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Spring 2024

Horsham Trafalgar Neighbourhood Council (HTNC)

Your Neighbourhood Council meets on the second Wednesday of the month. Residents are always welcome to attend.

Contact clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com
for more information.

Our website is www.horshamtrafalgarnc.com

HTNC Leonard Crosbie Community Awards 2024

We always love to hear from you with any stories of worthy citizens we've not yet heard about. **Councillor Leonard Crosbie** served Horsham for around 50 years, and enjoyed representing Trafalgar Ward for 25 years, right up until days before he passed away in 2020. He was a compassionate and popular resident and was able to draw people together for the good of the community. The awards we present in his memory are:

- INDIVIDUAL AWARD • GROUP AWARD • BUSINESS AWARDS • CLIMATE & ECOLOGY AWARD-INDIVIDUAL AWARD • CLIMATE & ECOLOGY AWARD-GROUP AWARD

ROADS

Merryfield Drive & Rushams Road: Parking remains as usual despite the new EV charge points. WSCC changed their policy so that any vehicle can park by the EV points for now.

20s Plenty: Few residents responded to our survey (online & in the last newsletter) but 90% of people who did, supported our plans, so we are continuing. We need people's opinions **now** though airing them on social media after things have been decided is too late!

Bins on Pavements: Please can you considerately tuck your bins out of the way as soon as possible after each refuse collection in order to keep pavements free. We have two schools, so lots of families with pushchairs and many elderly residents who use mobility scooters on our narrow pavements. Thank you.

Bus Fares: The £2 cap on fares across Horsham District has been retained until the end of 2024.

Engine Idling: Please keep hedges cut back so that baby buggies and mobility scooters can move safely along pavements and avoid idling car engines. The babies' noses are at exhaust pipe level and the particles hang in the damp air before they drop.

SINGING

Recent research indicates that communal singing triggers the release of endorphins (the feel-good factor), promotes social bonding and provides mental and physical health benefits, including lower rates of depression and improved wellbeing.

Trafalgar Community Choir is an inclusive choir for people who love to sing and have fun, and want to develop their vocal skills and perform and share the joy of music with others; it is for all standards of musical ability. We meet on a **Monday night** for rehearsals at **Trafalgar Road Baptist Church**, and perform at various community groups and events across Horsham. We welcome new members, and if you interested in finding out more please contact Steve Davies on 07887 590052 or steveldavies37@tiscali.co.uk

In line with HDC and central government, HTNC has declared a **CLIMATE and ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY**

Spring 2024

Trinity Church Players Community Choir Our "summer sing", begins on 26th February Monday, 8pm. We'll be singing songs at afternoon tea for the local community in Holy Trinity Church hall on Rushams Road Sunday 9th June. There's no need to commit; just come along everyone is welcome. Contact Jane on noticesheeth@horshamholytrinity.org.uk

AGE UK continue to provide activities and support for our older populations. Please see <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/westsussexbrightonhove/about-us/contact-us/>

i-Rock Horsham is a brand-new support and advice hub for young people aged 14 - 25 in West Sussex. At i-Rock, services such as mental health, relationships, money, benefits, family problems, bullying, housing, education and employment are supported. Young people can access the service by dropping in or through our virtual platform. <https://www.picktime.com/irockhorshamdistrict>

Renew Well-being Café at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church every Wednesday from 10-12 a.m. The café space at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church becomes a community space for a variety of shared activities. Anyone is welcome to bring and share or join in with an activity. The café also offers the chance to just relax and chat over refreshments or simply enjoy the peace in our quiet area. There is no cost, and all are welcome. For more information contact administrator@trbc.info Telephone 01403 240729

The Welcome: Want some company? Need a good chat? Trafalgar Road Baptist Church have set up The Welcome Cafe on every third Thursday of the month from 2.30-4.30pm: Everyone is welcome for an afternoon of delicious cakes, tea, coffee and chat. Don't worry if you don't know anyone, you will be welcomed with open arms.

Begging & Busking: Our Neighbourhood Wardens, Maria & Oscar, have come across people begging in West Street and Middle Street. Turning Tides has now opened, and thankfully there aren't any registered homeless people in the town at present, so these are illegal, sometimes persistent offenders. Concerned members of the public are encouraged to support charities such as Horsham Matters and Turning Tides should they wish to support anyone they believe to be homeless. All buskers need licenses.

Gatwick Expansion: HTNC hosted an open meeting on 24th January to inform residents and hear their opinions. We heard many concerns, not least our air quality locally which already exceeds three World Health Organisation limits. See addresspollution.org for your own street. We are grateful to the chair of CAGNE, Sally Pavey, for sharing her experience of the last 10 years. It was unanimously agreed to donate £100 to CAGNE. Airport expansion is UK wide and our recent meetings with Gatwick and CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise & Emissions) indicate that things are fast moving towards making Gatwick the size of Heathrow, doubling the number of flights and the number of car parks and traffic on the roads (the private companies, Vinci and BlackRock, who own Gatwick, make much of their income from car parking. A 24-hour bus from Horsham to Gatwick will be introduced. This was also done previously but then removed. Gatwick train station has just been upgraded.

We have Stansted to the East and Luton to the North, and to our West we have the

UK's most polluting private airport, Farnborough, and the UK's most polluting public airport, Heathrow, so Gatwick flight paths will be re-routed south, over Horsham, to avoid conflicts in the air-roads. Email: cagnegatwick@gmail.com. Do let us know what you think immediately so we can fairly represent residents' views. Views after the outcome of the consultation will clearly have no impact.

Trafalgar School has been recycling pens and other stationary and last term collected 5.5 kg of plastic! This helped Sussex Green Living 'Wombles' achieve a Highly Commended Award in the BBC Radio Sussex & Surrey Green Awards. Well done everyone!



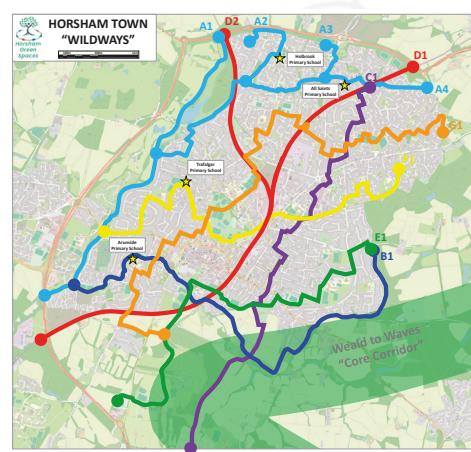
Trafalgar Infants' Children with HTNC chair Morag

Parent & Toddler Group – Coming Soon: "The Ark" Parent & Toddler Group will soon be starting soon at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church. It will be a place for parents/carers to come and relax, whilst the little ones play, and will run on Tuesdays from 09.30-11.30. When available - the launch details will be on www.trbc.info.

The Local Plan has been adopted and HDC and the Blueprint group are now working on how to make it happen. They have created a new post and appointed Collette Blackburn as first Cabinet Member Climate Action and Nature Recovery. Collette.blackburn@horsham.gov.uk

The UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world, so creating Horsham Wildways is the goal of HDC, to link up a 100 mile long nature corridor from Weald to Waves. Trafalgar has been earmarked as part of one of the first urban wilding corridors in the UK to provide wildlife corridors across the town. They're not just pretty - they're a matter of life & health, so we have purchased a Pollination Education Station which will be placed locally so interested residents can maintain it to enhance their street and create tiny green havens for insects and birds.

Why not help with 'adopting' a street tree near your home to water it through our increasing summer droughts? Trees oxygenate the streets and remove carbon dioxide from the air, so do get in touch if you'd like to 'own' a tree!



Locally, we have been able to support Horsham's biggest allotment group, Shelley Allotments, and their wildlife is now really thriving due to their ban on all chemicals. Populations of hedgehogs, thrushes and small mammals are increasing as they're no longer eating poisoned foods. Birds Farm Allotments are also encouraging more wildlife areas.

Plant Sale: The Annual Plant Sale will be held again this year at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church on May 11th from 10 am – 12 noon. Why not come along and find some new plants for your borders or vegetables for your plot. We will also be serving teas and coffees and a good selection of cakes.



We just ask for donations for the plants and refreshments, and all proceeds made on the day will go to Tek Ura, a charity in Albania that provides centres and therapy for marginalised people.

Money: As a Neighbourhood (rather than a Parish), our 'Special Charge' is determined by the council tax rates. Parish precepts on the other hand are not, so Parishes can choose what the residents pay (in some cases over £100 p.a.) Our charge has remained under £30 for many years now. HDC has agreed that this will now be increased to around £39 to help fund the dwindling youth provision and keep the important Hurst Youth Café open. Trafalgar NC are delighted to support this.

Shelley Memorial Project Fund: Horsham's most famous son would have walked through our area to his grandfather's house and Percy Shelley lends this name to two Trafalgar roads. (Percy Rd & Shelley Rd) We encourage residents to visit the Horsham Museum exhibits and voice their opinion on their favourite design which will be placed in Horsham Park. If you don't vote, please don't complain if you don't like the final choice! You can vote in person, or here: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/parks-and-countryside/horsham-park/the-shelley-memorial-project-commission>

Councillors & MPs: Could you join us? Would you like to be a councillor? We currently have one vacancy and are always keen for people to come and join a meeting. We are expecting a general election within the year, so we encourage everyone to register to vote now, especially those just turning 18.

Contacting HTNC

Councillors

Neighbourhood: Morag Warrack, Colin Bush, Ed Coulson, Olive Hobbs, Mark Francis, Adam Key

All the above can be contacted through our clerk, Rhoda Hatton: clerk@horshamtrafalgarnc.com

Horsham District: Martin Boffey (Leader, LD): martin.boffey@horsham.gov.uk

Anthony Frankland (LD): anthony.frankland@horsham.gov.uk

Horsham Hurst (WSCC): Nigel Dennis (LibDem): nigel.dennis@westsussex.gov.uk

Quality of Life

Wardens: Horsham.NeighbourhoodWardens@horsham.gov.uk

• Maria Colenso – 07795051561 • Oscar Johnson – 07795051555

Other Services

support@horsham-matters.org.uk OR 0300 124 0204

info@horsham-matters.org.uk for Youth Work teams

Roads / Out & About

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel> to report potholes

<https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/sussex> - Time to get walking again!

HDC App: There is a new council app which is very handy for bin dates, booking collections or tip drop-offs of unwanted items. Vapes in particular can be collected as 'broken electricals' because they can easily cause fires in general recycling. www.horsham.gov.uk/mobileapp

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