

L 5206) She advised that this would be subject to the County Council being provided with evidence of the free sessions taking place within 6-months of the funds being released and this would be duly followed up by HTC. She said she had informed the LTA organiser who was delighted to receive the good news and it was hoped the free sessions could be commenced by the summer.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5207 **HTC Grounds Maintenance**

The Town Clerk advised that the idverde Operations Director had been approached again about increased extra litter clearance required at Horley Recreation Ground since the Café Pavilion had opened. This would result in an additional instruction, outside of the Ground Maintenance Contract and would therefore be chargeable. Members had previously stated their willingness to pay an increased charge for the service, subject to agreement once the extra clearance required had been substantiated by the contractor along with associated costs.

The Town Clerk added that the new idverde Contract Manager appointed to oversee Town Council requirements, had yet to be announced.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5208 **HTC Parks and Outdoor Spaces**

The Town Clerk gave a summary of requests to date received from Event Operators for the use of Council land to hold their events in 2022. These were being processed through HTC's standard booking procedures and would be published on the [HTC website](#) and eNewsletter once confirmed.

It was anticipated that Beach's Funfair would be at Horley Recreation Ground over the Easter holidays in April and again at the Horley Carnival in June; and Circus Wonderland hoped to return in September.

Additionally, Extreme Fun planned to return to Court Lodge over the February half term break and over the summer months (July to September). All bookings would be subject to appropriate risk assessments being provided along with public liability insurance certificates and any new guidance introduced to help prevent the spread of Covid-19.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5209 Cllr Stimpson expressed concern about cracks appearing on the edges of the new footpath from the Café Pavilion towards the park. It was agreed that Bennetts be asked to investigate and to outline any necessary repairs.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk liaises with Bennetts contractors on necessary repairs to the new footpath from the Café Pavilion towards the park in light of cracks appearing.

Compliance & Regulatory

L 5210 Playgrounds and Grounds Inspections & Repairs

The Town Clerk advised that the latest inspection reports for all Council parks, playgrounds and outdoor spaces had been received from Bennetts contractors. All of these had been identified as 'low risk', apart from the damaged gate pillar at Horley Recreation Ground following the road traffic collision (previously reported by HTC) which was categorised as 'high risk'. The fallen brickwork had been removed immediately after the incident and the area made safe. She added that HTC were now in receipt of the inspection reports on a weekly basis and these were being checked and followed up on a timely basis as appropriate.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5211 Tree Maintenance

The Town Clerk advised that following the discovery of a diseased Horse Chestnut Tree at Horley Recreation Ground which needed to be felled, the Council's Tree Contractor would need to appraise other trees nearby to check if the Honey Fungus had spread. This would be carried out in mid-December and a further update would be provided at the next Committee meeting. It was agreed amongst Members that details of any tree felling becoming necessary should be communicated on the HTC website for public information and enquiries made if other trees may be planted to replace those needing to be cut down. These matters would be followed up accordingly.

RESOLVED: that expenditure to fell a diseased Horse Chestnut Tree at Horley Recreation Ground, following an interim site survey, in the sum of £500.00 plus VAT, be approved.

L 5212 Allotments in Horley

Members were informed that some Langshott allotment holders had expressed an interest in keeping bees and asked if the Town Council would have any objections to them looking into the feasibility of having some community bee hives on the site. They said they would seek to collaborate with Reigate Bee Keepers to ensure everything was done safely and to be well informed of the risks posed, such as, bee stings. The plot holders were told that a similar request for keeping was rejected by HTC previously because some other tenants had raised objections. However, another request may be given further consideration on receipt of a proposed plan to site bee hives and with a caveat added that occupiers of the houses adjacent to one of the site boundaries may also need to be consulted before permission could be granted. The plot holders were grateful to receive the information provided along with the Bee Policy used by RBBC and will make further contact with HTC should they be keen to explore the potential for bee keeping on the site further.

The allotment holders also enquired about keeping chickens on the site and were furnished with a copy of the Council's Tenancy Agreement which permits this, subject to certain conditions being met. It was noted that chickens were already being kept by an allotment holder at the Church Road site. In light of the recent reported cases of 'Avian Influenza' (commonly known as 'Bird Flu'), the Town Council had circulated published guidance from DEFRA and partners, on the risks

L 5212) posed from wild birds and protection for domestic fowl with advisory signage installed at both allotment sites.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5213 Environment Matters

The Town Clerk advised that frequent tasks were continuing by the Horley Conservation group volunteers, under the direction of the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership Officer, and latest updates were made available on the HTC website and eNewsletter for public information.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5214 Cllr George provided a summary on the Gatwick Greenspace Steering Group (GGSG) Meeting held on 18 October 2021, including general updates; schools engagement offering outdoor education resources and grounds advice; and partnership finances together with draft budget proposals for 2022/23. A copy of the draft minutes had been circulated to Members for information. The Town Clerk noted an amendment required to the draft Minutes which referred to Cllr Jordan Beech as a Planning Officer. It was anticipated that the next meeting would be held in April 2022.

RESOLVED: that GGP be notified of the amendment required to the draft minutes of 18 October 2021, to representation by Jordan Beech as a County Councillor, not a Planning Officer.

L 5215 The Welcome Back Fund – Permanent Planters for Horley

The Town Clerk advised that the four new permanent planters for Horley Town Centre, purchased by RBBC through the Government's 'Welcome Back Fund' (WBF) had been installed with ongoing maintenance put in place through the Town Council's planters and maintenance provider. Arrangements for the installation of plaques in recognition on the new planters being credited to the WBF were in hand along with information to be displayed on community notice boards.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5216 Christmas 2021

The Town Clerk reported that the Christmas Tree, purchased by HTC, had been installed in the Town Centre on 29 November. HATs had been notified so that they could install the lights in readiness for switch on the day of the Christmas Fair, 11 December. Arrangements for the Councillor Hospitality to take place on the same day in Regent Hall, immediately after the Carol Service was also discussed, noting that the event would be held in the upstairs function room with refreshments slightly altered to conform to Covid-19 safety as shown in the Council's Risk Assessment paper. Members were reminded of the need to volunteer help in setting up and clearing away after the event.

(Post Meeting Note: In light of rising Covid infections rates locally, the Councillor Hospitality Event was cancelled in the interests of public health and safety. The purchased food items for the hospitality event (all long life and individually wrapped products) were later passed on to Oakwood School who were receiving donations for the Horley Food Bank.)

L 5216) *RESOLVED: noted.*

L 5217 Horley Carnival 2022

An update was received from Cllr Mike George and Cllr Fiona Stimpson on the meeting held earlier in the evening. Cllr George said he would follow up on insurance arrangements for the parade and Cllr Stimpson was progressing banking arrangements for all participants, including floats and arena stall holders. It was hoped that the RBBC Mayor would accompany Cllr Samantha Marshall as Town Mayor at the event to be held on 18 June 2022 and to assist with the judging of the float entries. (A copy of the Carnival Meeting notes are appended to the signed copy of the minutes).

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5218 Letters Received

Item 1:

From/Date: Surrey County Council, 25 November 2021.

Subject: Removal of Diseased Trees on Public Highway adjoining Church Meadows

Action: Noted and circulated to Members for information.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5219 Diary Dates

Interim Planning Meeting: 7 December 2021, 7.30pm, Edmonds Hall.

Full Council (Precept): 14 December 2021, 7.30pm, Edmonds Hall.

RESOLVED: noted.

L 5220 Items for Future Consideration

That arrangements for the Horley in Bloom and Photographic Competition 2022 be added to the next Leisure Committee meeting agenda, for consideration.

RESOLVED: noted.

Meeting closed at 20:22 hrs

Date of next Meeting: 22 February 2022