

HORSHAM FOREST NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL
Clerk: Mrs M Vinall, 40 Rookwood Park, Horsham, RH12 1UB
Tel: 01403 269265 E-Mail: fncorsham@sky.com

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16th April 2018 SALVATION ARMY HALL, 7:30PM

Present: Mrs D Sumpter (Chairman) Messrs M. Hough, J. Milne, G. Sitton, G Stanley, B. Travers and R. Worley

District Councillor: DCs Simon Torn and Godfrey Newman

County Councillors: CCs Mr. A. Baldwin, Dr. N. Dennis

Public: 1

Press: 0

Apologies: Mr. N. Friswell, DC Dr. D. Skipp and CC Mrs. M. Millson,

Mrs. Sumpter introduced HDC Helen Sissons, Principal Compliance Officer, to the Meeting who was asked to attend to further explain the implications of CIL – community infrastructure levy.

Horsham District Council adopted the CIL process in October 2017; it is more streamlined than the Section 106 process and almost all new developments will be charged this levy. Any development that is over 100 sq.m is likely to be liable – in the case of planning extensions and/or where a building is being knocked down and re-built, the CIL is payable on the additional floor space at £135/sq.m. (there is also a charge of £100 per sq.m for “large format” retail development (larger than 280 sq.m – use of Class A1 to A5) including supermarkets and retail warehousing. Further details are explained on the leaflet hand-out and these include the fact that applications received before October 2017 are not CIL liable but could become so if, after that date, the application was approved on appeal or there were amendments. There could be exceptions and these include affordable housing applications which will be assessed against the affordable housing policies in the local plan. (Development at North Horsham will not be paying CIL although will have Section 106 responsibilities). There will be exemptions/different rules for self-builders. There are also some “loopholes”, e.g. offices that are converted to apartments are not liable for this levy.

HDC will hold the CIL “pot”. The aim is for this new system to not be as restrictive. Parish/Neighbourhood Councils who have neighbourhood plans will be entitled to use 25% of the CIL on local priorities in its areas but if there is no neighbourhood plan, this figure is reduced to 15%. Town and parish councils can also choose to return CIL money to the District or County Council to spend on strategic priorities of local importance, for example road improvements or schools.

Section 106 levies are being very scaled down but there is current money in the pot. All information is available from HDC Suzanne Shaw.

Please note the presentation leaflet explains the system in greater detail.

Environmental Vandalism

Ms. Sissons did know that this Council, and other neighbourhood councils, are extremely concerned about the poor state of grass verges around Horsham Town. This has been exacerbated by the inclement weather during the Winter months but, nevertheless, some verges have been ruined by builders’ vehicles accessing new developments.

Ms. Sissons referred to WSCC Section 38 agreement that requires grass verges, crossovers to be repaired although this condition is rarely added to planning approvals.

Ms. Sissons said that, in exceptional circumstances, HDC could refer to Section 215 (untidy site) and this Council referred two sites in Brighton Road to be looked at by the Compliance Officer.

Ms. Sissons was thanked for this Presentation and she then left the meeting.

01.04.18 Minutes of Meeting held on 19th March 2018

The Minutes were proposed by Mr. Sitton and seconded by Mr. Stanley. The Minutes were signed by Mrs. Sumpter.

02.04.18 Matters Arising

02.02.18 Car Parking

Mr. Hough referred to the success of the new parking meters in Swan Walk and this will be relayed to Mr. Golds.

09.12.2017 Brighton Road repairs

In addition to continuing problems in Brighton Road, there are a significant number of potholes throughout the neighbourhood. This Council is aware of the dimensions before intervention (40 mm deep and 150 mm wide) but it is agreed that all potholes should be notified to WSCC Highways and initially via the website, Love West Sussex.

03.01.18 Future of Neighbourhood Councils

This continues to be an Agenda item and was again discussed at the Non Parished area Quarterly Meeting.

04.02.18 Data Protection Act

This Council is aware of its responsibilities and will appoint an Officer at the May Meeting. Further information is to be requested from HDC Jane Eaton.

04.03.18 Town Warden Scheme

Mr. Sitton will represent this Council at the HDC meeting on 17th April when the job description will be discussed.

05.03.18 Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy Facility by Brittonia Crest

North Horsham Parish Council is holding a public meeting at Roffey Millennium Hall on 26th April. In the meantime, Mr. Friswell has been asked to prepare a response and this will be forwarded to WSCC.

03.04.18 District Councillor's Reports

Mrs. Sumpter welcomed Mr. Simon Torn to our meeting. DC Mr. Torn represents a small area (to the north) of this neighbourhood.

Mr. Torn explained that the next stage for the member of public who is concerned about noise in Redkilin Way, is to complete the official diary paperwork.

DC Mr. Newman thanked Mr. Hough for his persistence to get the new re-cycling scheme to work as promised. It has not been an easy transition and there are areas that have missed out on an April collection. In certain areas there will be a "one off" collection.

DC Mr. Newman referred to the fact that there will shortly be an election for a new Chairman.

AYSHE COURT LAKES – whilst DC Dr. Skipp was not in attendance, Mr. Worley asked that a record of thanks is minuted for the way in which DC. Dr. Skipp has been involved in improvements at Ayshe Court Lakes. These improvements have been extremely well received.

04.04.18 County Councillor's Report

CC Mr. Baldwin referred to a draft bus services strategy document and there is an 8 week public consultation. He explained that the suggestion is to have more community buses.

There is a planning application currently in the system for extra classrooms at The Forest School and this should be approved to enable building work to commence shortly.

The Cycle Forum “round table” discussion is to take place on 26th June 6.00 p.m. at County Hall North and Mr. Sitton will represent this Council.

CC Dr. Dennis referred to parking issues that have arisen in Victoria Street due to an anomaly with CPZ areas. This is likely to be rectified in the next CPZ review.

St. John's Ambulance headquarters will shortly have to be vacated and at this stage there is no alternative venue. It is suggested that The Drill Hall is an alternative.

There are new “flash signs” in the neighbourhood; this is to additionally highlight the fact that lorry unloading/short term parking is not permissible. This may be at specific times.

05.04.18 Planning

Mr. Travers highlighted an application for a new entrance and small detached house in the grounds of 53 Brighton Road. It is agreed that this Council will object on the grounds of over development of the site.

126 Brighton Road – the property continues to be empty and the current situation is that a brick wall has been removed and lorries are driving over the grass verge.

Resolved to refer this site to Planning Compliance under Section 38 Agreement – untidy site

06.04.18 Treasurer's Report

Mr. Travers circulated the Treasurer's Report for year 2017/2018. This will be approved at the June AGM. The Clerk's honorarium and expenses have been paid for the month of April. The Salvation Army invoice for this current year is outstanding.

07.04.18 New Street

Mrs. Sumpter had previously circulated a proposed questionnaire that is to be sent to each householder in specific areas around New Street. A number of Councillors and the member of public raised questions as to how the proposals would work and expressed their concern about some ideas but Mrs. Sumpter explained that this step is only the first stage. In order to be considered for a Highways Community Grant there has to be a public response to proposals and even if there is an overwhelming majority in favour of any one scheme, it does not necessarily mean that the project will go ahead. The decision to prepare a questionnaire was taken following ongoing public concern about safety/increasing traffic in this road. Clarence Road will not be included in the survey as this is a B road and the HGV route.

The questionnaire will be added to the website and it will be necessary for residents to add their names and addresses in order for the questionnaire to be authentic. This information will only be used for the purpose of this specific project.

It is agreed that, following minor amendments, the questionnaire will be printed and circulated – the way in which this is to be circulated is to be confirmed.

MILLAIS – Dr. Dennis said that there is a next stage as he believes that school representatives and a Highways Traffic Officer are to meet. This should then proceed to further discussion involving other interested parties.

08.04.18 Correspondence

Additional public spaces protection order

HDC Infrastructure report for voluntary sectors

Correspondence relating to Greenways development

HDC List of Podium Concerts

Correspondence regarding Boxall Walk – *it would appear that Highways will be carrying out works within its schedule*

HDC Annual Reception Information, 23rd May at 7.00 p.m

Local Plan Review Report Document – consultation started on 6th April and finishes on 25th May -

CLC Minutes

Quarterly Meeting Notes of unparished area meeting

North Horsham Press Release regarding incinerator

Horsham Contra Flow

09.04.18 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

The quarterly unparished area meeting notes, attended by Mrs. Sumpter, were previously circulated.

10.04.18 Any Other Business

Mr. Stanley is unable to attend the next two HALC Meetings.

The Meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.