HOLYMOORSIDE & WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

PROMOTING PARISH PRIDE

Climate and Nature Action Strategy

Objective

Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council acknowledges that climate change is one of the largest challenges facing the world and also recognises that we are an influencing body that can act on this. Therefore it is essential that the Council helps to proactively facilitate the protection of our local environment, heritage and natural beauty.

This needs to be delivered in a way that promotes sustainability, healthy living and also prosperity within our community. Through this mutually sustainable approach to living in the parish, we can help ensure that it can continue to be enjoyed by future generations indefinitely.

In recognising this, and to lead the way with positive action, Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council resolves to:

- adopt a Climate and Nature Action Strategy — setting out an Action Plan and Targets to reduce carbon emissions;
- promote and embed sustainable and energy efficient practices throughout our organisation;
- embed the principle of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink" throughout our organisation;
- consider ways to protect and enhance our natural environment, stimulate biodiversity and nurture our wildlife and pollinators;
- organise community action events and work with our partners, businesses, schools, communities, residents, and other councils to promote behavioural change and develop new ideas and co-ordinated responses to climate change and plastic pollution;
- explore new opportunities and technologies to reduce our carbon footprint;
- provide for a working group to report and monitor on immediate and longer term actions to be taken.

ACTIONS

BUILDING EFFICIENCY	
Heating and Cooling	**Action Taken**
Check that heating has smart controls to avoid it being left on when not in use. A simple remote controlled thermostat can let you turn heating on and off to match events.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow-awaiting report from energy audit company**
Only heat areas that need it, by setting up heating zones with their own controls.	Upstairs and downstairs have own times set and separate thermostats
Natural ventilation of all areas wherever possible.	No air conditioning units, windows and doors left open as required
Regular audit of central heating systems and radiators.	**Need to seek further advice**

Improving Building Insulation and Structure	**Action Taken**
Wall and loft insulation wherever possible.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow**
Regular draught inspections.	Staff objectives include their help with this work
Consider solar panels where appropriate.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow**
Make sure any double glazing units are working efficiently – consider replacing older units with modern argon-filled gap units.	All units have been replaced within the last 15 years. When need replacing will consider more modern units
Consider thermal boarding for all cold areas.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow**

Kitchen Areas	**Action Taken**
Consider plumbed-in water heating systems, with added benefits of instant boiling water.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow**
Efficient, modern oven installed. Adequate checks to ensure they are turned off after use or when no longer required.	New oven fitted in 2019 and, although used infrequently, is turned off after use
Installation of an efficient glass washer.	Glass washer efficient, two minute cycle only
Adequate signage/information for use of appliances.	Adequate signage provided

UTILITIES

Electricity Consumption	**Action Taken**
Replace existing lighting units with LED units.	On-going for replacement units**. Investigate whether funding available**
Ensure outside lighting units are LED and preferably on timers.	**No LED bulbs in at the moment. When existing bulbs need replacing LEDs will be used.** All on a timer**.**
Turn off any appliances and lights that are not being used.	Caretakers attend after each booking to turn off any appliances, although in general hirers are aware this is required
Water Consumption	**Action Taken**
Ensure all water use is metered, including Village Hall, Changing Rooms, Allotments, Tennis and Bowling facilities.	All water supplied on meters and invoices monitored and checked with actual readings logged against any estimates
Respond quickly to dripping or leaking taps/pipes etc.	This is actioned as part of the regular maintenance
Flow reduction taps, or inserts in existing taps.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow**
Regular checks of toilets and consider updating.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow**
Consider removal of urinals.	**Needs further investigation when funds allow**
Consumables and Procurement	**Action Taken**
Reduce amount of printed papers that we use, e.g. send documents electronically.	As many of documents are circulated electronically but total use of paper cannot be achieved
Ensure waste paper is recycled.	Waste paper/cardboard either recycled via Clerk or, if sensitive, shredded and composted
Investigate system for recycling used toner and ink cartridges.	All toner cartridges sent back to HP for recycling
Review energy suppliers and check if they are environmentally friendly with a commitment to renewable energy.	Gas and Electric supplier (EDF) have good climate credentials with 20.5% renewable energy and 66.6% nuclear
Procurement of products and services (e.g. cleaning materials, office supplies) that address their environmental impact.	Wherever possible consumables collected from local supplier in conjunction with other journeys made Booking conditions re-written in relation to environmental impact of disposables in the booking conditions and bar hire services

WASTE

Recycling	Action Taken
Investigate approaching local authority to install additional recycling bins for the parish facilities.	**To be actioned, possibly in conjunction with other PC's to lobby NEDDC to offer a recycling service**
Install recycling bins for kitchens and office areas.	**This initiative will only work if recycling services are available and accessed**
Encourage staff to recycle wherever possible.	All staff, via appraisal and objectives, are aware of the council's aims and are encouraged to suggest ideas for further recycling opportunities
Switch to more recyclable products wherever possible.	Consideration of this is always given when purchasing consumables for the village hall
Optimise litterbin capacity and emptying schedules to reduce bag use and subsequent mileage, re: collection.	**This initiative will only work if recycling services are available and accessed** Current waste collection from NEDDC is on a route for other businesses
Ensure all Parish Council events use only reusable products or only reusable plastic products.	No events at the moment due to covid but a supply of reusable plastic beakers to be purchased for Remembrance Service and the Hallowe'en disco. Other crockery already used (glasses, plates cups and saucers etc)

Carbon Emissions	Action Taken
Explore home working.	Clerk works from home, which reduces travel to and from work. When visiting the parish, multiple duties carried out at the same time
Meetings, where appropriate, by virtual means.	Due to covid virtually all meetings remote. Council to consider whether long term remote meetings will reman viable

EXTERNAL

Allotments and Gardens	Action Taken
Confirm that gardening contractors compost waste where possible.	Gardener confirms all waste removed from site is taken for composting
Adopt a carbon offsetting strategy for any tree removal.	The parish council commission an annual tree audit and no trees are removed without prior agreement. New hedging materials regularly planted in the boundary hedge
Ensure allotment holders conform to Terms and Conditions regarding use of water butts.	Allotments are checked on a regular basis but mandatory use of water butts is not part of the tenancy agreement

Play Areas	Action Taken
Regular monitoring and maintenance including use of natural options for surfaces.	Play areas monitored regularly, safety surfacing repaired as necessary, surface around the equipment is grass
Ensure adequate bins and encourage their use.	**This initiative will only work if recycling services are available and accessed** Waste bins currently provided on recreation ground and play area

Biodiversity	Action Taken
Use of broadleaf trees when replanting. Consider contacting Woodland Trust for advice.	Clerk accesses native species from Woodland Trust when obtaining hedging packs during their annual free distribution
Consider creating wildflower meadows or patches to encourage insects and bees.	Currently working with NEDDC and consulting with DCC and grass verge sites identified in the parish, which may be suitable for the sowing of wild flower seeds
Involve organisations such as RSPB, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, for advice on helping endangered species etc.	**Unable to proceed at the moment due to the covid restrictions**
Involve and encourage local schools / Scouts / Guides, etc. with environmental / wildlife projects.	**Unable to proceed at the moment due to the covid restrictions**
Revisit our Neighbourhood Plan to include references to Biodiversity.	The NP already refers to biodiversity but will be reassessed in line with the time frame of the plan

Working with Parish residents

Our role would not just be to reduce our own carbon footprint, but to encourage residents' to help reduce theirs too.

Communication

- Include a regular 'eco tip' or environmental articles in newsletter and publish what Parish Council and local groups are doing. Include information about help for the vulnerable — warm home initiatives — and inform residents how to access these resources. Consider having a dedicated page on website.

Businesses

- Meet with/write to businesses to see what they are doing and encourage the to switch to recyclable packaging.

Schools

- Engage with local schools to encourage them to work together, perhaps some of the projects such as either adopting a piece of land within the village for planting wildflowers or joint clean-up tasks such as litter picks etc.

Events and Community Actions

- Hold events for residents promoting access to information with relation to insulation, heating, etc. Work with housing associations, local and county councils.
- Consider having literature, leaflets etc. available at the village hall.
- Consider creating a Community Action Plan to engage with residents through questionnaires and encouraging community involvement on green issues.
- Promote tree-planting initiatives.
- Liaising with other local environmental groups such as Plastic Free Chesterfield, Derbyshire Wildlife, etc.

Monitoring

Monitoring our Carbon Footprint may take several years to show results. However, by regularly reviewing all parish operations we can establish a baseline and identify any big targets, while looking for opportunities to further reduce our impact on the environment.

Funding

There are a vast range of funding opportunities for carbon footprint reduction within parishes, business and residents from local authorities. We would need to consider forming a sub-committee to investigate possibilities available.