

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON **PARISH DESIGN STATEMENT**

Consultation Statement

Submission Document to Horsham District Council for consideration of the Storrington & Sullington Parish Design Statement as a Supplementary Planning Document.

Storrington & Sullington Parish Council agreed back in 2007 to proceed with the production of a Parish Design Statement.

Due to the size of the Parish a lot of information had to be collated and ratified before the document could be constructed. This statement has been prepared by members of Storrington & Sullington Parish Council in accordance with Regulation 17 and Regulation 18 (4) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.

Background and Pre-production consultation

The need for a Design Statement for Storrington & Sullington was identified and a steering group was formed. Members of the Parish Council Planning Committee pulled together a list of topics that they felt should be covered within this document and they along with residents, local businesses and various other volunteer groups were given the task of photographing what they felt to be good and bad aspects of the village and surrounding countryside.

A draft contents page, along with photographs, a description of what a design statement actually was and how it would tie in with H.D.C.'s Local Development Framework was then produced and printed up. This draft document along with what were considered to be six very relevant questions were subsequently displayed in the Community Partnership Office at Forge House and in the foyer of the Parish Hall during March 2009. Members of the public were invited to make comments on any relevant matters, highlight anything they thought should be included along with their comments to the questions listed. A good number of comments were received, which were collated and subsequently reviewed and analysed.

Horsham District Council's Planning Department was consulted about the process and recommended that a draft document be prepared as the next step. Some maps were kindly provided by the District Council.

A thorough physical survey of the whole parish was undertaken during 2009 which included viewpoints, building styles and materials, the street scene, trees and landscape among other features.

Consultation on the Draft Parish Design Statement

From May to September a series of drafts was prepared by the Parish Office. Preliminary consultations on the draft were held with The Parish Council, certain relevant groups and organisations in Storrington & Sullington such as the Camera Club, the Museum, West Sussex County Council as well as Horsham District Council's Planning Department.

All received comments were analysed and incorporated as necessary. Preparation, design and production of the document were all undertaken 'in-house' by members of the Parish Office.

A final *consultation draft* was prepared in October 2009, enlarged and mounted on display boards in preparation for a Public Exhibition in the Library. Hard copies were also put in ring binders for individuals to view and comment on.

This public exhibition was widely advertised well in advance in:

- Over 30 of the Parishes Shops and Businesses
- All the Community Notice Boards
- The Post Office
- Community Partnership Office in Forge House
- The Parish Newsletter (distributed to over 3,5000 households and businesses within the Parish)
- The Local Library
- The Local Chapel

and the public was invited along to comment. A copy of the poster is attached for reference.

Very few relevant comments were received, most referred to the need for public toilets, more Policing, parking permits, traffic calming measures etc. All of the comments were analysed and a summary of the main points was presented to the monthly Planning & Development Committee on 12th November 2009, open to the public. These same comments were discussed by Full Council.

Minor amendments to the consultation draft were subsequently made and the final draft document was sent to Mr Patrick Griffin, H.D.C.'s Strategic Planning Officer on 1st December 2009 for his comments. Mr Griffin kindly agreed to attend our Planning and Development Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday 14th January 2010 where he went through H.D.C.'s comments and explained the reasons behind them.

The Planning and Development Committee then went through these comments and suggestions one by one and made the necessary amendments.

A further meeting was arranged with Mr Griffin to present the final draft document on Tuesday 16th February 2010. Mr Griffin reviewed the document and explained that the next step would be for the Parish Office to complete a Consultation Statement which should be sent to him along with a copy of the final draft document incorporating the H.D.C. logo (he would e-mail this to the Parish Office).

On 17th February at the Full Parish Council Meeting the Parish Design Statement was approved and it was agreed that the document should be submitted to H.D.C. for adoption.

H.D.C. subsequently sent the document out for a four week consultation of various Statutory Consultees including adjoining Parish Councils and Local Council Members. No detailed comments were received during this period, however Natural England wrote back to refer the Council to an additional guidance document to help with the production of future Design Statements.