



Meeting	Full Council
Date	22 nd November 2022
Report Title	Climate Change
Agenda Reference	12
Author	Caroline Hunt, Community Development Officer

Officer's Recommendations

1. To note the content of the report.
2. To set up a Climate Change working group.
3. To note an environmental policy is being drafted and will be presented to a future meeting.

Background

Haydon Wick Parish Council recognises the urgent need for global society to reduce carbon emissions. By working towards a reduction in its carbon emissions whilst servicing the parish there will be benefits for its community, residents, wildlife, biodiversity, and local environment. In turn, this will contribute to making Haydon Wick a desirable place to live and work.

The Council recognises the part it must play, and commits to taking an active role in achieving this, by:

- Pro-actively working to reduce CO2 emissions as an organisation
- To raise awareness of the climate emergency within the community
- To encourage its community to decrease their emissions and improve their resilience to climate change
- To acknowledge that 'business as usual' is not an option in the face of the climate emergency
- To strategically reassess and adjust the scope of current Council activities

The community allotment plot at Ventnor Close has recently been rotavated, and some broad beans have been planted there. The Community Development Team are hoping to work with the Uplands Enterprise Trust and the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to hold environmental education sessions at the allotment.

Existing Measures

Council Offices	Existing solar panels on the roof of the Council Office, which were the first of their type to be installed in Haydon Wick
Training & Development	The Community Development Officer, the Chair of the Council, Councillor Manro and Councillor Hayes have all recently completed carbon literacy training, and along with other Councillors, have attended a presentation given by Robert Adsley, a Climate Change Ambassador.

Parks & Open Spaces Team Vehicles	Recent introduction of two electric vehicles
Parks & Open Spaces Team Grounds Maintenance Facility	Will incorporate solar panels and water collection methods
Tree Planting	Planting 1,300 whips in Tadpole Field earlier this year, which will contribute to cooling of the River Ray, locking up carbon in future years and increasing canopy cover within the Parish

Strategy

Our strategy states:

CLIMATE ACTION Initiate an action plan to recognise and mitigate the climate emergency.	Cllr/Officer	2023/25	• Carbon Audit undertaken • Carbon Literacy training undertaken • Climate Change Ambassador presentation • Parish Council has solar panels installed on its building and was one the first local authority buildings to do so, and the first building in the Parish to do so. • Agreed action plan to be implemented
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Local Council Award Scheme

The Council has pledged the following in the local council award scheme:

There will be Climate Change Ambassador presentation this Autumn with a view to forming a Climate Change Working Party and developing an Environmental Policy. Additionally, a Senior Officer will be attending Carbon Literacy training and the Council's buildings were recently audited for energy consumption.

The Council continues to work closely with the community to ensure that carbon reduction is at the heart of everything the Parish Council does.

Objectives

- To set up a working group to consist of Parish Councillors, the Community Development Officer, and the Climate Change Ambassador, who is also a resident of the Parish. This group will work to build on existing partnerships with other councils and partners across Swindon to increase our impact, raise awareness and create new partnerships.
- To work with the working group to develop an environmental policy.
- To discuss the attached Energy Audit and bring an action plan to Full Council. Note: Once a Committee has been identified to champion the Energy Audit, the terms of references will be amended to reflect this.
- To investigate options for running a community engagement event to raise awareness and discuss how to tackle climate change
- To make steps to utilise the current budget of £5,000.