



Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council

HTNC Newsletter October 2017

About HTNC

Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council (HTNC) is a non-political body that aims to represent the interests of the Trafalgar area and its residents. Meetings are open to the public and are held once a month except for August. Elections are held every four years.

The Council aims to represent your opinions about matters which concern your neighbourhood. This may involve trying to find out who is responsible for dealing with a specific problem and then getting something to happen. Examples include:

- the condition of roads and paths
- local bus services, including the lack of covered bus shelters
- the repair / replacement of damaged road signs
- inadequate street lighting
- car parking.

We liaise with Horsham District Councillors and West Sussex County Councillors so as to ensure that both Councils' activities benefit local people as far as possible. We also comment on planning and licensing applications. If we can help you, please contact us on trafalgarnc@hotmail.com

Defibrillators

The Chairman of HTNC has been working in conjunction with Horsham Community Responders as partners in the Horsham HeartSafe initiative, which aims to raise awareness of the importance of good heart health, fundraise to establish more defibrillators across the district, and encourage more community awareness and training in how to use these life-saving pieces of equipment.

As a result of fundraising efforts, as well as public and corporate donations, Horsham Community Responders have been able to provide three Public Access Defibrillators (PADs), all of which will be available for use on the outside of buildings 24 hours a day and every day of the year. The defibrillators are now operational with one being located at the Warnham Local Nature Reserve, one at the Chesworth Farm Volunteer Centre and the other is at the cricket pavilion in the Victory Road recreation ground.

For further information about the PADs, as well as HeartStart first aid courses, please contact Horsham Community responders at contact@horshamresponders.org or via their website:

www.horshamresponders.org

Website

As promised in our last newsletter the new HTNC website is up and running and can now be found at www.horshamtrafalgarnc.com – Please take a look and let us know what you think!

Horsham Vision

Hopefully you will have seen the exhibition at the end of May and the beginning of June. The intention was to provide us with some idea as to how the town centre might change over the next few years. Work is already underway to the old Bishops Weald building and the proposed redevelopments in Swan Walk and Piries Place.

However, the exhibition moved on and posed some simple but important questions: What should we do in the Lynd Cross area now that the Shelley Fountain has gone? Could we make the Bishopric area in general more attractive? Could we make it easier for people to cross Albion Way so as to go to and from the Waitrose / John Lewis site and the town centre?

Everyone had the chance to make their comments on the proposals and we hope that many residents in our area took advantage of this opportunity. You'll be able to see the comments made by your Neighbourhood Council and let us know whether or not you agree with those comments.



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Hedges

One of the many irritating things in life is when pedestrians cannot use a pavement and are forced into the road. This can happen for a number of reasons, one in particular being overgrown hedges. Please remember that you must keep hedges adjoining pavements under control and within your boundary. There's always a risk that if you don't, the County Council will take action against you. None of us want that to happen.

Horsham Matters Youth Project

Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council is part of a youth project that employs Community Youth Workers from Horsham Matters to run clubs and activities in the Horsham area. It was great to hear recently from one of the young people that went on a summer camp in

2015 with the youth workers. He has kept in contact by seeing the youth workers at school and attending a local youth club. He told one of the youth workers that he now has a better relationship with his mum and he has even improved his grades at school and he puts this down to the advice and support from the youth workers.

The youth work team run clubs with the help of volunteers. Volunteers bring extra skills, enthusiasm and support to the young people and the team. They are looking to increase their volunteer team so if you are interested please email info@horsham-matters.org.uk or telephone 0300 124 0204. You can find out more at:

<http://horsham-matters.org.uk/youth-work/youth-volunteering-vacancies>

Horsham Matters would love to hear from you.

Parking in Trafalgar – give us your views

Parking continues to be a problem in the Trafalgar area, especially in the older streets, which were not built with the car in mind. The Hardy Close project (see the March 2016 Newsletter) was an attempt to alleviate the problem in one area and it appears to have been reasonably successful. The additional parking spaces created are certainly well used and the landscaping has improved the street appearance.

However, there's a lot more to do and we would like to hear the views of residents on what should be done. Many of our older streets remain clogged up with vehicles, often parked on the pavements. This creates numerous problems for pedestrians, people with pushchairs, wheelchair and mobility buggy users, who are forced to move into the road with the risks that this presents.

It is an inescapable fact that people need somewhere to park their vehicles whilst at the same time allowing the non-car users unhindered access to use the pavement. Pavements were not usually designed for parking. Not only do vehicles parked on pavements and grass verges cause numerous access difficulties, they also damage the pavements, the verges and sometimes the services which lie beneath them

It is disappointing to see that a minority of people are also choosing to park on the pavements and the grass verges even where there is no need to do so. Councils have limited resources for repairing kerbs, pavements and grass verges. So it would be helpful if residents could make sure that they and their visitors park on the road where it is safe to do so, not on the grass verge or the pavement, so as to avoid causing unnecessary obstruction and damage.

It is a complex problem with no simple solution so what's the answer? Would more one way streets help to improve traffic flow whilst allowing vehicles to be parked on both sides of the road? In some of the narrower streets, such as Victory Road, would it be sensible to remove the pavement on one side of the road so as to allow vehicles to be parked on both sides of the road without being parked wholly or partly on the pavement?

Do let us know what you'd like to see done in your road via trafalgarnc@hotmail.com