

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Infrastructure, Communications and Environment Committee held in The Chanctonbury Room, The Parish Hall, Thakeham Road, Storrington, on Wednesday, 2nd February 2011, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mr J Sanson in the Chair, Mr D Atkins, Mr R Carter, Mr. D. Roper.

In her capacity of Vice-Chairman of the Council and in the absence of the Chairman, Mrs A Worthington-Leese was also present.

In Attendance: Mrs L Wheatley.

Mr P Mackie, Mr A Castle, Mr D Wright - Storrington & Sullington Community Partnership.

89. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr E Gibbons (Poor Health), Mr R Dawe, Mr A Head and Mr R Jerman (Prior Engagements). The reasons for absence were duly **ACCEPTED.**
90. **To Receive Declarations of Interest from Members.** There were no declarations of interest from Members.
91. **To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Last Meeting held on the 5th January 2011.** The minutes were duly **APPROVED** as being a correct record of the proceedings thereat and were signed by the Chairman.
92. **Matters Arising.** There were no matters arising.
93. **Storrington & Sullington Community Partnership – Report following meeting of the Village Plan Working Party.** Members had been provided with the notes from the meeting and a number of comments had been made with regard to the wording of the notes and the proposed scope and content of the plan. Mr Roper explained that the initial meeting had actually been quite positive and that this was only the development stage. He felt sure that there would be some mixed opinions amongst the Working Party going forward but that these could be ironed out during the process. Mr Wright reported that the aim was to advertise the launch of the plan in March via the Storrington & Sullington News and the Village Website with the announcement of a public meeting where the views and opinions of the community would be sought. It was considered crucial that the public were encouraged to take part and provide input and it was felt that the plan would have little value if the community did not feel that it had been produced with their involvement. Mrs Worthington-Leese expressed concerns regarding the potential of the final plan to provide the community with false expectations of what could be achieved and it was agreed that the completed document would contain only achievable, deliverable solutions and not idealistic, unworkable aims. It was also questioned whether the community's interest in the Village Action Plan would only be in the issues which affected individuals personally. There were very few occasions when members of the public attended Parish Council or Committee meetings. Mr Mackie reported that the public consultation that took place in 2009 proved to be very successful and it was pointed out that these surveys took place within central areas of the village. He explained that progress had been made since the production of the last plan and it was hoped that the new plan would bring to light new issues that could be tackled and

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not just the larger projects where solutions fall outside of the scope of the Parish Council. Concerns were raised that work would be duplicated within the Parish Council and the Community Partnership but it was felt that with representatives of both organisations taking part in the Working Party, this could be avoided. Mr Atkins felt that the partnership was pushing this project too quickly and that some pressure was being applied to this committee to commit its support when some members did not feel able to do so at this stage. Mr Carter agreed that the timetable for the plan did seem a bit optimistic and commented that further discussion was needed to gather views from other Members. It was therefore **AGREED:**

That this matter should be referred to Full Council for further discussion. It was also decided that the launch should be postponed pending the outcome of the Full Council meeting. It was Agreed that a short announcement could be made in the parish newsletter that discussions were underway to produce a new village plan and that further details would be announced shortly.

94. **Parish Council Website - To report following the meeting of the Working Party and to Agree upon proposals for provider.** A Working Party consisting of Mr Sanson, Mr Jerman, Mr Dawe, Mr Carter and Mrs Read from the Parish Office had been formed and a meeting had been held on 20th January 2011. Three proposals had been put forward for consideration and Mr Sanson briefly outlined the details of each:

To design and host website and to provide ongoing support:

In Touch CRM	£949 plus VAT initial set up – up to £600 annually thereafter.
Sinclair Design	£750 plus VAT initial set up - up to £750 annually thereafter.
Charles Grayson	£1,000 - £2,000 approx set up - £10 per month hosting costs.

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

To accept the quotation from Sinclair Design at £750 plus VAT for initial set up. The monthly support and maintenance fee would be confirmed once the Parish Council's specific requirements were confirmed. (Local Government Act 1972, S142. (1AA))

95. **Storrington Pond – To comment upon Ecological Report and decide which elements to implement during Phase 2.** Members had been provided with a summary of the Ecological report received from RSK Carter Ecological Ltd. This document provided plans and actions to encourage wildlife, extend the site habitats, improve access and increase the recreational value of the area. Estimated costs for a number of initiatives including an outdoor classroom and a water garden had been included in the plan and grants would be applied for to cover these costs. Members were asked to comment upon the ideas presented in the plan and Mr Carter enquired whether more filter devices could be included to clean the water running off from the Amberley Road. Mr Sanson explained that the Reed beds would be effective for

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this purpose. It was **AGREED:**

That applications for grants should be made to fund Phase 2 of the Pond Enhancement Project as recommended in RSK Ecological.

96. **Budget Review.** A Financial Budget Comparison Statement had been provided to Members and this document was duly **NOTED.**
97. **Documents for Councillors to Read.** There were no documents for Councillors to read.
98. **Health and Safety.** No issues were raised.
99. **Chairman's Announcements.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:50 p.m.

