

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE CHANCTONBURY ROOM,
THE PARISH HALL,
THAKEHAM ROAD, STORRINGTON,
ON WEDNESDAY, 25th AUGUST, 2010,
COMMENCING AT 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mrs. A. Worthington-Leese in the Chair, Mr. R. Carter, Mr. A. Head, Mr. R. Jerman, Mrs. G. King, Mr. J. Macey, Mr. A. Mullard, Mr. D. Roper, Mr. J. Sanson, Mrs. L. Wheatley and Mr. J. Williams.

In Attendance: 12 Members of the Public.

Mr. F. Wilkinson, County Councillor

Mr. R. Brown, Head of Development and Environment, H.D.C.

Mr. L. Money, Public Health and Licensing Department, H.D.C.

56. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Mr. R. Dawe (holiday), Mr. D. Atkins (holiday), Mr. C. Mason (holiday) and Mr. E. Gibbons (ill). The reasons for absence were duly **ACCEPTED**.

As Mr. Money had not yet arrived the order of the agenda was changed so the presentation would take place when he arrived.

57. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**. There were no declarations of interest from Members.

58. **POLICE MATTERS** :-

(a) Issues raised by the public at the Police Info Shop in July. The list of issues had been circulated to all Members and was duly **NOTED**.

59. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 23RD JUNE, 2010**. These minutes were duly **AGREED** to be a correct record of the proceedings thereat and were signed by the Chairman.

60. **PRESENTATION BY MR. ROD BROWN, HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT AND MR. LEE MONEY, PUBLIC HEALTH AND LICENSING DEPARTMENT, HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL ON THE H.D.C., CONSULTATION ON AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA FOR STORRINGTON**. This consultation was purely on the area to be covered by the AQMA. The next stage will be to try and find ways to improve the situation and there will be a further consultation at that time.

Mr. Brown explained that H.D.C., along with all other local authorities had been looking at air quality for the last twelve years mainly focused on city centres and urban areas. There were approximately 140 air quality areas in the country. It was reasonably unusual for villages to have one, but not unheard of. This requirement came out of the Environment Act, 1995. The national strategy sets out objectives on the levels of pollution that should not be exceeded and requires local authorities to review or assess throughout their areas. H.D.C.,

started by looking at Horsham town centre, but most of the properties are set back away from the road and less exposed to the heavy traffic which triggers the problem.

H.D.C., started with a review and assessment of Storrington and identified areas of concern which meant it had to do a more detailed assessment which led to the view that an A.Q.M.A., was required. There had to be an administrative boundary for this and after that there would be further assessments to refine the area to see if it needed to be extended or contracted. Action planning was required to decide what could be done about the air quality.

In the national strategy there were objectives for seven different pollutants such as: particulate matter (from exhaust pipes); sulphur dioxide; nitrogen dioxide (the common one which also comes out of exhaust pipes) NO₂ which is high in Storrington. The highest level in 2009 was 51µg/m³. The objective was 40 µg/m³ so the Storrington level clearly exceeded the national average level for a year. There was a one hour objective as well. In the southern part of the U.K., 90% of the management areas were triggered by NO₂. The area that seemed to be the highest was the Manleys Hill/School Hill junction. The detailed assessment report was produced in June this year. The report had to be submitted to DEFRA who make sure that H.D.C., have considered everything that they should.

The purpose of this consultation is to look at the size of this area, which is where there is some discretion. H.D.C. needed to consult the community on the draft A.Q.M.A. The boundaries had been drafted using their measured concentrations and computer modelling. The consultation was open to all interested parties and everybody could put in a response and they had received a number already. It was clear that there was a very rapid drop off away from the highway which was why in Horsham where the highways and verges were large there was no A.Q.M.A. The proposed boundary was from east of the junction with Pulborough Road/Amberley Road to just past the roundabout at School Hill and Manleys Hill. Once the boundary was agreed it would be taken to the District Council Cabinet in September for them to make an Air Quality Management Order. If approved, it would go to full Council in October, 2010. This would be followed by further assessment of the air quality to confirm the A.Q.M.A., and then form the action plan which would be subject to further consultation with the community and anyone interested.

There followed a question and answer session:

- Q. Would the A.Q.M.A., be taken into account when considering planning applications?
- A. Mr. Brown stated that it was an opportunity to have air quality issues recognized; it was a material consideration in any planning application as well as any transport proposals and County would have to take account of it in their Transport Plans. However, it would not sterilize development, but would have to be taken into account.
- Q. Once the action plan is decided, would it be compulsory, or can someone say they would not do that?
- A. That was a debate that was going to have to be had. As far as the action plan was concerned, it was a case of drawing together actions which could be taken. It is very unlikely that the plan would be statutorily binding. It was up to the County and District Councils to consider whether they wanted to develop any policies that take that into account. They would seek to mitigate any affects.

- Q. Why was it proposed that the area stopped prior to the junction with the Pulborough Road and Amberley Road?
- A. At that roundabout there was not the same level of pollution as Manleys Hill, there was a progression along West Street towards there, but they did not have the data at the moment to see if the area needed to be bigger. The next stage would be further assessment to confirm the area. They had to balance science with what people were saying that they want to have. The A.Q.M.A. could be challenged. In examination of what they were doing, they had to have reference to government guidance. At the moment there were only tubes as far as the Tesco's roundabout, but H.D.C. would put up more tubes in Pulborough Road and Amberley Road. H.D.C. did not want to create a situation where the area could be challenged because they had been over-enthusiastic.
- Q. This was being based on last year's data and there had been an increase in traffic levels since then.
- A. It was hoped that for Storrington they would have taken that into account as the data would always be in arrears. Once authorized the role was to determine whether it was the right boundary and this would take one year. If there were strong concerns about Amberley Road, which was excluded at the moment, this had not been forgotten, but they did not have any data at the moment; when they do maybe they can look at extending the area.
- Q. Amberley Road definitely needed looking at because of the queues that build up there.
- A. The measurements were taken in annual means and cannot be short cut. Later on the size of the area could be changed; it would be periodically checked and was subject to government scrutiny by the University of West of England Air Quality Consultants who were scientific contractors and everything H.D.C. did went to them for approval.
- Q. How long have you been monitoring and has there been an increase in pollution? There was a 3% increase in traffic year on year, can H.D.C., predict where it was going with this figure?
- A. Vehicle numbers was one thing, but the weather was another. Wet weather subdues levels, but if there was a run of hot, dry weather it might be found that the pollution increased by 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ year on year. It was the interface between air quality and planning. The traffic that would be generated from the RMC and Abingworth applications would feed into that. It was a complex task and they were trying to second guess that improvements in vehicle emissions could decrease.
- Q. The volume of traffic was going up so it would appear that the figures are understated. It was felt that a year was not acceptable.
- A. Mr. Brown explained that this timescale was set down in statute. There would be interest from a range of bodies that all have to be able to have their fair airing. The law says that they should carry out this assessment and when the level was breached they should do certain things.
- Q. At the point of the measuring device in Manleys Hill, the prevailing wind was from the south west therefore all the fumes are blown the opposite direction.
- A. The modelling would take that into consideration as well as other factors. As far as

the meteorological data from 2009 was concerned they would select a typical meteorological year because increasingly our weather patterns are unpredictable which has made that modelling very difficult. It took H.D.C., many months to get the equipment (which is large) hence its location. At the time H.D.C., were trying to do this it coincided with DEFRA turning away from urban landscapes to town and village areas, so they came along and it now monitors more than NO₂, particulate matter (PM) which splits into two types, PM10 (larger) and PM2.5 (finer resolutions that can get). It was doing an amazing job and the information from it was available on the web.

Q. What type of measures could be introduced?

A. There could be communication with bus providers with a view to making their services more sustainable; other options include promoting sustainable transport, like the school run and making that more green. There were a range of soft and hard options. The A.Q.M.A. increases the ability to get a much tougher deal.

Q. Has County or H.D.C., done any analysis of the type of vehicles and going forward if 80% are private cars, what sanctions were there against a private resident on the public highway apart from a by-pass?

A. There was traffic analysis as part of this exercise. The County Council had been monitoring the vehicles going through Storrington for the past year and know how many are HGVs, cars and light goods vehicles. The information was there. The transport strategy was about dealing with the need to travel and conversely creating disincentives to travel. H.D.C. work with transport partners to form transport plans to take cars off the road if that is what was needed. There would be a variety of measures, but it was a difficult one and sat around a number of issues.

Q. The traffic problems in Storrington had been known for a very long time and Amberley Road was bad. Something needed to be done.

A. Mr. Brown had sympathy with those comments and when they identified that Storrington might have a problem, they did not think it would come as a huge surprise. They did not want their good work challenged and put back. It was a genuine consultation and responses would be summarized and reported; it was important that it was seen to be rigorous and fair. For everyone who wants to see action, there will be counter arguments. H.D.C., did not want to fall foul on that and undo any work.

To consider a Parish Council response to this consultation. Following discussion it was **AGREED** to respond to the consultation as follows :-

It was considered that the area should be extended further up Manleys Hill to the Care South nursing home and at the other end of the village it should be extended past Tesco's garage on both sides (Amberley and Pulborough Roads).

With the agreement of the meeting it was **AGREED** to vary the order of business and take agenda item 21 next.

Mrs. Worthington-Leese thanked Mr. Brown and Mr. Money for coming and suggested they came back again when more was known about what actions would be taken.

61. **TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS :-**

As Mr. Sanson was a District Councillor and on its Planning Committee, he left the meeting during this item.

- (a) **DC/10/1457: former RMC Engineering Works, Hampers Lane in respect of construction of 100 dwellings.**
- (b) **DC/10/1314: Abingworth Nurseries, Storrington Road, Thakeham – demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of the Abingworth Nursery site with 146 dwellings, building Village Hall (including shop and doctor’s surgery), pre-school facility, community workshops/studio, sports pitches and changing rooms, cricket pitch and pavilion, children’s play area, access roads, open space and landscaped areas (including footpaths).**

The Chairman reported that a further application on our border with Thakeham had just been received for 10 dwellings, but this had not yet been given consideration. Both applications DC/10/1457 and DC/10/1314 had been discussed at yesterday’s Planning and Development Committee Meeting and their recommendation was to lodge a strong objection to both these applications using the A.Q.M.A., and the fact that all the traffic would come from there into Storrington particularly at school times and rush hour. It was not considered that the infrastructure would support such an increase. There were insufficient spaces available at local schools. Mr. Wilkinson mentioned that on the B.2139 at Amberley where there had been an application for 12 houses, County had insisted on draconian measures to allow that development to go forward. It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** :-

To strongly object to both these applications.

Mr. Sanson rejoined the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING :-

62. **Minute Nos. 249, 260, 20 and 36: Lease with West Chanctonbury Recreation Association.** An amended draft Lease had been received from the Council’s solicitor. As far as the MUGA was concerned, this did not have to be specifically referred to in the lease because it was included in the red edging that defined the extent of the property comprised in the lease. This was then to be sent to WCRA’s solicitor for comment. The following previous decisions of the Council had not been included :-

- Second Schedule, section XIV should not state “In so far as it is generally possible”, the clause should be “To obtain and maintain suitable insurance cover Also, there should be a section in this clause requiring WCRA to inform the Parish Council of any claim which looked as though it may reach 50% (i.e. £5million) of their insurance cover so that the Council can inform its insurers.
- Second Schedule, section XVI the words “to use its best endeavours” should be excluded.

The solicitor should be requested to change the wording accordingly and instructed to ask that WCRA sign the document.

63. **Minute Nos. 29 and 39: Public Convenience Provision – letter from Thakeham Parish Council.** Thakeham PC was sympathetic to the Council's request and fully accepted the point regarding Thakeham residents regularly visiting Storrington. However, it had a small Precept and with the current financial constraints it had concerns as to whether it could afford to offer financial assistance. Thakeham hoped that this Council would be able to attract sufficient funding from the commercial community to cover the cost of such a facility, but should that not be the case to let them have an indication of the likely level of contribution required and it would be further reviewed.
64. **TO RECEIVE AND IF APPROVED TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:-**
- (a) **Infrastructure, Communications and Environment Committee held on the 7th July, 2010.** These minutes were duly **ADOPTED.**
 - (b) **Recreation and Property Committee held on the 14th July, 2010.** These minutes were duly **ADOPTED.**
 - (c) **Planning and Development Committee held on the 15th July, 2010.** Mrs. Worthington-Leese Proposed; Seconded Mrs. Wheatley and vote: 10 in Favour; 1 Abstention (Mr. Sanson), it was **AGREED** that these minutes be duly **ADOPTED.**
65. **COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS.** Mr. Wilkinson reported that it had been fairly quiet at County Hall. The Hawthorn Way problem with parking – there had been a meeting when they looked at the results of the survey that had been distributed to 46 households but there had been no real conclusion as to what they wanted to do. County had put Hawthorn Way on the Traffic Regulations Order so that they can prioritize it in case they do want to take some action there. They had realized that since the complaints started a couple of years ago things had eased considerably and the problem was not as it was due to the fact that some residents had moved and young families had moved in with two cars, so they were not as concerned about the parking on the road as other had been. However, County were going to write to the residents again telling them what had been discussed and letting them know they would be keeping an eye on the situation.

Mr. Wilkinson had attended a meeting at the Water Lane/Thakeham Road roundabout because County were minded to improve it. The Highway Officers that had been present had gone away to work up a plan, but whether it would be a victim of the cuts he did not know.

Mr. Wilkinson had been talking to County Officers about the A.Q.M.A. and County were talking to H.D.C. swapping ideas; they will be consulting and come up with a plan with Horsham. County were hoping to get the Secretary of State down to West Sussex to talk about problems and if he does come Mr. Wilkinson would insist that he comes to Storrington. The main theme would be traffic and the A.27. There were no drastic remedies to our problems as they were all fairly soft options to start with.

Mr. Head stated that there was to be an electronic sign at the Washington roundabout at some stage, why could it not be provided now? Mr. Wilkinson stated that the reason was that County did not have sufficient funds.

The County Council were negotiating with a developer on the Foxmead site. The County Local Committee had donated £500.00 towards the information board at the Storrington Pond.

Mr. Sanson (District Councillor) reported that things had been very quiet this month. The 10 Mill Lane application had been turned down. It was mentioned to him that the telephone and computer systems at Horsham kept crashing and he was asked when the situation would improve. He stated that the IT equipment was going to be moved to another building and it was hoped that things would then improve, but there could be teething problems.

66. **ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR COUNCILLORS TO READ :-**

- (a) **CPRE – Countryside Voice.** Mr. Jerman took this to read.
- (b) **Action in rural Sussex – Action Newsletter.** Mr. Jerman took this to read.
- (c) **South Downs National Park Authority – News.** Mr. Jerman took this to read.
- (d) **West Sussex Connections.** Available in the Parish Office.
- (e) **Village Living, July, 2010.** Available in the Parish Office.
- (f) **Sussex Local, July, 2010.** Available in the Parish Office.

67. **CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE.**

- (a) **AirS Annual Conference 2010** – Thursday, 23rd September, 9.30 a.m., to 4.00 p.m. on Rural Futures in Changing Times, Policy and Practice.
- (b) **St. Catherine's Hospice – The New Horizons Appeal** – they would be holding an Autumn Gift Fair at Knepp Castle, Shipley, on Thursday, 23rd September, 2010 from 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

68. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS :-**

- (a) **Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, proposed alterations.** The Chanctonbury Leisure Centre would like the permission of the Council to carry out the following work to their disabled toilet and changing area, but there would be no structural alterations to the building :-

Move the toilet to allow enough space for two carers either side; re-tile and paint; paint ceiling; remove disabled shower; re-do floor area and fit new changing bed with hoist; fit new adjustable sink.

The reason for this is that the Leisure Centre is looking to start a new children's disabled club at the end of September, 2010 and these changes are needed to the facilities in order to bring them up to the required standard for this. They have successfully applied for funding from Aiming High to start the disabled club and a grant had been obtained from Changing Places to improve the disabled changing area.

There were no objections to this work proceeding.

69. **TO RECEIVE AND COMMENT UPON THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1ST APRIL, 2009 TO 31ST MARCH, 2010.**

Mr. Evans had written to the Council confirming that he had carried out the internal audit of the Parish Council's accounts for the financial year ended 31st March, 2010 in accordance with the requirements of Section 4 of the Annual Return for Audit. A copy of this letter had been given to every Member. He had undertaken detailed tests of the Council's financial systems to ensure that appropriate internal controls were in place and operating satisfactorily, including reconciliation of the bank balance at year end; agreeing a sample of debits and credits; sample of payments from prime documents; money received; salaries; V.A.T.; petty

cash; checking against previous year for material variances; reviewing annual budget and monitoring, insurance documentation. Any matters arising had been discussed with the Clerk. A copy of this letter has been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting. It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** :-

*That it had been a thorough internal audit and the report was duly **NOTED**.*

70. **TO CONSIDER SENDING A REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCIL AND SUSSEX RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGMS, WEDNESDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2010.** No Members were in a position to attend this meeting.

71. **TO CONSIDER THE CLERK ATTENDING THE 36TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT DURHAM FROM 14TH TO 17TH OCTOBER, 2010 AT A COST OF £405.00.** It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** :-

That the Clerk should attend this Conference at a cost of £405.00 (Local Government Act 1972, s.137).

72. **TO CONSIDER HAVING A DEED OF VARIATION TO THE DEED OF VARIATION RELATING TO THE FOOTBALL CLUB FLOODLIGHTS, CLAUSES C.27.2 ANNUAL TESTING OF THE LIGHTS AND C.28.1 SEPARATE ELECTRIC METER.** These clauses were as follows :-

- (a) C.27.2 Maintain the Floodlights and keep them in good repair and before the commencement of each playing season and thereafter as necessary arrange for them to be tested to insure that they remain operating safely. The appropriate certificate of inspection shall be forwarded to the Landlord and in the absence of an inspection certificate the Tenant shall not operate the Floodlights.
- (b) C.28.1 Connect or cause to be connected the electricity supply for The Floodlights to any existing supply to the Pavilion but shall arrange for a separate meter connection and shall pay all costs for the installation of such meter connection and shall pay all costs for the installation of such meter the supply of electricity and the costs of any other permits or licences for the installation and/or operation of The Floodlights.

Discussion took place on this matter. The Council had previously agreed that the Football Club could connect the floodlights to the pavilion's electricity supply, but with a separate meter in order that the usage of these lights could be checked. However, there had been no legal variation to the Deed.

With regard to (a) Testing of the Floodlights, it was reported that H.D.C., as part of the planning permission required the Club to submit the results of two separate readings from these lights, one at the beginning of the season and a second when the leaves were off the trees to ensure that the light levels still complied. There were conditions placed upon the usage of these floodlights, in particular the times when they could and could not be used. A list of their fixtures and training sessions had been requested to make sure the conditions were met. H.D.C. had not signed off these lights as the Club had not complied with their conditions and the Club had been told that they used the lights at their own risk.

The condition placed on the Club by the Council that the floodlights should be checked prior to the start of each season could not be met due to the lighting up time. A decision was required as to what testing the Parish Council was going to accept this year and going forward. It was **AGREED** to vary the Deed as follows :-

The test should be carried out each year between the end of October and the middle of November. Should the test fail and not comply with the levels required, the Club must stop using the floodlights immediately and not use them again until the test results were satisfactory. The floodlights also needed to be electrically tested each year for safety and the Council required certificates to that affect.

73. **TO COMMENT ON THE COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT LOCAL REFERENDUMS TO VETO EXCESSIVE COUNCIL TAX INCREASES CONSULTATION.** The proposal was to allow local referendums to veto excessive council tax increases as an alternative to capping by central government. Views were required on the practicality and technical feasibility of the scheme. Comments were required by the 10th September, 2010 and these would be taken into account when the government prepares the Localism Bill. It is the hope of the Coalition Government to reverse the presumption that ministers and civil servants knew better than local communities what was in their best interest and to rebalance the role of the central state and local communities. This would allow local people to have a direct say in important decisions that affect their lives. The Clerk would draft a response and circulate this to all Members for their comment.
74. **TO COMMENT ON WSCC CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF DAY SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES IN WEST SUSSEX.** W.S.C.C., wants to improve the choices people have and the way they are supported through adults' day services and activities by making the service more responsive to people's needs, but it needed to be affordable. W.S.C.C., needs to give people more choice and control; make sure people's social care support needs are met; reduce the amount of money that it spends on day services; use the money it spends effectively and plan for the future. Comments are required by the 27th October, 2010. Mr. Roper took a copy of this document to read.
75. **TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE RECREATION AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MINUTE NO. 29 OF THE 14TH JULY, 2010 TO VIRE £5,000 TO PAVILIONS MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENTS.** Following discussion it was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** :-

To vire £5,000 from Playground Maintenance to Pavilions Maintenance, Repairs and Replacements.

76. **ACCESS AROUND THE STORRINGTON POND.** The unauthorized slope had been removed and the two residents that had installed steps on the Council's land had agreed to get these removed, but had not agreed to remove gates. Following discussion it was **AGREED** :-

That the gates could remain, but it should be made clear to the residents that they had no legal right of access, because the Council must protect the legal side for the future.

77. **TO CONSIDER AND COMMENT UPON THE PROPOSED STORRINGTON COMMUNITY TOILET SCHEME.** The Neighbourhood Network Co-ordinator of the Horsham Partnerships for Older People, Central Sussex Citizens Advice Bureau, had approached the Parish Council about the possibility of having a Community Toilet Scheme in Storrington. The scheme would enable members of the public to use toilet facilities at participating premises during opening hours and without any need to make a purchase. Participating premises would display a sticker in their window. The toilet facilities would need to meet appropriate standards. In return businesses would get a monetary annual grant of up to £500 to cover the cost of cleaning and supplies. The fee would be dependant on the size and number of conveniences offered per organisation, possibly with grants for disabled adaptations. Businesses would need to contact the Council for an application form and all Community Toilet Scheme members would be regularly inspected to ensure they meet appropriate standards.

The Clerk had tried to obtain further information about such schemes and had in fact found out that several District and Borough Councils operate these schemes and pay businesses between £600 and £2,000 per annum dependent upon the facilities they had available and the hours that their business was open. The nearest District Council that operated such a scheme was Wealden. The scheme was originally started in Richmond. Despite contacting all the Clerks in East and West Sussex and Surrey by e-mail and putting a question on the e-forum that is nationwide, it has not been possible to find any Parish or Town Council that operates such a scheme, although several are paid by their Districts or Boroughs to keep their Community Centre toilets available to the public.

The Council's insurers would require a legal agreement between the business and the Council to establish who was responsible for what.

Mr. Sanson reported that he had spoken with some businesses and Mr. Mason had spoken to another, but none of these businesses would be prepared to join such a scheme due to their experiences the last time.

Following discussion it was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** :-

That the Council's current Budget did not allow for such large expenditure and therefore it was decided not to proceed with this project.

78. **TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS** :-

- (a) **West Sussex Rural Mobile Youth Trust** need to find match funding to strengthen applications for funding and therefore requested that the Council consider a contribution of £500 to sustain five-year provision which could benefit young people in this parish. In the past this Council had always donated free usage of the Skylight Room for their committee meetings. Following discussion it was **AGREED** :-

To continue to allow them free usage of the Skylight Room for their committee meetings and to donate the sum of £50.00. (Local Government Act 1972, s.137).

- (b) **St. Barnabas Hospice Appeal.** They now had a brand new hospice and the nurses, staff and volunteers needed to give local people the care they deserve, but they need

the furniture and equipment to ensure the comfort and best care for their patients. Following discussion it was **AGREED** :-

To donate the sum of £50.00. (Local Government Act 1972, s.137).

(c) **Victim Support**. Following discussion it was **AGREED** :-

Not to contribute on this occasion.

79. **TO CONSIDER CHANGING THE PARISH COUNCIL BANK ACCOUNT**. HSBC started charging the Council for the use of their current accounts in July and hence the Clerk had temporarily changed the account from the small business tariff to business direct in order to reduce the costs that would be incurred. However, on this account there are still charges, i.e. 2% of value of cash paid in at the branch; 20 free cheques per month but then 75p per cheque; 2% of value of cash withdrawals. With August being a quiet month, it was hoped to keep to less than 20 cheques, but unfortunately this had not been possible, despite paying one cheque to the bank for the wages that they then pay direct into the staff bank accounts.

The Clerk had made enquiries about any banks that provide free standard banking and can only find two, The Co-operative Bank and Bank of Ireland. Both these banks have arrangements whereby it is possible to withdraw and deposit cash and cheques at the Post Office. The Clerk knew of other Parish Councils that use the Co-operative Bank, but did not know any that use the Bank of Ireland.

Following discussion it was **AGREED** :-

To change to the Co-operative Bank.

80. **BANK RECONCILIATIONS FOR JUNE AND JULY, 2010**. Copies of these documents had been circulated to all Members. These were duly **NOTED**.
81. **ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID** in the sum of £19,717.88 plus V.A.T., were duly **AGREED**.
82. **BUDGET COMPARISON** :-
Income - Hall Hire was £5,543, but there was a further £868 that had been invoiced, but not paid which would make this figure £6,411. Therefore if bookings remain similar to the first five months, the budgeted amount should be reached.

Football Pavilion Hire was £1,659.43, but there was a further £736.80 that had been invoiced, but not paid which would make this figure £2,396.23. Therefore if bookings remain similar to the first five months, the budgeted amount will not be reached by almost £2,000.

The £1,425 under Environmental Grant HDC was actually made up of £925 for being a Quality Council and the CLC Grant towards the Pond project of £500.

Expenditure – **General Administration** – Salaries and NI – was well under budget.

Sullington Parish Hall – Repairs/Replacements – of the £3,699.28 already spent, £1,921.58 was in respect of the works that were required on the electrics.

Recreation and Property – Paths/Car Parks – there was only £65.03 left in this budget. The amount expended was in respect of the path at Ravenscroft.

Football/Cricket Utilities plus Fire Extinguishers – this budget was already overspent by £522.40 and only included electricity, gas and water to July.

Pavilions Maintenance – this budget was already overspent by £453.44 due to the redecoration of the Football Pavilion.

ICE – HDC Refuse Collection/Parish Clean – the cost of the bins for the first six months was £566.71, therefore this budget would be overspent by the end of the financial year.

This document was duly **NOTED**.

83. **ADJOURNMENT** – Members of the Public may bring up any matters not included on this agenda.
84. **TO CONSIDER APPOINTING ANOTHER HONORARY CITIZEN.**

The press and public were duly excluded from attendance during this item due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

*The nomination was duly **ACCEPTED** and it was agreed that a certificate and gift should be presented in addition to adding the name to the Honorary Citizen board.*

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.