Fremington Parish Council Climate Emergency Working Party



Climate action plan – 12/01/21

Vision

For Fremington Parish Council (FPC) and the parish of Fremington to become carbon neutral by 2030

Scope

To include all carbon emitting activity in Fremington parish, both from the council activities and those from residents and businesses based here, including farming, home energy and transport, as far as the council's remit and capacity allow.

Priorities

- 1. Collaborate effectively with other stakeholders, e.g. councils, community groups, businesses, schools and the public.
- 2. Commit to reduce the Council's carbon footprint through its own actions and procurements.
- 3. Place carbon reduction opportunities at the heart of the Council's committees, policies, procedures, contracts and plans.
- 4. Lobby for environmental changes to infrastructure and activities within the parish that are not the direct responsibility of the Parish Council
- 5. Empower groups and individuals to reduce their carbon footprint through outreach and educational materials.
- 6. Commit to improve the Parish's ecological diversity and abundance
- 7. Raise funds for action.

List of abbreviations

FPC – Fremington Parish Council

CAT - Climate Action Team (NDC)

CEWP - Climate Emergency Working Party (FPC)

DCC - Devon County Council

PPF - Parks and Playing Fields Committee

FC - Finance and Personnel Committee

IPCC - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

NDC - North Devon Council

NDH - North Devon Homes

PET - Petroc Sustainability Team

PFND - Plastic Free North Devon

PLN - Planning Committee

SWW - South West Water

WPD - Western Power Distribution

361 – 361 Community Energy Task

List of people

SJ - Stephen Jarvis (CEWP chair)

LG - Lou Gouger (councillor)

PS - Peter Smith

BL - Barbara Lloyd

MS - Martin Sosnowski

CH - Chris Hassell

MB - Marc Binns

RM – Robert Manning

VW - Victoria Woodhouse

1. Collaborate effectively with other stake holders, e.g. councils, community groups, businesses, schools and the public

			When	?		Resp			
	Action	2021/22	2022-2025	2026-2030	Steps to take and resources required	Group	Cllr/member	Stakeholder	Date achieved
1	Attend NDC Climate Action Team (CAT) meetings	*			Liaise with NDC lead member for Climate Change, Cllr Caroline Leaver, Cllr Netti Pearson	CEWP	SJ/ other		
2	Attend local XR hosted Climate Forum meetings to network with representatives from other councils	*			Attend meetings to network with other councils/ councillors/ representatives on environmental issues affecting us	any	any		
3	Involvement from Plastic Free ND	*			Invite PFND member to talk to the group				
4	Involvement from 361 Energy	*			Invite speaker from 361 to talk to group			Maria Maria	
5	Involvement from local schools	*			Invite participation from staff/pupils from Fremington Primary and Roundswell Primary and Sticklepath Primary And Marland day school				
6	Involvement from cubs/scouts / guides	*			Invite participation from youth organisations				
7	Work with local resident associations to encourage engagement	*			Contact local residents associations to encourage them to participate in council environmental schemes				
8	Liaise with Devon County Council	*			Maintain contact with relevant departments in DCC for environmental matters affecting Fremington PC, especially concerning the Devon Carbon Plan				
9	Any other groups	*			Engage with any other groups who could assist with furthering FPC's environmental aims			-	

2. Commit to reduce the Council's carbon footprint through its own actions and procurements

			When	?		Resp			
	Action	2021/22	2022-2025	2026-2030	Steps to take and resources required	Group	Cllr /member	Stakeholder	Date achieved
1	Create an energy survey of the council properties and activities	*			Enlist help from 361 Energy in how to go about creating an energy survey				
2	Install solar PV panels on the Beechfield Centre	*			Investigate pricing and funding possibilities for a frame mounted PV array on the roof				
3	Move to a renewable energy company for electricity and gas	*							Jan 2021
4	Provide more efficient vehicle for PPF personnel	*			Lease of hybrid Ford Transit initiated				
5	Council vehicle(s) to be totally electric		*		New vehicle lease to be for full battery powered EV when Transit lease expires				
6	Install EV charging points within the parish		*		Install a fast charger (7-22Kw) post in the carpark of the Beechfield centre Investigate a possible site for a rapid charger (50Kw)				
7	Investigate use of heat pumps to heat council properties	*			Investigate feasibility of heating council properties using heat pumps, obtain quotes and plan how to finance if suitable.				
8	Go plastic free	*			Alternative products and suppliers to be used to eliminate plastic use within council activities as much as possible				
9	Use eco-friendly cleaning products	*			Replace toxic cleaning products with eco-friendly alternatives such as vinegar				Jan 2021

3. Place carbon reduction opportunities at the heart of the council's committees, policies, procedures, contracts and plans

			When	?		Resp			
	Action	2021/22	2022-2025	2026-2030	Steps to take and resources required	Group	Cllr /member	Stakeholder	Date achieved
1	The Climate and Ecological Emergency to be a consideration on all council business	*			Councillors to consider climate implications of any decisions made. Update policies				
2	Embed Climate Emergency considerations into neighbourhood plan	*			Refer to Centre for Sustainable Energy's Toolkit for introducing Climate Change issues into Neighbourhood Plans https://www.cse.org.uk/localenergy/neighbourhood-plans/community-engagement See Exmouth Town Council for example of the workload: https://www.exmouth.gov.uk/exmouth-neighbourhoodplan/ Public consultation / Referendum Ask NDH what the energy-efficiency of current housing stock looks like				
3	Adopt CEWP Action Plan (this doc)	*			Pass through full council				
4	Contractors to use environmentally friendly approach to tasks	*			Encourage council contractors to adopt ecologically friendly work practises wherever possible, phasing out use of harmful chemicals and reducing carbon footprint.				

4. Lobby for environmental changes to infrastructure and activities within the parish that are not the direct responsibility of the Parish Council

			When	?		Resp	ility		
	Action	2021/22	2022-2025	2026-2030	Steps to take and resources required	Group	Cllr /member	Stakeholder	Date achieved
1	95% of street lighting to be LED	*			Lobby Devon County Council to increase rollout of LED street lighting				
2	75% of street lighting to be switched off between 1-5AM	*			Lobby DCC to implement policy of switching off street lights in the small hours				
3	25% of street lights fitted with motion sensors to reduce power usage	*			Lobby DCC to implement rollout of technology				
4	Assist residents to set up a Community Renewable energy company		*		Gather information and interest and assist in setting up a local energy company for residents to help reduce their carbon footprint. Liaise with other known schemes to benefit from their experience.				
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5. Empower groups and individuals to reduce their carbon footprint through outreach and educational materials.

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	Action	2021/22	2022-2025	2026-2030	Steps to take and resources required	Group	Cllr /member	Stakeholde r	Date achieved
1	Organise a parish climate fair to replace that cancelled in 2020	*			As and when the pandemic allows, re-contact and reinstate the Fremington Parish Climate Fair to be held at the Beechfield Centre to promote energy saving ideas and greener living.				
2	Provide bike racks for Council properties	*			Install bike racks at Beechfield Centre and council premises to encourage cycling for staff and visitors.				
3	Encourage local businesses and shops to provide bike racks to encourage cycling	*			Approach local businesses with the suggestion to fit bike racks where appropriate and co-ordinate with fitting of FPC racks to provide cost benefits of single bulk supply and contractor.				
4	Encourage schools to walk and cycle more	*			Encourage 'walking buses' and 'cycle buses' for parish schools and persuade parents not to drive to school unless absolutely necessary				
5	Create a Climate Emergency page on the FPC website	*			Create webspace for CEWP Decide what needs to be included: carbon-neutral definition, FPC declaration, CEWP Action Plan + progress & performance reports, CEWP minutes, press releases, FAQ, educational materials, links to key organisations (global, national, local), recycling info, FPC achievements, local initiatives, local success stories, public survey, businesses survey, show annual carbon emissions by sector/per person/household from Government and IPCC docs, SWW hippos, Promote 'Shop Local', Encourage growing own food and reduce food waste, Encourge low- carbon diets including plant-based meals				
6	Information packs for assisting councillors in interactions with residents				Ongoing dissemination of information for residents Minimise paper by providing a digital resource. Encourage residents to sign up for email updates about FPC activities.				

6. Commit to improve the parish's Ecological diversity and abundance

			When	?		Res			
	Action	2021/22	2022-2025	2026-2030	Steps to take and resources required	Group	Clir /member	Stakeholder	Date achieved
1	Improve biodiversity of all public spaces within the parish	*			Identify suitable sites on parish land to plant trees and wildflowers. Contractors to provide upkeep Initiate setting up of trial wildflower sites. Consider "Adopt a verge" scheme for residents and community groups for planting wildflowers and bulbs to increase bee/ insect numbers and plant biodiversity subject to council approval. Record of plots to be kept and liaise with contractors (already on side) Cross reference with Neighbourhood Plan.				
3	Encourage farmers to adopt more environmentally sustainable practises	*			Liaise with local NFU reps on how best to work with local farmers to improve environmental sustainability of their business and provide help and support to them where possible.				
4	Conduct parish hydrological survey to identify action needed to improve water quality	*			Contact Petroc college and Exeter University Geography Dept to see if students could be used to conduct a survey of all Parish watercourses to identify possible problems and potential improvements.				
5	Encourage residents to improve local biodiversity	*			Provide information and advice on tree planting and wilding of gardens and chemical free gardening via website and public meetings. Provide wildflower seeds for residents				
6	Ban use of herbicides on road gutters and margins	*			Liaise with DCC and local contractors to eliminate the use of herbicides in clearing gutters. Local residents to be encouraged to clear vegetation mechanically in their street. PPF to review the contractors use of chemicals and find ways to eliminate them.				
7	Organise Parish litter picks	*			Parish litter pick dates and wards to be decided and advertised for councillors and residents to join in with to eliminate plastics and rubbish from our neighbourhoods.				
8	Improve wildlife habitats within the parish	*			Work with residents and resident associations to improve habitats for wildlife such as hedgehogs, birds, other mammals and reptiles though information and outreach. Cross reference with Neighbourhood plan				2

7. Raise funds for action

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	Action	2021/22	2022-2025	2026-2030	Steps to take and resources required	Group	Cllr /member	Stakeholder	Date achieved
1	Create CEWP budget line in Council/ PPF budget				Regular budget assigned for use on CEWP projects via PPF				
2	DCC funding				Approach DCC where additional funding is needed. (Cllr Biedermann already signalled willingness to pass on some of his budget for projects)				
3	Renewable energy community funding				See where community fund money from renewable energy installations within the parish can be used to enable environmental projects.				
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