



# **Climate Action Plan**

## **for Storrington & Sullington Parish Council**

(adopted 05.11.25)

### **Why Storrington & Sullington Needs a Climate Action Plan**

The impacts of climate change are being felt at every level — from increased flooding and drought to pressures on biodiversity and local infrastructure. Parish councils are in a strong position to take practical, community-led action.

A clear Climate Action Plan would:

- Demonstrate leadership at parish level, showing that we take climate and nature seriously.
- Support successful bids for District, County and other external grants, as many funding streams now give priority to councils with clear climate strategies.
- Provide a framework for practical, measurable actions that can reduce carbon emissions, support biodiversity and strengthen community resilience.
- Help the parish align with Horsham District Council's Climate Action Strategy and West Sussex County Council environmental policies, ensuring coordinated effort and influence.
- Engage the community, giving residents a way to contribute to local climate action in a meaningful way.

### **Proposed Storrington & Sullington Parish Council Climate Action Plan**

- Appoint two to three Parish Councillors to represent Storrington & Sullington and to regularly attend Horsham District Council's *Parish and Neighbourhood Council Climate Action Network*.
- Make Climate Action a standing item on every Full Council agenda, with updates and opportunities for community involvement.
- Create a Climate Action page on the Parish Council website to share information, progress, and ways for residents to get involved.
- Aim for Parish Council premises to low-carbon energy, prioritising renewable energy sources such as solar panels and heat pumps by using information provided from energy surveys.
- Improve energy efficiency of parish buildings with better insulation, LED lighting and smarter heating controls.



- Reduce waste and resource use across all council operations, including cutting unnecessary printing and consumables.
- Endeavor to use ethical banking for Parish Council accounts and consider investment opportunities that align with environmental goals.
- Consider climate considerations in local planning, using a local green planning checklist to assess carbon impact.
- Support local biodiversity projects, including signing up Parish Council green spaces to the *Weald to Waves* initiative, inviting advice from the Wilder Horsham team and encouraging pollinator-friendly planting.
- Work with other community groups such as the Neighbourhood Wardens and community resources such as the Chanctonbury Leisure Centre to facilitate climate action in the community.
- Work collaboratively with neighbouring parishes where appropriate to strengthen our voice when seeking funding and delivering projects.

## Next Steps

- Adopt a formal Climate Action Plan by resolution of the Full Council.
- Establish a small working group of councillors and community representatives to oversee delivery.
- Liaise with Horsham District Council's Climate Team to align priorities and identify relevant grant opportunities.
- Agree two to three councillors to regularly attend Horsham District Council's *Parish and Neighbourhood Council Climate Action Network*.
- Launch the Climate Action page on the Parish website and communicate the plan through newsletters and social media.
- Review progress annually to ensure targets remain ambitious and realistic.

## Conclusion

By adopting a Climate Action Plan, Storrington & Sullington Parish Council will be taking a practical, forward-looking step that benefits our residents, our natural environment and our local economy. It will strengthen our ability to access funding, influence policy, and help protect our parish for future generations.

