

HORSHAM FOREST NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL
Clerk: Mrs M Vinall, 40 Rookwood Park, Horsham, RH12 1UB
Tel: 01403 269265 E-Mail: fnchorsham@sky.com
MINUTES OF MEETING 20th JUNE 2022 7.30 p.m. in Salvation Army Hall

Present: Messrs N. Friswell, J. Olson, C. Puckle, G. Stanley and B. Travers.
Mrs. D. Sumpter (Chairman)

District Councillors:

County Councillors: CC Mr. J. Mercer

Public: 2

Apologies FNC Messrs. G. Sitton and J. Milne

01.06.22 Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 16th May 2022

After minor amendments, including adding CC Mr. Mercer to the attendance list, the Minutes were proposed by Mr. Friswell and seconded by Mr. Olson.

02.06.22 Matters Arising

HDC Mr. Peter Crawford's Presentation

As HDC Mr. Crawford said he intended to introduce mini-management plans for smaller sites but with low intervention. FNC would like to know where these are envisaged and to what extent, e.g., area and scope sketch.

Resolved to propose Bennett Field and Oaklands Close to be considered.

Arun Way – Mr. Crawford forwarded the request for a dog bin to be positioned in Arun Way, but HDC Mr. Mark Greenslade has responded by saying that this is not possible as it is not HDC land. There is no statutory requirement to provide dog bins. FNC Councillors again discussed the ownership of the land leading up to the allotments that incorporates a Public Bridleway. There may be anomalies in the statement that dog bins are only placed on HDC land.

Resolved FNC Mrs. Sumpter will research ownership. HDC Mr. Greenslade will be asked to forward HDC Policy on siting of dog bins.

04.03.21 Blueprint

There is no updated information although The Local Plan will not, in all probability, be taken forward until early 2023. The water neutrality plan should then be ready, This is also delaying Blueprint progress. When the Blueprint Referendum is presented and the referendum date announced, FNC will have to take a neutral stance.

Resolved to ask Legal Department (Electoral Services) for a time schedule. It is important that residents are aware they need to register in time both to vote on Referendum and to have the option to postal vote.

06.02.22 SID – Speed Indicator Device

FNC Mr. Milne has forwarded details about Rudgwick Parish SID Project that includes the installation of roadside pole sites. This initiative is working well in that village and Mr. Milne suggests this is a way forward for Forest Neighbourhood and could mean more roads could be covered (Kings Road?). Rudgwick has been awarded Section 106 money for the project.

03.05.22 5G Mast (DC/22/0883)

It is established that these forms of applications are dealt with at Planning Department level and are not brought to the Planning Committee for evaluation or decision. The erection of masts cannot be stopped but there should be some way in which 5G providers work together. In line with acceptable comments. FNC has submitted an objection, primarily on position as this is on the corner of Tanyard Close and will reduce

the pavement width. Flooding here has also been raised. Residents can submit objections although it is noted that none had been submitted up to 20th June. There is a strict timescale, and the final date for comments is 23rd June. From the quarterly meeting notes, it is understood that relating to this matter, HDC Barbara Childs is asking for the Policy to be reassessed.

04.05.22 Comptons Lane Improvements – The Forest School

To secure funding, FNC is supporting the Comptons Lane improvements part of the application but submitted its objection on 8th December 2021 to the creation of 3G artificial pitch primarily on the grounds that it is too close to neighbours who live in Comptons Lane and St. Leonard's Road. Also the opening hours have no consideration for neighbouring properties. WSCC has now submitted amendments although there does seem to be irregularities throughout this document.

CC Mr. Mercer said that from feedback he has received, the creation of this pitch is supported but the objection is the position (and lighting hours). He is intending to organise a site visit and will be inviting residents who are most affected.

Resolved to consider a response to the Amendment that has a closing date of 5th July 2022

05.05.22 A24 Horsham to Dorking Corridor Feasibility Study Feedback Form

Mr. Puckle will submit his comments directly to WSCC Mr. Jamie Dallen who is the lead Officer.

06.05.22 Correspondence

Highways – roadworks have started in the part of Comptons Lane outside FNC's area but not in the area that was hoped for (the comment was made that the area that is being re-surfaced was in a better state than other parts of Comptons Lane/St. Leonard's Road).

Resolved on behalf of FNC, CC Mr. Mercer will ask for a Highways precise plan of what is being proposed for re-surfacing, pothole repairs in St. Leonards Road/Comptons Lane.

03.06.22 County Councillor and District Councillors' Reports

CC Mr. Jay Mercer confirmed that all Council Meetings are now taking place at County Hall. At the full meeting that he attended, among other issues, the WSCC water neutrality programme was passed. CC Mr. Mercer advised that the Children and Young People's Committee is now chaired by CC Mr. Paul Lineham and the Vice Chair is CC Mr. Andrew Baldwin.

West Sussex Youth Justice Service Inspection Report will shortly be published.

DC Mr. Olson referred to HDC additional funding for residents in need. There is no ownership plan for the Drill Hall, but it is hoped that what is on the table, will come to fruition. In the meantime, HDC will be funding some maintenance work. HDC has approved repairs to Forum Fountain, but these will not take place until Autumn. Recycling options are being considered.

Climate Change Action Plan

HDC Cabinet has approved a report that proposes the creation of a Climate Change Panel of experts appointed to produce the District-wide Climate Change Action Plan which will be presented to the public once approved by Council. DC Mr. Olson said there is opposition to this as many Councils have convened successful Citizens' Assemblies on climate change and

he suggests that, despite an increased cost, HDC should make every effort to engage with residents in this process as early and as much as possible to achieve success. 30% of omissions come from the wider community.

Looking at local reaction to various proposals such as the sale of Drill Hall, FNC agrees that residents should be involved from the outset.

Resolved to write to HDC Leader, Mr. Jonathan Chowen and Cabinet Lead Member, Mr. James Wright.

04.06.22 Planning

- 0875 21 Station Road - single storey rear extn - No objection
- 0996 2 Boxall Walk - single storey rear extn - No objection

05.06.22 Treasurer's Report

Current Account £13,175.41, Reserve Account £1,286.52. The Clerk's honorarium and expenses have been paid. Petty Cash has received £150.00. Zoom has been paid for one further year, after which time it will be cancelled (unless there are medical reasons to change this decision).

06.06.22 Correspondence

Highways Freehold Land – FNC Mr. Milne's explanation

Doomsday Lane – width restriction signs. HDC Adam Bazeley advised that he had asked his Highway Steward to investigate.

Resolved to ask for an update as signs are still missing and one "give way" sign is faded and obstructed.

We Buy Any Car – WSCC Enforcement has confirmed enforcement notices are being issued.

County Local Forum – Thursday 7th July, Horsham Library from 7.00-9.00 p.m.

Aspen Place – a resident has complained that there is excessive rubbish being placed outside the building on rubbish collection days.

Resolved to monitor this situation

NHS May Newsletter

Weight Signage – confirmation that the Community Highways Scheme in and around Wimblehurst Road is being fast forwarded for action.

WSCC Children's Home in Shoreham – this has now been praised by OFSTED.

Carfax Bandstand – Concert Programme

Steining Neighbourhood Plan –

Neighbourhood Warden Monthly Report

Denne and Trafalgar NC Minutes

HDOPF Report (older persons forum)

Community Speedwatch Report

Gatwick Airport Consultation + CAGNE response

Quarterly Notes – NC Mrs. Sumpter commented that Denne NC Mrs. Mitchell is re-visiting the Constitution and Memo Of Understanding on behalf of 3 NC's.

Queen Street Land Ownership

HDC Nigel Weston has sent a definitive map showing ownership/responsibility plan for Queen Street and this shows that No. 32 owns the front and side of the Building. Mrs. Sumpter advised that HDC are seriously looking at the issues that are rising because of parked bikes and cars that are obstructive. Councillors will be updated when information is known.

WSCC Transport Plan

HDC News Releases including cemetery action plan, electric street sweepers
Horsham News Alerts

07.06.22 Any other Business

Riverside Walk – FNC Mr. Friswell is disappointed that there has been no official feedback. Indications are that it was again successfully organised day and well attended.

Newsletter – FNC Mr. Olson asked for items. One suggestion is a form of “Question and Answer” Blueprint page.

Jubilee photos – local photos will be included in the Newsletter and reference will be made to the celebratory jubilee tree that is to be planted in Bennetts Field, Councillors discussed whether there was an opportunity to invite and engage with residents. This suggestion was unanimously well received. Mr. Olson also commented that HDC has grants that can be accessed for neighbourhood initiatives. Neighbourhood Councillors were asked to suggest possible initiatives.

Resolved to contact HDC Parks with a view to setting a date in November.

The Meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

