

**HARTLEY WINTNEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**POLICY NAME**                      **Environmental and Sustainability Policy**  
**POLICY NO/REF**                **HWPC 4/2022**  
**EFFECTIVE DATE/FC**  
**APPROVAL**  
**DATE OF LAST REVISION**  
**VERSION NUMBER**              **2**  
**LEAD COMMITTEE**              **Planning**

VERSION HISTORY				
VERSION	APPROVED BY	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE	AUTHOR
1	Full Council 06/09/2021		Initial issue as interim policy 12/07/2021 Approved by Policy Committee 15/07/2021	SD
2	Full Council 05/09/2022			

**APPROVAL AND REVIEW**

In the light of the current climate change national emergency, this policy will be reviewed annually to incorporate up to date national legislation, local authority policy, and emerging technology.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

POLICY STATEMENT

Hartley Wintney Parish Council (HWPC) is committed to preserving and protecting the environment and the natural heritage of the Parish by adopting an environmental and sustainability policy.

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Define terms in your policy, especially words and phrases with multiple meanings.

TERM	DEFINITION

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POLICY CONTENT

1. Context

1.1 HWPC recognises that a climate emergency has been declared at national, regional and within some organisations, local level. Hart District Council has a Climate Change Action Plan to reach zero net emissions by 2040 ([20 01 21 Climate Change Action Plan.pdf \(hart.gov.uk\)](#)) and HWPC will do all it can to support and emulate the aims of that Action Plan.

2. Vision and Aim

2.1 HWPC's vision for Hartley Wintney is that of a thriving community that is environmentally sustainable and socially just. As a Parish Council we recognise that the natural heritage, greenspaces, footpaths, and ponds contribute to the quality of life for villagers and the wider community.

2.2 HWPC's aim is to carry out its duties with environmental consideration and efficiency, actively seeking to protect and enhance the local environment and biodiversity within the Parish whilst endeavouring to ensure wider adverse environmental impact does not occur as a result.

2.3 HWPC will consider the impact its activities have on both climate change and biodiversity issues and will endeavour to introduce measures that either mitigate negative outcomes or actively support beneficial outcomes, where this is practicable and affordable within the resources and financial capabilities of the Parish Council.

### 3. Principles

3.1 In all its activities the Parish Council will aim to:

- Meet all relevant environmental legislation and regulations.
- Regularly update and improve standards considering increased understanding and knowledge.
- Wherever possible reduce the use of resources and reuse materials thereby minimising waste.
- Minimise the consumption of all unsustainable resources and energy used in its operations, particularly in respect of the buildings and equipment it uses and the administration of its activities.
- Seek, wherever possible, to only use local contractors and suppliers who have their own environmental policy, which is continually reviewed, updated, and measured against recognised, best practice examples. These policies should include i) the minimisation of the use of harmful pesticides and chemicals ii) that the contractor minimises impacts on air quality iii) the contractor disposing of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.
- Where possible, affordable, and commensurate with Parish Council powers and duties, support local initiatives aimed at climate change and/or, biodiversity protection or enhancement.
- Require its Councillors and employees to take responsibility for ensuring that the best environmental policy is always used and adhered to.

### 4. Actions

4.1 The Parish Council will specifically consider the following:

- The impact that operating its assets has on the environment and, where possible and affordable, reduce its impact by replacing environmentally inefficient assets with environmentally positive alternatives.
- The impact that the goods and services it procures, including the environmental commitment of its suppliers, has on the environment.
- The impact that execution of the Parish Council's activities may have on the environment.
- The environmental benefit to be gained by embracing new technology where appropriate within its areas of activity.
- Using planning powers under the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006 to promote sustainable development and refurbishment within the Parish; actively encouraging the incorporation of environmental and sustainability measures and materials where those are reasonable and practical.

### RELATED POLICIES AND OTHER REFERENCES

Cross reference/hyperlink to any relevant internal/external documents.

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