this has nothing to do with WSCC I am advising you in case residents contact you.*

04.02.18 Data Protection Act

There are new data protection regulations which come into force on 25th May 2018 and it would appear that these will apply to Neighbourhood Councils. This was discussed at HALC but this Council will contact HDC to ask for definitive information.

Resolved to contact HDC

05.02.18 HTCP Riverside Walk

As it is of benefit to this neighbourhood (and also the local community) it is agreed that this Council will contribute £170 towards the running costs for this year's event. The Walk is to take place on 14th July.

06.02.18 Environmental Vandalism

The focus of this agenda item was on the poor state of grass verges. People are parking on grass verges and often ruining the appearance, especially so when building work is being carried out. Unlike London and Brighton (in Brighton there is a pilot scheme that is generally approved by the public) who have by laws, this is not the case in Horsham although it is understood that when building works are approved, there is an added condition, that such areas should be "made good".

The point is that these grass verges are being lost and therefore spoiling the appearance of streets.

Resolved to:

- **Ascertain details of the Brighton by law**
- **Contact Ben Golds, HDC regarding legality of driving on to grassverges**
- **DC Dr. Skipp will raise the issue with HDC CEO**
- **Ensure that the issue is given strong prominence in the next Newsletter**

07.02.18 Planning

0153/18 78 Brighton Road – access from Arun Way

This application is for a small bungalow on a very limited sized plot. Following a site visit, the main issue is access from Arun Way into the bungalow site as currently this will be impossible if cars are parked on the road. Resolved to write to Planning Department stating that unless there is a condition that double yellow lines are placed in this part of Arun Way, this Council will object on highway safety grounds.

1a Clarence Road – the appeal was rejected on the grounds of overlooking (and not parking that was the main concern of this Council). The developers have now submitted a further plan which shows opaque windows to the lounge and adding a skylight.

18/0208	16 Depot Road	Erection of single storey side extension, removal of existing sliding doors from front entrance and loft conversion etc.	No Objection
18/0182	Phoenix Club Comptons Lane	Single storey rear extension to stroke recovery club. Side access drive and 6 new car parking spaces.	N/O. A pity not pitched roof, instead of flat.
18/0228	47 Gorings Mead	Erection of a single storey front/side extension	N/O
18/0107	Bryant Fixings, Blatchford Road	Demolish single storey & erect 2 storey	N/O
18/0113	48 The Hornets	Garage conversion & new drive	N/O
18/0086	41 Brighton Road	Single storey rear extn & change front façade with extra door	N/O
18/0099	44 Queensway	Garage conversion & porch to front	N/O
18/0098	66 Clarence Road	Loft conversion with rear dormer	N/O
17/2865	14 Plovers Road	Single storey front/side/rear extns	N/O
18/0153	78 Brighton Road Rear of Tanners Arms	Erect bungalow in rear garden with access from Arun Way	See notes above

08.02.18 Treasurer's Report

Current Account, £4,216.46, Reserve Account £1,281.39, clerk's honorarium and expenses have been paid for the month of February. A donation of £100 has been passed to Green Gym in recognition of the voluntary work that is carried out on this Council's website. Expenses have been paid to Mr. Travers and Mrs. Sumpter and Councillors have been asked to submit their claims before the year end.

09.02.18 Correspondence

Town Warden Scheme – no further information as at 19th February 2018 although the scheme should commence at the beginning of the next financial year

Litter Picking – the early March dates have been circulated

Section 106 monies land east of Old Park – the comment made “this is unlikely to proceed” is not understood and will be pursued.

The Clerk has distributed a list of e mail matters received during the last month.

HALC MINUTES – there are a number of attachments that are worth looking at and this includes paperwork about a new Data Protection Act

HORSHAM CPZ CHANGES – should be in existence mid-February

HORSHAM CONTRA FLOW CYCLING – we have responded to this proposal and the response has been circulated

OLDER PEOPLE'S FORUM – this is an Open Meeting and MP Question Time 2nd March

INVITATION TO DISCOVER GATWICK AIRPORT – 21st February

BRAMBLING WAY FOOTPATH – new sign and update

DENNE AND TRAFALGAR MINUTES

COMMUNITY YOUTH REPORT

GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN – 2ND, 3RD and 4th March

NEW DISCRETIONARY GRANTS FOR DISABLED FACILITIES

SAFER INTERNET DAY

NEIGHBOURHOOD RECRUITMENT WARDEN – UPDATE

HORSHAM PARK AND YEAR OF CULTURE

RIGHTS OF WAY MANAGEMENT PLAN

10.02.18 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Cycling – Mr. Sitton attended a recent Cycling Forum at which a representative from the British Horse Society explained that some permissive rights are being withdrawn by the Forestry Commission.

Resolved Mr. Friswell will contact Liz Clegg regarding bridleways

Horsham Youth – Mr. Hough circulated his Youth Report. One issue was raised regarding the involvement of Christ's Hospital Youth. The following comment is in the Minutes:

'There was also some conversation about encouraging Christs Hospital to consider a financial offer if the team take up any future support work. It was agreed that we would allow the team to get their feet under the table first to establish their credentials'.

Blueprint – Mrs. Sumpter explained that there continues to be interest in proceeding with the Neighbourhood Plan, especially as plans are beginning to “carry more official weight”. The current situation is that consultants have been asked to tender

to move the project forward although there is a very limited budget – and it is unlikely that any further funds will be forthcoming.

11.02.18 Any Other Business

Emergency Training – this will be added to the March Agenda for fuller discussion
Millais School – Mr. Sitton is concerned about parking in Comptons Lane/Patchings and how this is impacting on safety for children crossing the roads. He believes the only option is to add double yellow lines to this area.

Mr. Sitton will now contact CC Dr. Dennis.

Removal of Bollards and cycling in East Street – HDC Mr. Ben Golds will be asked for rulings on both issues.

The Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.