

## STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation and Property Committee held in The Chanctonbury Room, The Parish Hall, Thakeham Road, Storrington, on Wednesday 2nd February, 2011 commencing at 8:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Mrs. L. Wheatley in the Chair, Mr. R. Carter, Mr. D. Roper and Mrs. A. Worthington-Leese

**In Attendance:** 3 Members of Friends of Meadowside.

105. **Apologies for Absence.** Were received from Mr R Dawe, Mr A Head and Mr C Mason (Prior Engagements). The reasons for absence were duly **ACCEPTED.**
106. **To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members.** Mrs Wheatley declared a personal interest in item No. 8 relating to the Cricket Club.
107. **To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Last Meeting held on the 5th January 2011.** Minute No. 98 should read “undertake an initial visit **to** the proposed plots”. Minute No 99 – The S in Spring should be lower case. With these amendments, the minutes were duly **APPROVED** as being a correct record of the proceedings thereat and were signed by the Chairman.

### **Matters Arising :-**

108. **Minute Nos. 87 & 24 (July 2010) – Friends of Meadowside.** Representatives of the Friends of Meadowside (FOM) had brought along the visual plans for improvements to the Play Area at Meadowside. The proposed equipment would provide play opportunities for the very young and up to 13 year olds and the group advised that their application for lottery funding was in the final stages. The subject of inspections and maintenance of the area was raised and the group advised that Horsham District Council had agreed to take responsibility for this. Documentation confirming this was required by the grant providers prior to the funds being released. Concerns were raised regarding provision of activities for older children and FOM expressed their intent to seek funding for repairs to the football wall at Ravenscroft. It was hoped that this would provide the older group with its own recreation area and that the new play equipment at Meadowside would then be left to the children of relevant ages. Members suggested that FOM should try to involve the older group in it's fund raising efforts to help give the children a sense of responsibility for the football wall. The Committee congratulated the FOM on their achievements so far and offered its support and assistance in seeking further funding for the Football Wall repairs.

With the agreement of Members, the Chairman brought forward item 11 on the agenda:

109. **Ravenscroft Football Wall.** Much of this subject had already been discussed in the previous item but Members were advised that the “Danger” signs had been removed from the site and that Youths were still entering the area. New signs had been erected and further supplies were available from the Parish Office.

110. **To consider the Inspection of Play Equipment Reports.** One report had been received which highlighted early signs of wear to the chains on the Ixo unit. These chains would be monitored in future inspections. Reports had been received of dogs in the fenced-in play area and a request had been received to erect signs excluding dogs. It was **AGREED:**

*To purchase 2 signs to be placed on the entrance gates to the Play area.*

111. **Ravenscroft Allotments.** Members were advised that children from Rydon School had commenced visits to the allotments where two equal sized plots had been marked out for their use. A site visit would take place over the next few weeks to view the progress made.
112. **WCRA Lease and Update Following meeting of the Trustees.** Mrs Wheatley reported that she had attended a meeting of the Trustees at Tesla in Water Lane on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2011. During this meeting it became clear that the Trustees were keen for the proposal with Impulse Leisure to be progressed despite HDC's decision not to guarantee the loan. The matter of the lease between the Parish Council and WCRA was raised at the meeting and it appeared that a number of the trustees had not been made aware of the content of this document. A copy of the lease had now been made available to them and it was hoped that this matter could be finalised shortly.

As Mrs Wheatley had declared an interest, Mrs Worthington-Leese took the chair for the following item.

113. **Football and Cricket Club Rent Review.** Both clubs had been informed, by letter, of the increases in rent to take place from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 and the matter of altering both leases to fully repairing had also been raised. It was expected that the clubs would respond in due course.
114. **Budget Review.** Members had been provided with a Financial Budget Comparison Statement and this document was duly **NOTED.**
115. **To consider renewal of Pest Control contract.** Southern Pest Control had reported details of actions taken to control moles on the playing fields over the last year. A vote was held – 1 Against (Mrs Worthington-Leese) 3 in Favour. It was therefore **AGREED:**

*That this contract should be renewed for a further year at the unchanged price of £500.00 (Local Government (Misc.) Provisions Act 1976. S.19)*

116. **Documents for Councillors to read.** There were no documents.
117. **Health and Safety.** There were no issues raised.
118. **Chairman's Announcements and Urgent Matters.** There were no announcements

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:50 pm.

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