



Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council

Minutes of the 418th Meeting held on

2nd November 2020 (via video conference) at 7.30pm

Present: Mr Boffey (Chair), Ms Rivera-Aldridge (Treasurer), Mrs Thomas, Mr Peterson and Mrs Hatton (Clerk).

In attendance: HDC Councillor Christine Costin, WSCC Councillor Nigel Dennis from Minute 05/418/20 and Mr Jack Capon (JC - member of the public.)

01/418/20 MB welcomed CC and JC to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Ms Warrack. Mr Bryant was not at the meeting.

02/418/20 A correction to Minutes 05/417/20 had been requested by HDC Councillor Peter Burgess; this Minute should now read 'HDC are writing to Andrew Griffith MP'. MT proposed and IR-A seconded the approval of the Minutes.

03/418/20 The following matters arising were discussed:

- a. 07/417/20(b) The bank mandate forms had been signed in accordance with the Council resolution and submitted to HSBC. The removal of Michael Davis from the mandate and the addition of the new signatories was in progress and the treasurer expected a response during the coming week;
- b. 07/417/20(c) An indicative annual budget was being drafted and MB expected to circulate this shortly – **MB**;
- c. 11/417/20 No volunteer had been identified by HTNC for the Governor vacancy at Trafalgar School, but all agreed to keep a watching brief on this possibility in order to assist the school;
- d. 12/417/20(a) MB had circulated the link to the consultation of the Blueprint Reg. 19 Consultation, this would close at end of day on 2nd November 2020;
- e. 12/417/20 (e) MB had attended the last meeting of the NC working party on youth provision and asked that if anyone wanted to attend the quarterly meetings in future they let him know;

04/418/20 JC attended the meeting to raise concerns about speed control on the residential side roads of the Trafalgar Neighbourhood. This behaviour followed the introduction of the government funded temporary cycle lane on Albion Way. JC had concerns for the safety of both residents and wildlife and wished to enquire how such concerns were being addressed.

MB advised that he had requested this matter be raised at the recent Joint Action Group (JAG) meeting and a report was expected. MB had also arranged an online meeting for 4th November with the Rushams Road residents which would initially be a listening exercise attended by ND and Mike Thomas, (the Area Highway Manager from WSCC), who plan to discuss any regulatory enforcements that might be available. A neighbourhood speed-watch group has been established and they would be encouraged to gather evidence that could support any regulatory enforcements deemed appropriate.

JC enquired if any re-routing of traffic in the neighbourhood area had been considered and other initiatives, such as a low traffic neighbourhood were discussed. CC confirmed that the police are monitoring speeds of cars at different times of the day in the neighbourhood area and it was felt that greater visibility of police would help the matter. It was also recognised that community support would be key to bringing about any significant changes. The removal by the neighbourhood wardens of the home-made 20-miles per hour signs that had been posted on lamp-posts was considered necessary as

these were viewed as fly-posting. J

C also wished to enquire if a local support group would be active during the recently announced second lockdown. Advice was given about the Horsham self-isolation support group which could be found on Facebook. JC was advised to contact the Neighbourhood Wardens as they had been a key part of the HDC's response to the first lockdown. JC was invited to stay on at the meeting and accepted.

05/418/20 Cllr Costin updated members on HDC's progress on a response to the planning white paper. (ND entered the meeting).

06/418/ Cllr Dennis updated members on the missing school sign at the junction with Rushams Road and Curzon Avenue. This now appeared on the schedule of work for completion. A discussion took place on the government funded temporary cycleway.

07/418/20 Correspondence:

- a. The Neighbourhood Wardens' reports for September had been circulated with the agenda and MT agreed to attend their next steering group meeting. It was questioned whether or not the October report from the Neighbourhood Wardens had been circulated - **Clerk**
- b. Following a number of emails from residents about the speeding and anti-social driving on Rushams Road, members approved the proposal to host an online resident's meeting. All members would be welcome to attend and MB advised that the hope would be that a panel of residents would evolve from the meeting to discuss the concerns and report back through HTNC. CC enquired about the value of putting up signs but ND advised that these do not usually make that much difference unless they are put in place alongside engineering restrictions. ND discussed the need to manage the expectations of residents at the online meeting as there is the need for residents to appreciate the bigger picture and be aware of how solutions in Rushams Road could have consequences for other neighbouring roads.

08/418/20 Planning:

- a. Following the circulation by MB of the slide pack on the alternative plan for the building developments at Rookwood, it was agreed that MB should send an official HTNC response to HDC. Members were reminded that responses had also been sent to HDC by Friends of the Warnham Nature Reserve and the Horsham Denne Neighbourhood Council. CC advised that as a District Councillor she had received an overwhelming response against the plans with not one response saying that the plans were a good idea. Objectors have been advised by CC to write to cabinet members and HTNC members were asked to spread the word as far as possible to encourage others to do the same.
- b. Members discussed the possibility of calling a public meeting to discuss the proposals for building houses on Rookwood. Such a meeting would need to be managed online which would be likely to cap the maximum possible attendance at 90 members of the public (this would allow for 10 places to be reserved for District and Neighbourhood Councillors). IR-A enquired if it would be possible to lobby the District Council to put the brakes on their proposals. The pressing deadline for the Local Plan was highlighted although it was recognised that the new alternative plan had never actually been discussed publically. Methods for managing and chairing an online public meeting were considered and the possibility of a survey via the HTNC was raised. Thoughts were given to a direct democracy process as well as a citizen assembly. Members agreed to the hosting of an online public meeting with the draft format being a 10-minute presentation from speakers from all sides of the debate (HDC; Keep Rookwood Green and HTNC) and then an open floor discussion would follow. MB agreed to ascertain the HDC timescale for decision making about the Rookwood development so that it could be determined if the HTNC public meeting should be held in November or in the New Year. MT left the meeting.

- c. Demolition of the existing restaurant facility and erection of residential apartments including all associated landscaping and external works at the **Smith and Western, 37 North Parade Horsham West Sussex** was considered. BP had made contact with local residents, many of whom had raised concerns about the plans for parking and how the design does not fit with the current housing on West Parade. BP agreed to send a draft letter to MB by 3rd November, incorporating these concerns. MB agreed to submit the final submission to HDC Planning Department requesting at the same time that BP be permitted to speaking at the relevant planning committee.
- d. No further comments were made on the remaining plans for **Milwood Cottage Milwood Road Horsham West Sussex** and **37 Croft Way Horsham West Sussex RH12 2AS**.

09/418/20 Finance:

- a. IR-A reported that there had be no change on bank account and that Michael Davis had passed on the current bank statement.
- b. It was agreed by members that HTNC should move to an annual subscription of Zoom for online meeting and MB would arrange this once the bank signatories had been changed. **MB**

10/418/20 BP left the meeting and the meeting was therefore adjourned as it was no longer quorate. MB requested that the remaining items be carried forward to next meeting. **Clerk**

Meeting closed at 21.45 hours