



WITHYHAM PARISH COUNCIL CARBON POLICY

Responsibility: Finance & Administration/Full Council
Review Cycle: 3 yearly or earlier in the event of legislative changes

Date of Adoption/Renewal	Date for review
February 2022	February 2025

Withyham Parish Council acknowledges the threat of global warming due to the increase in carbon in the atmosphere arising out of human activity.

Accordingly the Parish Council will seek to reduce its own carbon footprint by choosing low or zero carbon alternatives where appropriate.

Examples of improvements that can and are being made include using a gas/electricity supplier that obtains power from renewable sources, planting trees in place of any that are removed from parish council land, switching streetlights to LED lanterns, and identifying more environmental alternatives in the parish office (see appendix A).

Advice and guidance on environmental matters can be complex and conflicting. The Clerks will therefore check for relevant guidance and incorporate as appropriate when purchasing supplies or seeking quotes. In making decisions on purchasing and activities, the Council is mindful that carbon impact is a factor in decision making alongside other requirements and obligations including remaining within budget, health and safety, legal requirements and compliance.

(Appendix A)

Environmental Audit of Parish Office and Activities

What we do now	Environmental Improvements	Action
Cleaning Products: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecover washing up liquid• Sustainable surface cleaner• Toilet cleaner	Ecover or equivalent, refills where possible	Cleaner buy environmentally friendly products. Clerk to buy refills where possible
Paper: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copying paper• Toilet paper	Recycled copying paper Recycled toilet paper	Assistant Clerk to buy
Refreshments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coffee• Milk delivered in glass bottles	Research recycling options for coffee pouches Continue milk in glass	Administrator to research
Heat and light: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Switch off lights when not needed• Heating meets thermal comfort of those in office (heat loss through windows)• Gas and electricity supplies switched to 'green' tariffs• More efficient boiler installed at the parish office		Clerk apply plastic covering where windows are close to staff Long term consider double glazing to minimize heat loss
Car usage: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where possible car share when attending meetings and training		
Recycling <ul style="list-style-type: none">• bin in the office for all paper, plastic and cans to ensure		

they are correctly disposed of		
Streetlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue transferring streetlight stock to LED lanterns • Part night-lighting of all streetlight stock saving power and relates to High Weald Dark Skies policies 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6-8 LED lanterns per year • Part night lighting of all lanterns where possible undertaken in 2021
Budgeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set up an Earmarked Reserve for environmental initiatives 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £10,000 in 2020/21 • £5,000 proposed in 2022/23
Messaging <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share initiatives eg via newsletter and Facebook • Consider events 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •