

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 June 2010, commencing at 8.00 p.m.

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

In Attendance: 8 members of the public.

1. **Election of Chairman.** Mrs. Worthington-Leese proposed Mrs. Wheatley, seconded Mr. Roper and **AGREED**

Mrs. Wheatley duly took the chair.

2. **Election of Vice-Chairman.** Mr. Dawe proposed Mr. Mason, seconded Mrs. Wheatley and **AGREED.**
3. **Apologies for Absence.** Were received from Mr. Mason (prior engagement) and Mr. Carter (ill). The reasons for absence were duly accepted.
4. **To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members.** There were no declarations of interest.
5. **To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Last Meeting held on the 5th May 2010.** The minutes were duly **APPROVED** as being a correct record of the proceedings thereat and were signed by the Chairman.
6. **Matters Arising :-**
 - (a) **Minute No. 137 – Sullington Recreation Ground Rent Review.** Members were advised that Horsham District Council would assess the value of the rent increase and advise in time for the figure to be incorporated in the parish council's budgeting process.
 - (b) **Minute No. 139b - Cricket Pavilion Exterior Lighting.** It was reported that a PIR Light had now been installed.

With the agreement of the meeting, The Chairman altered the order of the agenda.

7. **To Discuss the Provision of a Skate Park Facility.** Representation had been made by a group of youths who had been exploring the possibility of a Skate Park Facility within the parish. Mrs Wheatley explained that this subject had been discussed on many occasions over recent years but the main obstacle was finding a suitable location. A number of areas had been discussed and Mrs Wheatley had been in contact with a local land owner in this respect. A meeting had also been arranged with the Head Teacher at Rydon School to discuss positioning the facility there, and also with Nick Herbert MP in the hope that he would support the project. It was made clear that locating a suitable site was of paramount importance and this issue would need to be resolved prior to any further progress being made in relation to funding etc.

8. **To consider the Inspection of Play Equipment Reports.** One report had been received and all defects would be attended to.

9. **Allotments.**

(a) **SAGA – Review of Accounts and Provision of Subsidy.** Arrangements had been made with Southern Water to send future bills direct to SAGA and the payment of the outstanding water bill had now been received. Representatives from SAGA have refused to provide reasons behind the increase in rent and had commented that the Parish Council's agreement to pay a subsidy was not conditional. Members were asked to vote on the provision of subsidy. Results of the Vote were as follows.

For - 3 Against - 2 (Mrs Worthington-Leese and Mrs. Wheatley requested that their votes Against be recorded). It was therefore **AGREED.**

That the payment of £200 subsidy should be made. (Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, s 23&26)

(b) **Ravenscroft – To consider complaint received and request for compensation.** A complaint had been received from a plot holder regarding an error made during allocation and the condition of the plot offered. Along with a refund of deposit and plot charge, he had requested compensation for allotment related books that had been given to him as presents at Christmas. Members discussed his complaint and noted that no visits had been made to the plot for 3 months after acceptance, during which time, some growth would occur. It was also noted that the complainant had requested that he remain on the waiting list for Amberley Road and although, this list was quite long, he could potentially make use of the books he had been given. The plot had now been re-allocated and it was therefore **AGREED.**

That a refund of deposit plus fees should be made but no justification could be found to reimburse for books given as gifts.

10. **To consider quotations received for decorating the interior of the Football Pavilion.**

Quotations had been received as follows:

Silver Tower Services £1,200.00

R. Burgess & Sons £ 870.00 plus VAT.

John Pannell & Derek Dyer £1,309.84.

The quotations were discussed and it was **AGREED.**

That the quotation from R. Burgess and Sons be accepted in the sum of £870.00 Plus VAT. (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. s19)

11. **To consider request from Football Club for a further supply of loam.** This material had been provided previously at a cost of £68.76 plus VAT. It was **AGREED.**

To meet the Football Club's request for further supply. (Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9&10)

12. **To consider future use of Hurston Lane Field for events following complaint from Vipers.** Following a recent visit from the Fun Fair, complaints had been received from Storrington Vipers relating to use of the field and the condition in which it had been left. Members discussed the possibility of preventing future events but this was not considered to be in the best interests of the whole community. The field is used for a variety of recreational purposes including the Annual Village Day, Circus and Funfair and it was **AGREED.**

That the availability of the field for these types of events should continue.

13. **Hall Hire – Unpaid Booking Fees.** It had been reported that the sum of £224 remained outstanding and despite several letters, no contact had been made by the named hirer. The matter was discussed and it was **AGREED.**

That one final attempt should be made to contact the hirer to discuss a repayment Plan before commencing court proceedings to recover the funds.

14. **Documents for Councillors to Read.**
Sutcliffe Play – Community Play Areas – Available from the Office.

15. **Health and Safety.** It had been reported that the surface at Sullington Recreation Ground had become very uneven around the football wall and goal posts and enquiries would need to be made to find a suitable surface to resolve the problem.

16. **Chairman's Announcements.**

(a) **Making Tracks – West Sussex Rural Touring Scheme.** Members had been invited to attend a Celebration Evening on Wednesday 23rd June at 6:30pm at Billingshurst Village Hall. It was noted however that this was the scheduled date for the next Parish Council Meeting.

(b) **Friends of Meadowside.** Following contact from Friends of Meadowside, Mrs Wheatley and Mr Dawe would be arranging to meet with representatives from the group to discuss their concerns about the area.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:50pm

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