

# MINUTES

## Horsley Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

24 May 2022 | 20:00 | Marianne Simpson (Parish Clerk)

### In Attendance

Attendees: Cllrs Kate Kay (Chair), Alistair Thomson (Vice-Chair), Chris Blackwell, James Bowers, District Cllr Norman Kay, District/County Cllr Steve Robinson, District Cllr Natalie Bennett  
Marianne Simpson (Clerk), and no members of the public.

### Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Kate Kay (Chair), Alistair Thomson (Vice-Chair), Chris Blackwell, Seb Howells, County Cllr Steve Robinson, District Cllr Norman Kay and Clerk Marianne Simpson and 2 members of the public.  
Apologies: Cllr Bryn Howells, James Bowers, David Walls, Christina Mc Donagh, District Cllr Natalie Bennett

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes, previously circulated, of the last Annual Parish meeting held on 24 May 2021 were unanimously confirmed as a true record and will be signed by Cllr Kate Kay (Chair).

### Matters Arising

None.

### Chair's Report

The Chair read her report, copy attached below. This was approved as a true record.

### Public Questions

There were no public questions.

### Any other business

There being no other business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8:10pm.

Chair's signature..... Date .....

# Chair's Report

## Horsley Parish Council

### Annual Report 2022

This is an opportunity to give an account to our village of the work we have done over the past year. Your Council has 9 Parish Councillors who are elected for a term of 4 years. We meet each month, save for July and December, and also have occasional meetings of sub groups who may be considering specific issues. All decisions are made at our monthly meetings, and we try to work in an apolitical way.

#### Staff

We have a part time Clerk who is responsible for advising us on legal and technical issues. We also employ contractors to carry out day-to-day tasks such as maintaining the playing field and burial grounds. All other work is undertaken by the Councillors themselves on a voluntary basis.

Our Clerk is professionally qualified (CILCA).

All our minutes and reports are on our website.

We are committed to equal opportunities for staff, councillors and volunteers.

#### How do we spend your money?

We receive £ 32000 as an annual precept ( you pay this as an element of Council Tax) . We also receive some additional funds from burial ground fees and developers contributions. This year it totalled just over £10000. This is used to pay our Clerk and contractors, and to maintain the green spaces and buildings that we are responsible for.

We support our village groups with grants and aid to the Village Shop, the Horsley Orchard Project and the Horsley Climate Action Group. This accounts for almost 22% of our budget.

In 2020 we gave £3000 to the Parish Church towards the 3in1 as the Horsley Fete was cancelled. This year we will be supporting the Youth Club.

Each year our accounts are independently audited and published for comment.

#### Improving our environment

In 2019 we declared a climate emergency , and since then we have tried to ensure all our decisions are made mindful of our carbon footprint.

- We have planted 500 trees in the Parish , and last autumn we planted a 1000 daffodils on the bank by the B4058. We have also replanted the Jubilee oak tree.
- We campaigned to retain the appointment system at the Horsley Tip to reduce traffic movements in the village.
- We are part of a county wide group arguing for 20mph speed limit in rural areas.
- With support from our County Councillor we have agreed a new advisory 20mph scheme by the School , and installed new speed signs and the village gate to help reduce speeding on the B4058

- We adopted “no mow May” and are reducing grass cutting in parts of the burial Ground to encourage pollinators.
- We are supporting HCAN to produce a guide to footpaths in the village to encourage walking.
- We commissioned an energy audit for the Village Hall and Pavilion
- We are exploring options to have EV charging points in the village

#### A resilient village

We have spent some time this year developing proposals for improving the area around the Village Hall and shop, which were the subject of a well attended village meeting in April. A film of the event is on Everything Horsley. Decisions will be taken at our meeting in June. This embedded our partnership with HCAN who contributed in a major way to the organisation and success of this.

We want to improve facilities for children, and so we supported the build of a bike trail , & are working with parents who wish to have a skate ramp in the play area.

Our Neighbourhood Development Plan was approved in May 2021 with 92% of villagers voting in favour. We commented on over 40 planning applications in the village and will continue to argue for the policies that we agreed in the Plan.

#### Plans for next year

We will seek to improve our response to the climate emergency as our small contribution. We want to make progress on our village hub ideas -improving the track and car parking , and making it a safer place. We have set aside funds to help villagers who are in difficulties , in partnership with the village shop. There will be a commemorative bench placed in the village in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee . We hope we can take over the SDC car park on the B4058. We will plant more trees and work with HCAN on the ideas that came out of the village meeting to help people with energy saving and reducing their carbon footprint .

We will continue to do our best for Horsley , and we need to hear from you as villagers so please talk to your Parish Councillors, come to one of our meetings and let us know what is important for you.

HPC is responsible for the playing fields/play area/Pavilion and track/Horsley orchard / nutgrove at Sealey Wood/burial ground and maintenance of the old churchyard/the war memorial/bus shelters/bike trail.

#### What do other councils do?

- The District Council – housing, planning, benefits, sport and leisure, rubbish and recycling.
- The County Council - education, social care, childrens services, fire service, libraries, roads, streetlights, drainage,

Kate Kay

24th May 2022