

HORLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Horley Town Meeting held at the Albert Rooms, Albert Road, Horley on Friday 19 May 2024

PRESENT

In the Chair:	Cllr Martin Saunders - Chairman & Town Mayor
Town Councillors	Cllrs Hughes, Avery, Baird, George, Barlow, Fagan, Chester, Marshall, Easterbrook, Turner and Baker
Borough & County Councillors:	Cllr Richard Biggs (Borough Cllr) Cllr Victoria Chester (Borough & Town Cllr) Cllr Hannah Avery (Borough & Town Cllr) Cllr Steve Wotton (Borough & Town Cllr)
Guest Speaker	Dr Selvi Bangalore, GP Partner, Modality East Surrey Medical Practice (Smallfield Surgery) and Katherine Saunders, CEO, Alliance for Better Care GP Federation, Co-founder of Growing Health Together
Council Staff	Sam Adeniji, Joanna Stay, Sophie Mandak, Helen Maan and Judy Morgan.

Plus 44 members of the public.

The meeting was preceded by a minute's silence in memory of former Horley GP and Trustee of the Henry Smith Horley Charity, Dr Charles James Williamson, who sadly passed away recently.

Cllr Martin Saunders welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Veronica Ballard, Brian Buss, County Cllr Andy Lynch, Jordan Beech, Town Cllr Jerry Hudson, Cllr Michael Blacker and Joan Walsh, Town Clerk

Minutes of Meeting held on 19 May 2023

The Minutes of the Horley Town Meeting held on 19 May 2023 were presented for confirmation by those present and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

Presentation of Town Award

A Town Award was presented to Jacqueline Jones of the Henry Smith Charity. A copy of the Citation is attached. In her acceptance speech Jacqueline Jones thank the Town Council for her award.

Annual Report of the Henry Smith Charity (Horley) for 2023-2024

The report was given by one of the five Trustees of the charity, Mr David Yates. Mr Williamson he outlined the work of the charity and how this benefit's the residents of Horley.

Horley Churchyards

A report was received from Rev Les Wells, the Vicar of St Bartholomew's Church. He thanked Horley Town Council for the continued support in helping with maintenance of the Churchyard in a way that is aesthetically pleasing and safe for the public. He added that it is a public cemetery for the use of any resident of Horley. He explained that in the last two years the Church have worked with idverde in looking at making the churchyard more environmentally friendly and he gave an overview of the anticipated costs of grounds maintenance for the coming year as well as a snapshot of the costs incurred in the previous financial year. He added that they continue to rely on and value their volunteers who continue to help maintain a safe environment; taking on tasks that do not require professional help and by keeping the place free of debris. He highlighted the challenges of an ageing population and reduced church attendance and expressed the hope that in future Horley Town Council would consider grant funding to cover the full cost of the annual grounds' maintenance. He thanked Michael Gardner who looks after the Churchyard.

Annual Report 2023-2024

The Annual Report was received by those present.

Report of the Chairman of the Council - Councillor Martin Saunders

The Chairman's report was received.

Report of the Chairman of the Leisure & Amenities Committee - Councillor Samantha Marshall

The Chairman's report was received.

Report of the Chairman of the Planning & Development Committee - Councillor Mike George

The Chairman's report was received.

Report of the Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee - Councillor Jordan Beech

The Chairman's report was received.

Comments and Questions on Reports

Residents were invited to make comments or ask questions concerning the reports. Topics discussed included what should happen to trees with ash dieback that have been fell by Surrey County Council and whether the trees should be left to help regenerate wildlife and biodiversity gains. The need for traffic calming measures in Lee street was raised. Various traffic calming options were discussed including having a Community Speed Watch team to help monitor the speed on that road. A question about anti-social behaviour at the Horley Recreation Ground and Innes Sport ground was raised, it was suggested that this is a matter for the Police and such anti-social behaviour should be raised with the police. Some residents were able to give examples of how they have successfully raised similar behaviours at other sites with the Police.

Resolutions

The Town Clerk advised that no Resolutions had been received.

Horley in Bloom & Photographic Competitions

Cllr George outlined arrangements for the competitions for 2024. This event is supported by Fiona Stimpson and sponsored by idverde. The competition has now been extended to include playgroups. The plan is to introduce seed swaps and this will run all year round.

Presentation from a GP from the Horley Primary Care Network on the Growing Health Together programme to promote health and wellbeing in local communities.

The Chairmans welcome the guest speakers Dr Selvi Bangalore and Katherine Saunders from the Horley Primary Care Network who gave a presentation outlining the vision and work of the organisation with regards the growing health together programme. They explained that health is largely determined by factors outside of the NHS, this includes health behaviours (smoking, diet, alcohol use etc) Socioeconomic factors (education, employment, income etc), clinical care and the environment. Growing Health Together is a Collaboration between GPs, Community Groups and Health Organisations, it focusses on how we can create health rather than fix illness. It was started in Horley in 2019 – as a conversation with Head Teachers. The programme has grown and receives funding from various organisations including Surrey County Council and the NHS and has lots of involvement from local people, the programme is led by Dr Gillian Orow.

The Chairman closed the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and those attending virtually.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm. Date of Next Meeting – 16 May 2025 (provisional)

Signed:

Dated: