

**STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD IN THE CHANCTONBURY ROOM,**  
**THE PARISH HALL,**  
**THAKEHAM ROAD, STORRINGTON,**  
**ON WEDNESDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2011,**  
**COMMENCING AT 7.00 p.m.**

**Present:** Mr. R. Dawe - in the Chair, Mr A Head, Mrs G King, Mr. C. Mason, Mr. D. Roper, Mr. J. Sanson, Mrs. L. Wheatley and Mrs. A. Worthington-Leese.

**In Attendance:** 9 Members of the Public.  
Mr J Seymour – WCRA Trustee.

197. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Were received from Mr J Macey (convalescing), Mr E Gibbons, (ill health), Mr D Atkins, Mr R Carter, Mr R Jerman, Mr A Mullard and County Councillor Frank Wilkinson (prior engagements). The reasons for absence were duly **ACCEPTED.**
198. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS.** Mrs Wheatley declared an interest in item 11 – Cricket Club Rent Increase. Mr Head declared an interest in item 12 – Football Club Lease.
199. **POLICE MATTERS.** Although there was no police presence, information had been received that all crime reduction targets across the district had been met. Mr Mason informed members that a report of a motorcyclist riding at speed along the Riverside Walk had been passed to the police.
200. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2011.** The minutes were duly **AGREED** to be a correct record of the proceedings thereat and were signed by the Chairman.

**MATTERS ARISING:-**

201. **TO RECEIVE AND IF APPROVED TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:-**
- (a) **Infrastructure, Communications and Environment Committee held on the 2nd March 2011.** Minute No. 105 – Parish Council Website – Mr Sanson informed members that the chosen design company had withdrawn its services and an alternative website provider had been approached for a quotation. These minutes were duly **ADOPTED.**
- (b) **Recreation and Property Committee held on the 2nd March 2011.** These minutes were duly **ADOPTED.**

(c) **Planning and Development Committee held on the 10th March 2011.** Mrs Worthington-Leese Proposed, Seconded Mrs Wheatley; 5 in Favour; 3 Abstentions (Mr Dawe, Mr Mason and Mr Sanson). These minutes were duly **ADOPTED.**

**COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:**

202. **MANLEYS HILL.** During the last meeting of the Parish Council, County Councillor Frank Wilkinson advised that a request for silent running surface material to be laid on a section of Manleys Hill would most likely be declined due to the costs involved. However some Members were concerned to learn that Mr Wilkinson's photograph had appeared alongside an article in the County Times which appeared to support the petition. It was suggested that in the current climate the huge difference in price between this material and standard tar and chip surfacing could not be justified. Members heard that Mr Wilkinson had also been approached by the Community Traffic Action Team with a request that WSCC complete a feasibility study to improve the Manleys Hill junction with School Hill and the High Street (the mini-roundabout). Mr Wilkinson advised the Traffic Action Team that any such requests would require the endorsement of the Parish Council before consideration could be given. A discussion took place and it was generally agreed that this area was considered particularly dangerous as the pavements were very narrow and that HGVs were mounting kerbs etc. to get around or across the roundabout. Mr Dawe explained to the members of the public that this matter had been raised with WSCC on many occasions historically without success. He did suggest however that it was appropriate to raise again the many problems experienced throughout the whole village caused by excessive traffic including HGVs. Mr Mason reported that a letter highlighting these problems was to be brought to the attention of the Secretary of State who would be asked to bestow powers allowing WSCC to restrict HGVs from using the roads through the village. Meanwhile, it was **AGREED:**

*That the Traffic Action Team should be advised that the Parish Council would support the request for a feasibility study to be undertaken, covering the whole of the village and not one particular area..*

203. **VILLAGE ACTION PLAN – UPDATE ON MEETING OF THE VILLAGE ACTION PLAN GROUP.** The Group last met on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Mr Roper reported that a Public Meeting to launch the Plan had been arranged for Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2011, at the Parish Hall, from 7pm. Mr Roper explained that there would be expenses associated with the launch event and indeed the production of the plan which he felt should be covered by the Parish Council. Mrs Wheatley explained that £500 had been given to the Community Partnership towards the cost of the project which would be used to fund the initial outlay for promotional activity and the event. However, she acknowledged that funds would be required to print the document during the final stages of the process.

Mrs Worthington-Leese informed members that HDC had contributed to the production of

the Parish Design Statement and suggested that the same support may be available for the Village Plan. It was **AGREED:**

*That the Village Action Plan Team should produce a budget for the costs associated with the plan which could be presented to the council in order for it to consider its contribution. Contact should also be made with HDC to find out if funding was available.*

204. **WCRA – LEASE UPDATE AND LEISURE CENTRE FUTURE.** The Parish Council's solicitor had sent a final draft lease to the WCRA trustees' solicitors for approval prior to the document being prepared for signatures. Mr Seymour, chairman of the trustees, explained that he had instructed the WCRA solicitors to approve the document so that this matter could be rapidly progressed.

Mr Seymour summarised to members the progress made by WCRA since it had started working with Impulse Leisure, who had been charged with the management of the Leisure Centre and increasing membership numbers in order to fund improvements to the facilities. He explained that the desired extensions to the building and investment in equipment would not happen immediately and so a source of funding was not yet considered an issue. The Parish Council had previously expressed concerns that by entering a contract with Impulse Leisure WCRA was excluding the leisure centre at Storrington from HDC's review of Horsham district-wide leisure facilities due in 2012. Mr Seymour explained that the financial challenges affecting WCRA were happening now and the trustees felt that it was not in the best interests of the centre to wait for this review. He did however confirm that there was no fixed contract period with Impulse Leisure and that, provided there was no debt involved, then WCRA could still be included in HDC's district wide review if it was considered the best option at that time. Mr Dawe explained that HDC may not be aware of this and advised the trustees to make this situation clear to HDC. Mr Dawe asked Mr Seymour if it was WCRA's intention to join with the district wide plan when the review is undertaken. Mr Seymour answered that this decision would depend on the proposal being put forward at the time. He did state however that none of the current plans included involvement from HDC. Mr Dawe thanked Mr Seymour for coming to the meeting and expressed the council's good wishes for the success of the Leisure Centre's plans.

Mr Seymour left the meeting.

With the agreement of the meeting, the Chairman changed the order of the agenda.

205. **ADJOURNMENT – MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY BRING UP ANY MATTERS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA.**

Members were informed that during a recent meeting between residents and the police, the matter of neighbourhood wardens was raised and members were asked if there were any plans to introduce them in Storrington.

Mr Dawe explained that public consultations had taken place on two occasions over recent years, both resulting in a negative response due to the increase in the parish charge that would be necessary to fund having wardens.

There were currently two wardens in Ashington and the cost to the public was £50,000. As Storrington was a much larger area with three times the population, the number of wardens needed would likely be tripled which would cause the current precept requirement to rise by about 60%. The opinion of the council had therefore been that whilst the introduction of neighbourhood wardens would bring benefits, the support from the community to pay for them was not evident. Members of the public suggested that local opinion may have changed since these consultations had taken place and Mr Dawe explained that these were the types of issues that should be raised during the Village Plan consultation process. Any needs and issues identified within this consultation process would be highlighted in the final plan which would be brought before the Parish Council for action.

206. **BUDGET UPDATE.** Members had been provided with the updated document indicating minor changes to estimated year end positions. Small adjustments had been made to Parish Hall Expenditure for next year and this document was duly **APPROVED.**
207. **CRICKET CLUB – RENT INCREASE.** Members had been advised of a further proposal from the Cricket Club which involved the reimbursement to the Parish Council of funds paid for external decorations carried out over the last year. The club suggested that this refund would reduce the estimated maintenance costs and therefore lessen the amount of rent payable. A letter had been sent rejecting this suggestion and confirming that the rent of £1200 per annum plus VAT was payable from 1st April 2011.
208. **FOOTBALL CLUB LEASE / DEED OF VARIATION, FLOODLIGHTS.** The final document had now been presented for signature and was duly **SIGNED:**

*By the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on behalf of the council.*

209. **ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR COUNCILLORS TO READ.**
- (a) Sandgate Conservation Newsletter – Mrs King took this to read.
  - (b) St Barnabus Life Newsletter Spring – Mrs King took this to read.
210. **CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE.** No correspondence had been received.
211. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.** There were no announcements.

212. **PARISH HALL – MAIN HALL FIRE DOORS – TO CONSIDER QUOTATIONS FOR REPLACEMENT.**

Three quotations had been received for replacement of 2 x double doors and 1 x single door.

<i>Luke and Luke</i>	<i>£6,000 plus VAT</i>
<i>Rustington Glazing</i>	<i>£5,400.47 plus VAT</i>
<i>Parker &amp; Highland</i>	<i>£6,640.63 plus VAT</i>

It was **DECIDED:**

*That the quotation from Rustington Glazing should be accepted* (Local Government Act 1972, S 133)

213. **TO CONSIDER NALC / SALC SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2011 – 2012.** Members had previously decided to withdraw the council's membership however in light of recent staff changes the matter had been revisited. It was **UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED:**

*That Membership should be renewed for 2011 – 2012.* (Local Government Act 1972, S 143)

214. **REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS.**

(a) **St Catherine's Hospice – New Horizons appeal.** Following discussion it was **AGREED:**

*Not to contribute on this occasion.*

215. **BANK RECONCILIATION FOR JANUARY 2011.** This document was duly **NOTED.**

216. **TO REVIEW AND AUTHORISE ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID.** Payments for the sum of £10,418.28 plus VAT, were duly **AGREED.**

217. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The Annual Meeting of the Parish would be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7 pm, followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 7:30pm

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

218. **STAFF MATTERS.**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9:40pm .