

# Sustainability Committee

## Minutes (SC(3)-11-10)

**Date:** 12 May 2010

**Time:** 09.00 - 11.00

**Venue:** Committee Room 3, Senedd

### Assembly Members in Attendance

Rhodri Glyn Thomas, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr  
Ann Jones, Vale of Clwyd  
Lorraine Barrett, Cardiff South and Penarth  
Leanne Wood, South Wales Central  
Brynle Williams, North Wales  
Angela Burns, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire  
Rhodri Morgan, Cardiff West

### Committee Service

Virginia Hawkins, Clerk  
Meriel Singleton, Deputy Clerk

### Others in Attendance

Ceri Davies, Environment Agency Wales  
Joanne Sherwood, Environment Agency Wales  
Morgan Parry, Countryside Council for Wales  
Keith Davies, Countryside Council for Wales  
Craig Mitchell, WLGA  
Clive Thomas, Forestry Commission Wales  
Annie Smith, RSPB  
Stephen Bladwell, RSPB

### 1: Election of Temporary Chair

1.1 The Clerk opened the meeting and asked for nominations for a temporary chair. The members elected Rhodri Glyn Thomas as temporary Chair for the meeting.

### 2: Introduction, Apologies and Substitutions (09:00 - 09:05)

2.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from: Karen Sinclair; Joyce Watson; Irene James and Mike German. Rhodri Morgan and Ann Jones substituted.

### 3: Scrutiny of the Environment Strategy: Evidence Session (09:05 - 9:45)

3.1. The Chair welcomed Ceri Davies, Joanne Sherwood, Morgan Parry and Keith Davies to the meeting and invited them to make some opening remarks. Members questioned the witnesses and asked them to provide further information on the following:

Whether the Environment Strategy, as it currently stands, is fit for purpose or whether it needs to be reviewed.

3.2 Members agreed to write to the witnesses with further questions not reached in Committee.

### 4: Scrutiny of the Environment Strategy: Evidence Session (09:45 - 10:25)

4.1. The Chair welcomed Craig Mitchell and Clive Thomas to the meeting and invited them to make some opening remarks. Members questioned the witnesses and asked them to provide further information on the following :

Whether the Environment Strategy, as it currently stands, is fit for purpose or whether it needs to be reviewed.

4.2 The Committee also requested further information from the WLGA on the reasons behind the five local authorities declining to take up the grant available as part of the green space assessments.:

### 5: Scrutiny of the Environment Strategy: Evidence Session (10:25-11:00)

5.1 The Chair welcomed Annie Smith and Stephen Bladwell to the meeting and invited them to make some opening remarks. Members questioned the witnesses and asked them to provide further information on the following question:

Whether the Environment Strategy, as it currently stands, is fit for purpose or whether it needs to be reviewed.

5.2 In addition, the witnesses agreed to provide the Committee with further information to support the suggestion that the actions database and extranet infrastructure were not fit for purpose.

5.3 Annie and Stephen also agreed to provide further evidence to explain if the monitoring of species and sites at risk in accordance with the Partnership Against Wildlife Crime action plan has successfully reduced wildlife crime or the loss of biodiversity.

**Motion under Standing Order 10.37 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for Item 6**

The Chair moved a motion, under Standing Order 10.37(vi), to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting, to discuss matters relating to their internal business.

The Committee agreed to the motion.

**6: Consideration of the Rural Development Sub-Committee's report into Meat Hygiene and Animal Welfare**

6.1 The Committee approved the report relating to the Meat Hygiene and Animal Welfare Inquiry.