



Local Environment Action Frampton (LEAF) Working Group Hybrid Meeting, 15th November 6:30pm

A **L.E.A.F Working Group Meeting** will be held on Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 6.30pm ONLINE on ZOOM and IN PERSON at the Brockeridge Centre . All Group Members and members of the public are invited to attend. Everyone is welcome.

ZOOM Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87194795572?pwd=WGpnL1BwRHZRcnNlMnprQjZ3VmthUT09>

Kind Regards

Daisy Finniear

Daisy Finniear (Climate and Nature Officer).

Agenda

1. Climate and Nature Emergency Declaration

To consider and discuss the draft climate and nature emergency declaration and recommended that Full Council adopt the declaration.

2. Environment Policy

To consider and discuss the Environment Policy and recommend that Full Council adopt.

3. Date of Next Meeting



Frampton Cotterell Parish Council Climate and Nature Emergency Declaration

Preamble:

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council hereby declares a Climate and Nature Emergency in recognition of the profound and urgent need to address the critical challenges posed by climate change and the decline of biodiversity. Climate and nature are intrinsically linked. As temperatures rise, ecosystems are disrupted, and many species struggle to adapt or face habitat loss and extinction. In turn, the loss of biodiversity can worsen climate change as it plays a crucial role in reducing carbon and regulating the Earth's climate. The destruction of forests and degradation of ecosystems further release stored carbon into the atmosphere, intensifying the greenhouse effect. Looking at nature-based solutions to climate change can help us to halt this cycle. Efforts to combat climate change must go hand in hand with preserving and restoring nature to create a more sustainable and resilient future. This declaration reflects the unwavering commitment of the Parish Council to safeguarding the future of our local environment and the planet.

Our Commitment:

Integrated Decision-Making: This declaration will guide and inform every decision made by the Parish Council. It will be integrated into the procurement and tender processes, setting clear baselines for sustainability, carbon neutrality, and environmental impact. The Parish Council shall feed in to local authority consultations relating to the environment and lobby for change.

Waste Reduction: The Parish Council shall reduce its waste in line or exceeding local targets of achieving 65% of waste being recycled, repaired or reused. The council shall continue to work with Plastic Free Frampton to provide recycling stations for difficult to recycle items at the community centre.

Carbon Neutrality: The Parish Council is committed to achieving carbon neutrality before 2030. This commitment extends to all aspects of parish council business, including reviewing and revising contracts to ensure they align with the goal of becoming carbon neutral. The Parish Council's carbon footprint shall be calculated annually with the goal to reduce the footprint to net zero by 2030. Local carbon offset initiatives shall be investigated to neutralise any remaining emissions. The following scope 1, 2 and 3 targets shall be reached by 2030:

- **Scope 1:** Phase out gas boilers and cookers in council buildings
- **Scope 2:** Assess and neutralise emissions from energy supplies to council buildings
- **Scope 3:** Align with local authority net zero goals for contractors. To prioritise environmentally friendly contractors.

Community Engagement: This declaration was created via consultation with Frampton Cotterell residents. The Parish Council will actively engage with and involve the community to ensure they are

fully prepared for government targets related to climate change, biodiversity, and sustainability. The Parish Council shall support residents in accessing information on green energy schemes, retrofitting, wildlife gardening, and sustainability. We will engage with stakeholders including businesses, schools, universities and local landowners. We will continue to build our volunteer base and prioritise training and support for our hard-working volunteers. We shall welcome feedback on our climate and nature declaration, projects and policies.

Resource Management: The Parish Council is dedicated to responsibly managing its resources for the benefit of wildlife and to mitigate climate change wherever possible. This includes preserving and enhancing natural habitats, conserving water, utilizing green energy, and reducing waste. The Parish Council will explore opportunities to promote a circular economy by reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling resources to minimize our ecological footprint.

Enhance Nature: The Parish Council commits to enhancing and protecting the natural environment within our parish. This includes initiatives to promote biodiversity, tree and wildflower planting, and practicing sustainable land management. Developers will be encouraged to use wildlife-friendly features in new constructions. The importance of nature to public health shall be publicised our areas of local natural beauty protected. We shall work with local community groups, including Frampton Cotterell Nature, to measure and monitor habitats across the village.

Stewardship and Accountability: The Parish Council recognizes its role as stewards of the environment and pledges to be accountable for its actions. Regular reviews and assessments of progress will be conducted to ensure alignment with climate and nature commitments. The Local Climate & Nature Action Plan and Environment Policy shall be reviewed yearly. Work with neighbouring towns and parishes

Sustainable Transportation: To reduce the carbon footprint of the village, the Parish Council will encourage sustainable methods of transport, such as cycling and walking, and investigate sustainable travel schemes. Speed limits on residential roads with the local authority will be investigated.

Environmental Preservation: When engaging in activities like hedge-cutting and tree works, the Parish Council will be careful not to disturb nesting animals and will follow the bird nest & bat roost policy. Mature trees that need to be removed will be replaced, and Tree Protection Orders will be investigated for at-risk trees. The pesticide policy will continue to be followed to reduce the impact of chemicals on nature.

Food Sustainability: The Parish Council will work to reduce food waste and promote local food growing and food sharing initiatives. Local businesses will be collaborated with to cater for parish council events wherever possible.

Light Pollution: The Parish Council will work to reduce light pollution in the community and on council land to protect local bat species.

Implementation of Plans: The Parish Council shall commit to developing plans to assess energy usage and measure carbon emissions, phase out gas and climate change defence. Scope 1, 2 and 3 targets be assessed and plans created to reach goals. A risk assessment for projects and targets to be formulated. The Climate and Nature Action Plan shall be updated every 3 years at a minimum. The impact of gas on public health shall be explored and assessed.

Conclusion:

This declaration serves as a reminder to protect our environment and the well-being of our community. It is a call to action, a commitment to change, and an opportunity to create a lasting guideline of sustainable practices. The Local Climate & Nature Action Plan will guide environmental action and be reviewed yearly with the input of the local community. The Environmental Policy shall ensure climate and nature are at the heart of all parish council decisions, creating a clear framework to follow. All members of the parish, as well as partners and stakeholders, are invited to join the Parish Council in this endeavor. Together, a more sustainable, resilient, and harmonious future for all can be created. Do your part, save our planet.

Signed on behalf of Frampton Cotterell Parish Council

Signature:

Name:

Title:

DRAFT

Environment Policy

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This Environment Policy represents Frampton Cotterell Parish Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and stewardship. This policy shall be regularly reviewed and updated to remain aligned with evolving best practices and to ensure that our actions contribute to a healthier, more sustainable community for current and future generations.

1. Hiring Contractors

1.1 Contractor Selection: Contractors shall be evaluated based on their environmental commitment, track record, and sustainability practices. Preference will be given to contractors who have demonstrated efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and employ environmentally responsible practices.

1.2 Environmental Clauses: All contracts awarded by the Parish Council will include environmental clauses that clearly adhere to environmental regulations.

1.3 Environmental Impact Assessment: Contractors shall fill out an environmental impact assessment (appendix 1) and submit this with their tender documents. Impact assessments for regular contractors shall be updated and resubmitted to council every 3 years.

2. Eco-Friendly Events

2.1 Sustainable Event Planning: For events organised or supported by the Parish Council, sustainable event planning practices will be implemented, including waste reduction, recycling and the use of reusable and/or biodegradable materials.

2.2 Food and Beverages: Prioritise locally-sourced, organic, sustainable food options. Encourage vendors to use eco-friendly packaging and utensils. Where possible, avoid heavy diesel use food vehicles.

2.3 Plastic Free Frampton: Avoid use of single use plastic at events, such as plastic cups and cutlery. Signpost event organisers to plastic free initiatives such as reusable cup hire schemes.

2.4 Protecting Nature: Events held on parish council land shall not cause harm to local biodiversity. Event organisers shall work with the parish council to minimise impact on wildflower zones and be assigned areas of land for use.

2.5 Fireworks: Fireworks shall not be used by the parish council or on parish council land. Fireworks cause harm to local wildlife and livestock. Silent fireworks may be approved by the Climate and Nature Committee on request, however alternatives to fireworks shall be prioritised.

2.6 Lighting of the Beacon: The beacon at Centenary field may be lit up at the discretion of the Council and/or Clerk. A risk assessment must be completed and include a dry weather risk assessment. In the event of dry weather and dry grassland (e.g. over 25 degrees Celsius for 5 or more days and the grass is dry and long) then the beacon shall not be lit due to the risk of grassland fire.

2.8 Room bookings: For events held by residents at the Brockeridge Centre, staff shall recommend users follow eco-friendly practices where possible. A guide on ecofriendly events shall be provided with booking forms (appendix 2).

3. Carbon Neutrality

3.1 Carbon Footprint: The Parish Council's carbon footprint shall be calculated annually with the goal to reduce the footprint to net zero by 2030.

3.2 Carbon Offset Initiatives: Investigation of local carbon offset initiatives such as reforestation and renewable energy projects to neutralize our remaining carbon emissions by 2030.

3.4 Action Plans: The Local Climate & Nature Action Plan shall include projects to ensure carbon neutrality is reached by 2030. This plan shall be reviewed and updated regularly.

4. Cleaning Products

4.1 Eco Products: Environmentally friendly and non-toxic cleaning products shall be used in the parish council buildings.

4.2 Certification: Cleaning products shall meet recognised eco-certification and comply with environmental regulations.

4.3 Packaging: Preference shall be given to cleaning products with sustainable, refillable or recyclable packaging.

5. Power Tools

5.1 Energy-Efficient Equipment: Energy-efficient power tools and machinery will be prioritised where possible, including battery-powered and electric alternatives, to reduce emissions and noise pollution in our operations.

5.2 Maintenance and Fuel Efficiency: Proper maintenance of power tools and the use of fuel-efficient equipment will be standard practices to reduce the parish councils carbon footprint.

6. Nature and Wildlife

6.1 Habitat Preservation: Protect and enhance natural habitats within the Parish, supporting the conservation of local wildlife and biodiversity through wildlife friendly land management. Habitats shall continue to be mapped on the Local Nature Action Plan Map of Frampton Cotterell.

6.2 Native Plantings: Native plants shall be prioritised for planting in public spaces to create wildlife-friendly environments and reduce water consumption.

6.3 Community Engagement: Engage with local schools and community groups to spread awareness to residents about the importance of wildlife conservation. Continue to recruit wildlife volunteers to support the parish in completing nature projects.

6.4 Pesticide use: Continue to follow the procedures outlined in the Pesticide Policy (which includes herbicides and insecticides) to reduce the impact of chemicals on nature.

6.5. Birds and bats: The Bird Nest and Bat Roost Policy shall be followed to avoid harm on nesting birds and roosting bats.

6.6 Hedgerows: Protection of native hedgerows through management practices, including hedge laying and native hedgerow planting.

6.7 River Frome: Promotion of responsible waste disposal practices, such as the yellow fish campaign, and work with local environmental groups to reduce pollution in the river.

6.8 Preservation of Green Spaces: Ensure conservation management plans are updated every 5 years on parish council land. Encourage responsible use of green spaces.

10. Feedback and Improvement: Solicit feedback from residents and experts to continually improve policy and action plans.

7. Sustainable Travel

7.1 Alternative Transportation: Encourage and investigate the use of public transportation, cycling, walking, electric vehicle schemes and carpooling among our staff and community members to reduce greenhouse emissions associated with commuting.

7.2 Communication: Engage with residents to promote green travel schemes and cycling provision schemes.

8. Water Management and Refill Revolution Schemes

8.1 Water Conservation: Implementation of water-efficient low-flow fixtures, and other water-saving measures in its facilities and public spaces, such as continuing to install stop taps to prevent water wastage.

8.2 Refill Stations: Maintain and promote public water refill stations to reduce single-use plastic bottle waste and promote the use of reusable containers.

9. Waste and Recycling

9.1 Waste Reduction: Actively work to reduce waste generation by promoting practices such as “reduce, reuse, recycle”.

9.2 Local Groups: Continued collaboration with local groups such as Plastic Free Frampton Cotterell to promote waste reduction schemes such as Terracycle.

9.2 Recycling: Continue to recycle plastic, cardboard, paper, glass, metal accumulated in parish council buildings through the local authority. To recycle office items, such as batteries and ink cartridges, through a suitable collector.

9.3 Composting: The Bockeridge Centre compost stations shall be utilised for appropriate waste.

9.4 Glass milk bottles: Glass milk bottles from the local milk man shall continue to be sourced, reducing plastic waste and supporting local businesses.

9.4 Paper: Agenda papers to be automatically paperless. Paper versions of agendas available on request from the Clerk to ensure accessibility.

9.10 Food waste: raw vegetarian food waste shall be placed in the Bockeridge compost bins. Any meat related food waste to be removed from site and recycled appropriately. Council shall investigate providing food waste collection from the Bockeridge centre and Pavilion.

10. Development and Planning

10.1 Environmental Considerations: All planning decisions will take environmental impacts into consideration, such as habitat preservation, sustainable building practices, and river pollution management.

10.2 Green Infrastructure: Prioritisation of green infrastructure projects that enhance river quality, improve air quality, and provide natural recreational spaces for the community.

10.3 Bats: To consider any impact on bats in planning and development decisions. Adherence to the Bird Nest and Bat Roost Policy.

11. Responsible and Sustainable Procurement

11.1 Sustainable Product Sourcing: In procurement processes, preference shall be given to products with lower environmental impact, including those with eco-certifications or a high level of recycled content.

11.2 Local and Sustainable Suppliers: Seek to support local businesses where possible/suitable and suppliers who adhere to sustainable and ethical practices.

12. Awareness, Lobbying, and Partnerships

12.1 Community Engagement: Engagement with the community through social media, workshops, and public awareness campaigns to promote sustainable practices and increase environmental consciousness.

12.2 Advocacy: Advocate for environmentally responsible policies and practices at the local, regional, and national levels, feeding in to relevant consultations.

12.3 Partnerships: Collaboration with local environmental organisations, community groups, local authority, and other stakeholders to leverage resources and expertise in addressing environmental challenges.

13. Energy Use and lighting

13.1 Energy Audits: Regular energy audits will be conducted to identify opportunities for energy savings in our facilities and operations.

13.2 Energy-Efficient Upgrades: Investigation and investment in energy-efficient technologies, lighting, heating, and cooling systems to reduce energy consumption.

13.4 Green energy suppliers: green energy companies to be used to supply parish council buildings.

13.5 Lighting: New lighting installations shall meet environmental requirements, including LED lights. For any new outdoor lighting installations that may impact bat activity, use warm white spectrum LED lighting and avoid blue light. Avoid lights facing upward and only illuminate areas that need it to avoid lighting spill.

14. Council Projects and Policy

14.1 Impact Assessment: For projects/contracts over the procurement value of £1000, an Environmental Impact Assessment shall be carried out either by office staff or the contractor (appendix 1).

14.2 General projects: All projects at any procurement value shall consider the environment, and projects that have a positive or neutral impact shall be prioritised.

14.3 Policy: Prior to approving a new policy, an environmental impact assessment must be carried out (appendix 1).

14.4. Circular Economy: The Parish Council will explore opportunities to promote a circular economy by reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling resources to minimize our ecological footprint.

Appendix 1 – Environmental Impact Assessment

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Template

Project/Policy Name: [Insert Project/Policy Name]

Date of Assessment: [Insert Date]

1. Project/Policy Overview

1.1 Description: Provide a brief description of the project, contract or policy, including its purpose, objectives, and scope.

1.2 Location: Specify the location(s) where the project, contract or policy will be implemented.

2. Environmental Context:

Natural Environment: Describe the existing environmental conditions in the project/contract area, including ecosystems, habitats, and natural resources. Identify any known sensitive or protected areas, species, or features.

2.2 Social Environment: Describe the social and cultural aspects of the policy/project/contract area, including local communities, heritage sites, and cultural practices.

2.3 Economic Environment: Explain the economic context of the policy/project/contract, including potential impacts on local economies and livelihoods.

3. Potential Environmental Impacts

3.1 Direct Impacts: Identify and describe direct impacts that may result from the project, contract or policy. Include factors such as habitat disruption, pollution, resource consumption, and land use changes.

3.2 Indirect Impacts: Assess potential indirect impacts that may arise as a result of the project, contract or policy, including secondary effects on ecosystems, communities, and economies.

3.4 Mitigation Measures: Propose measures to minimize, avoid, or mitigate potential adverse environmental impacts.

4. Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement: Describe the process of engaging with the public, stakeholders, and affected communities during the assessment (if applicable).

5. Decision and Mitigation: State whether the project, contract or policy has been approved, modified, or rejected based on the assessment findings.

7. Monitoring and Reporting: Define a monitoring and reporting plan to track the effectiveness of mitigation measures and ensure compliance with environmental commitments.

Appendix 2 – Eco Events Guide

This events guide can be shared with prospective event holders at the Brockeridge Centre. Communications Officer to develop into an eye pleasing poster.

Welcome to The Brockeridge Centre! We are committed to promoting sustainability and eco-friendly practices. We encourage all event organizers and attendees to help us reduce the environmental impact of your event. This guide provides you with tips and recommendations to host an eco-friendly event.

- Where possible, use reusable plates, utensils, and cups, or opt for biodegradable alternatives to plastic. For single use tableware, consider materials such as bamboo, cornstarch or paper.

- Minimize single-use plastics and recycle any you do use.
- Turn off lights and equipment when not in use.
- Ensure all waste is properly sorted and disposed of, recycling and composting where possible.
- Please take food waste home with you for recycling or composting.
- If applicable, why not donate any useable left over food to local charities or food banks,
- Opt for reusable or recyclable decorations for your event, such as paper garlands, fabric bunting, mason jar centrepieces, leaf or paper confetti. There are so many more ideas online, have a browse!
- Make use of our water refill stations instead of bringing single use plastic water bottles.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions for making our venue and events more eco-friendly. We are committed to improving our eco-friendly practices based on feedback and the latest environmental standards.

By following this Eco Events Guide, you contribute to the sustainability efforts of Frampton Cotterell Parish Council and help reduce your event's impact on the environment. Thank you for your cooperation!