



TRAFALGAR

Newsletter of Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council (HTNC) Autumn 2021

The Neighbourhood Council (horshamtraflagarnc.com) meets monthly, usually on the first Monday of the month, and residents are always welcome – either to ask questions, make contributions or simply observe and learn more about our work. We have now returned to in-person meetings in the hall at Trafalgar Community Infant School, so if you would like to attend please contact our clerk. Our next two meetings will be on **Monday 1st November** and **6th December**. There is currently a vacant seat on Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council so come along to a meeting and see if you would like to join us. We're here to welcome you. Contact: clerk@horshamtraflagarnc.com

What do we do?

At HTNC our wish is to work efficiently with the people who live behind the 2,800 doors in Trafalgar! We aim to create a vibrant and prosperous community that feels good about itself, by being:

- open in the way we work with you and local organisations
- open about what's going on via the website, our meetings, FB and this newsletter
- open about how we spend your money
- open to criticism and suggestions
- open to encouraging the growth of employment and education

As councillors with individual views, we work together in the common cause of empowering Horsham Trafalgar residents, protecting and enhancing their environment. Let us know what is important to you and your life here. What are your suggestions and concerns and what is your vision?

Update: HTNC 2021 AGM

The AGM was held on 5th July where we were delighted to finally meet in person and share laughter and cake! Huge thanks are due to our outgoing chairman, **Martin Boffey**, who among other things in the last 12 months, has championed the **Rookwood** cause; created the petition to prevent the **Drill Hall** being redeveloped for housing; and was part of the **Cootes Farm Community** group which at very short notice was able to buy the beautiful community green space near the Coot pub and Londis. Thankfully he is staying on as vice-chairman while also embracing his new roles at Horsham District Council (HDC) as Councillor for Trafalgar Ward and Shadow Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture.

Christine Costin (HDC) will continue her longstanding support as will **Nigel Dennis for WSCC**. **Tony Hogben** will also attend as newly appointed **HDC Cabinet Member for Horsham Town, Parking and Communications**.

We are delighted that our excellent clerk and treasurer, **Rhoda** and **Isabel** will remain in post and **Maralyn** and **Ben** will remain as councillors. We have also recently been joined long-time resident of Trafalgar, **Olive**, who has been co-opted onto the Council to fill a casual vacancy. **Morag** has been elected the new chairperson, and we each generally take on a different role, for example youth issues, transport, neighbourhood planning, older people's groups, the Riverside Walk or liaising with our excellent neighbourhood wardens, **Alison** and **Maria**.

What's Happening in Trafalgar?

Community

4TheYouth – The new look snack wagon (aka Mobile Community Hub) designed by a local student, Fuzzylynn Isaacs, is in town again. It seems there was not enough interest for it to visit Trafalgar, but if this is something that might be helpful in future, please let us know. Meet 13-18 year old friends, eat free snacks, and chat about school and friendships...what's not to like? It's great for teens who are addicted to video games! (Also see [Gaming 4 Good](#)).

Youth Eco Forum – Sussex Green Living have a weekly online meeting place for young people 11+ and YEF is an easy way to meet ...even if you're shy!

Zoom meetings take place every Sunday other at 6pm.

YEF@sussexgreenliving.co.uk

sussexgreenliving.co.uk/cafes-forums/youth-eco-forum/

Crime – Jo Shiner became the first female Chief Constable in the history of Sussex last year. She is delighted at the increase in online reporting which helps build up the bigger picture of hot spots. She stresses that although they are not able to reply to every report, please know that your input is much appreciated, so keep it coming! Jo says, “As the National Policing Lead for Children and Young People, it’s really important to me that we don’t unnecessarily criminalise young people - rather we need to educate them.” Another new challenge she flagged up are issues of novice dog walkers in green areas who are unaware of the many impacts they create.

Safety – The **Neighbourhood Wardens Scheme** is funded from the ‘Special Charge’ collected by Horsham District Council across the three neighbourhoods of Trafalgar, Denne and Forest. Thankfully Trafalgar is low in anti-social behaviour, and the fantastic wardens, Alison and Maria help to keep it that way. Contact Alison on 0795051555 or 07795051561 for Maria to report.

Tip: - If you receive any dodgy texts, simply forward them to 7726 to report.

Greening Trafalgar

Nature & Ecology – A hedgehog house has been kindly donated by Cllr Maralyn Thomas and is now situated at Trafalgar School.

Recording Veteran Trees – Horsham Green Spaces recently organised a most interesting day learning how to spot veteran and notable trees on Rookwood Golf Course; none of our green spaces are safe from building so recording existing ecology is important. If you would enjoy learning more about our special trees, then please contact chair@horshamtrafalgarnc.com and we can arrange a further session. Free trees are available from the **Woodland Trust** website - Permission needed from the landowner before planting!

Social Opportunities & Activities

Volunteers – Huge personal satisfaction and giving back to our lovely community; a win-win! There are lots of **volunteer** community groups in Trafalgar e.g. cricket, football, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at Swindon Rd. Here are a few:

Trafalgar Community Choir is a choir for anyone who loves to sing and have fun. Monday nights at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church. Contact Steve: 07887590052
steveldavies37@tiscali.co.uk

Trinity Church Players Holy Trinity Church Hall on Rushams Rd welcomes anyone aged 15 or over. Rehearsals for the next panto, “The Pied Piper of Horsham” are on Mondays 8-

10pm. There are roles to fill behind the scenes with costumes, scenery, lighting etc. Contact Jane: 01403 265649

The Pleasure Singers

A ladies community choir that meets on Wednesdays from 2-4 pm at the Holy Trinity Church, led by baritone Jon Openshaw and accompanist Jenny Jeffrey. In the last few months we have enjoyed singing together outside in the church gardens. We would love some new members. Please contact Gwyneth Weeks on 01403 269314.

Renew Wellbeing at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church – recognising the effect of the last 18 months on the mental, emotional and spiritual health of us as all may be far reaching and long lasting, the church will open a café-style space where everyone will be welcomed to connect, support, learn and perhaps even share new skills with one another. Starting in September at 10-12am on Wednesdays, offering a chat over a drink while hobbies and activities are shared. There will also be a quiet room where a simple, optional rhythm of prayer will be offered.

Friends of the Rec (FREC): Thanks to Trinity Church gardeners who came to the rescue when illness and rain had all but finished us off! Look for the new secret woodpecker on the tulip tree. Contact Ann: 07709070981.

Recycling

HDC is now the best District in Sussex for recycling, saving many tonnes in from landfill. Textiles and small electricals can now be collected from your door, (It’s easy book a free collection) and batteries can be tied onto your blue or green bin in a clear plastic bag. **Good furniture** can now be collected next to the tip at Hop Oast Park and Ride where HDC host a re-use shop, working alongside charity Horsham Matters and WSCC. (Open Wednesday to Saturday 10-5pm.)

Recycling Jumble Trail or Give Your Stuff Away Day- This is an idea that is working in some villages e.g. Steyning. Would we like to do the same in Trafalgar? Residents simply put out unwanted goods on a certain day and bring them in if not taken by others.

Trafalgar Recycling points run by volunteers –

See the *Keep.On.Recycling.Horsham* group on Facebook **Greenway School; Trafalgar School; Rushams Rd Church, Clothes & textiles & shoes outside Chinese takeaway in Spencers Rd, in the Coot pub car park, and also at the Co-op opposite the Dog & Bacon along with books.**

Community Energy Fund: If your building (eg a church hall or scout hut), is needing a new boiler, for example, you may be eligible for a grant. See HDC website for details.

Litter: Increasingly, residents take a plastic bag as they walk, and informally litter-pick which is hugely helpful. THANK YOU! If you prefer a companion, then join in Adopt-a-Street litter picking.

Speedwatch is another community street activity, and bad driving can be reported to Operation Crackdown at: reports.operationcrackdown.org

Health and Wellbeing – The **Annual Riverside Walk** this year was on 11th September - Trafalgar, Denne and Forest NCs contributed £180 each to support this 12 mile circular route which is in danger of being urbanised. It is organised by the excellent volunteers at **Horsham Town Community Partnership**.

Visit: horsham.community/2021-annual-riverside-walk/

Rookwood Update

For now, Rookwood has been taken out of the Local Plan, which is still under discussion due to last minute Government changes in the rules. Thank you to the many, many of you who made this happen. HDC have listened and re-organised their cabinet as a direct result of our concerns.

Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Plan

The Plan (initiated by the three Neighbourhood Councils) will help to ensure the character of the town is maintained and green spaces are protected, while aiming to improve its prosperity and make Horsham a better place for all ages and abilities. Finally, after many years of hard work and a lot of consultation with residents and businesses the plan has been agreed as sound by an independent government inspector. Now, to come into effect, it has to be approved by the people and businesses of the Horsham unparished area who are eligible to vote. It is hoped that the referendum dates will be announced soon. **It is important that you are registered to vote**; consider whether you might need a proxy or postal vote.

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

The Annual General Meeting of the Horsham Blueprint Neighbourhood Forum is held via Zoom on Thursday 14th October 2021 at 7:30pm. All residents are welcome to attend. For more information visit:

www.horshamblueprint.org

Trafalgar Community Infant School

Pupil places are now available. We love learning, we are kind, we are inclusive, healthy and active.

Our building is also open for hire.

Come and meet us and book a tour:

office@trafalgarinfant.com / 01403 254925

See www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions for Sept 2022 places. All Primary (Infant & Junior) **close 15th Januarv**.

Contact horshamtrafalgarnc.com

Check out our two community **notice boards** in the Rec and do please email the clerk for any community events you'd like to promote.

There is a further notice board at Cootes Green. Contact stevejswain@outlook.com

Clerk - Rhoda Hatton – clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com

Chair – Morag Warrack - chair@horshamtrafalgarnc.com

Councillors – contactable via the clerk

Martin Boffey (Vice Chair)

Isabel Rivera-Aldridge (Treasurer)

Maralyn Thomas

Ben Peterson

Olive Hobbs

Neighbourhood Wardens

Alison Page 07795 051555

Maria Colenso 07795 051561

Vacancies

We have one seat available on the HTNC and would welcome interest. We would also be keen to hear from anyone who enjoys posting on Facebook &/or Twitter!



Woodpecker sculpture in the Rec 's tulip tree

Diary Dates

Next Monday meetings at 19:30 -

1st November, 6th December.

We'd love to see you.

For your invitation, simply email Rhoda at:

clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com

Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Councillors (HTNC) are a small group of volunteers who all live in the Trafalgar Neighbourhood which is between Warnham Road/North Parade, A24 and Guildford Road/Bishopric. As we have no full statutory Parish Council, we're not able to make many decisions and don't have a large budget but we can share local opinions on matters such as planning and licence applications. We are here to help and support you as much as we can, and to share your views with Horsham District Council (HDC) and West Sussex County Council (WSCC).

What's Your View? We Value Your Opinions

From the Chair

If we want our leaders and our children to take responsibility, then WE need to guide them, putting our values of kindness and community into practical actions. I love living in Trafalgar and it's a joy to see so many adults stepping up to the responsibility of caring for our place here. Whether by gardening, picking up someone else's litter or dog poo, or just giving a cheery hello in passing, it all contributes to making Trafalgar a great home for us all. So I look forward to working alongside all of you this year and offer a big THANK YOU for all you do.

With this idea of thanks in mind, we intend to launch an award in memory of HDC Councillor Leonard Crosbie who served the Trafalgar area so diligently and compassionately for 25 years.

Leonard Crosbie Community Award

We are delighted to launch this award for outstanding Trafalgar citizenship in memory of Cllr Crosbie who served Trafalgar ward so conscientiously and ably for so many years. His widow, Mary, is delighted to support this. If you would like to nominate a person who has gone over and above to make Trafalgar such a lovely community to live in, (and there are so many!) please send in your nominations to the clerk, saying who you'd like to nominate and why. There are no limits to the number of nominations, and it does not have to be someone who is a volunteer! clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com

The Horsham District Older Peoples Forum (HDOPF) is pleased to announce that it will be hosting their highly popular annual 'MP Question Time' event on Friday the 5th of November 10.30am- 1pm (supported by HDC & Age UK WSBH). The meeting is for older people aged 60+ and is also **open to everyone who is involved in any way with the challenges and issues faced by older people.**

The HDOPF 'MP Question Time' event is a genuine opportunity for the local older community to meet **our local MP Jeremy Quin** and raise their questions. The meeting will be held on Zoom.

If you would like to attend, simply email hdopforum@gmail.com There are 100 e-'tickets' available.

HDOPF horshamdistrictolderpeoplesforum.chessck.co.uk/

If you have a question that you would like to ask Jeremy Quin MP, (even if you can't attend the meeting), simply email that to hdopforum@gmail.com so that a fair range of questions can be put on the day.

CEE Bill

We have been invited as a council to express support for the CEE Bill by the CEE Alliance. We are currently considering whether to do this. This private members' bill, (the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill) was initially presented to Parliament in September 2020, and is now supported by 115 MPs from seven political parties, and many councils around the country. Its aim can be broadly described as "The UK restores and regenerates the UK's depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO2 and their resistance to climate heating."

We would value any residents' views on whether or not to lend our support to this.

Horsham District Cycling Forum

(hdcf.org.uk) paid a visit to our September meeting in the form of Francis Vernon, who kindly explained their suggestions for helping residents and visitors to enjoy more safe and active travel in and out of the town centre.

Again, any views of residents would be welcomed.

Urban Foxes

Our neighbourhood wardens report increasing incidents of damage to property by foxes in our area. HTNC have a copy of the book 'Unearthing the Urban Fox' and would happily loan this to residents as a householder's guide to fox deterrence. We would also like to hear about your experiences – please tell us your thoughts.