

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning and Development Committee held on 14 February 2023, at 7.30 pm

Present Cllrs Hannah Avery Mike George (Chairman) Martin Saunders*
 James Baker* Samantha Marshall Rob Spencer
 Giorgio Buttironi* Simon Marshall* Fiona Stimpson**
 Jerry Hudson David Powell*

* Absent

**In Attendance Remotely

Also Present Rachel Botcherby (Planning Officer)
 Sophie Mandak (Administrative Assistant)

P 7438 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Saunders, Baker, Simon Marshall and Powell.

RESOLVED: Noted.

P 7439 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Avery declared she is a member or substitute of the Reigate and Banstead Borough Council Planning Committee and that therefore the views expressed by her at this meeting may change.

Cllr Stimpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Application 22/02841/F (The Corner House, 72 Massetts Road, Horley, Surrey, RH6 7ED) because the applicant is known to her.

RESOLVED: Noted.

P 7440 Approval of Minutes

Planning & Development Committee held on 10 January 2023.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the above meeting of the Planning & Development Committee be approved.

Planning Updates

P 7441 Horley Bus Services

The Planning Officer advised the Committee that the Council had received a response from Metrobus at the end of January, explaining that alongside other operators they have been through a bit of a challenging period as an industry during the recovery from Covid. A key part of this has been a chronic national bus driver shortage.

Metrobus advised that to reduce short notice cancellations, they have reduced service levels to broadly match the driver resource available. This was working well but due to high sickness in the run up to Christmas there was a period where some route 20 journeys were cancelled at short notice, for which Metrobus apologies.

Metrobus have advised that the situation has improved as a result of a successful recruitment campaign and the staffing situation is under control, with a much more reliable service being operated again. They also hope to increase the frequency of route 20 during 2023.

Metrobus are now also able to cancel journeys in the app, so in the event of an issue, it will be clear that the journey is not operating. However, they expect this to be a rare occurrence moving forward as it has been so many years.

Metrobus are keen for the information to flow through to roadside displays in Surrey too and they are in discussions with SCC about that happening, ideally through a system link to automate this process.

The Planning Officer advised that to date, we have yet to receive a response from SCC, which is disappointing.

RESOLVED: Updated noted and a further email to SCC to be sent regarding the roadside bus display information.

P 7442 Traffic Calming Measures around 'The Acres' and Wheatfield Way, Langshott

The Planning Officer advised that the installation of VAS signs along Wheatfield Way have finally been installed and appear to be working.

RESOLVED: Noted

P 7443 Determined Planning Applications

Members reviewed the list of Planning Applications determined for the period 6 January 2023 to 9 February 2023.

RESOLVED: Noted.

P 7444 Registered Planning Applications

Planning Applications received from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for the period 6 January 2023 to 9 February 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council's comments, as appended to the signed copy of the minutes and available on the Town Council and Borough Council websites, be approved.

P 7445 Planning Appeals, during the period 18 November to 15 December 2022.

Members reviewed the list of Planning Appeals lodged, awaiting decision, and determined.

RESOLVED: Noted.

Ongoing Planning Matters

P 7446 A23 Surveys

The Planning Officer updated the Committee to advise that whilst SCC have carried out some initial analysis of the September survey results, more needs to be done

to inform a note. This is underway now, but it is likely to be another few weeks away. The Planning Officer will continue to liaise with SCC highways and circulate the results once received.

RESOLVED: To circulate Officer Note on A23 Surveys once received from SCC.

P 7447

RBBC - Delivering Change Project Update

The Planning Officer advised that the next stage of consultation should go live this week and will be uploaded onto the Borough Councils website as well as available in the library.

RESOLVED: Noted

P 7448

Burstow and Smallfield Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2024

The Planning Officer advised the Committee that Burstow PC have prepared a Neighbourhood Plan which covers the larger settlement of Smallfield, to the west of Horley. The Consultation runs until Monday 20th March.

Cllr George noted that the parish relies on some of Horley's infrastructure, such as Oakwood secondary school for its residents. No specific housing/ development sites are included in the [Plan](#) but additional housing may have an impact on infrastructure in Horley.

RESOLVED: The Planning Officer draft a response on behalf of HTC focusing on infrastructure and circulate to members for comment and discussion at the next planning committee on 14th March 2023.

P7449

Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy

The Planning Officer advised that a consultation was launched by the Government on 22nd December setting out quick changes to the NPPF along with longer term changes via the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, with more changes to the NPPF later down the line. The Consultation closed on the 2nd March.

A link to the Consultation was sent to all Members on 17th January and covers, inter – alia, the following:

- Local Plans no longer need to be justified;
- Removing the 5 year housing land supply requirements and considering alternative approaches to meeting housing needs;
- Boosting the status of Neighbourhood Plans and introducing new 'street votes';
- 'Beauty' as a benchmark;
- Protecting the environment and tackling climate change.

RESOLVED: The Planning Officer and Chairman work on a draft consultation response for comment by members of the Committee by 28th February.

P7450

Communications Received

From	Subject	Date	Action
Crawley BC	Local Plan Update	09.02.23	Noted
Horley Access Group	Update provided to Committee seeking HTC support with requesting SCC introduce new dropped kerbs along specific streets in Horley.	14.02.23	Access Group to send the HTC office a letter.

P 7451

Diary Dates

7th March – **Full Council at 7.30pm**

RESOLVED: *Noted*

P 7452

Press Release

RESOLVED: *that comments on Planning Application be released to the press and placed on the Town Council website.*

Meeting closed at 20.15pm

Date of next meeting: 14 March 2023