

CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

1. Background

Lindfield Parish Council has formally agreed the following resolution:

Lindfield Parish Council acknowledges that climate change is a serious issue. Lindfield Parish Council has already taken steps to mitigate against climate change and will continue to do so. The Council will seek to keep up to date with advice from its regional and national associations regarding climate change and the role that local authorities can play. The Council will consider this at its first Environment and Amenities meeting where it will be discussed fully. The Council, where possible, will consider climate change alongside other factors when decision making. The council will seek to help residents, through educational means, to reduce their carbon footprint.

It should be stated at the onset that the adoption of any environmental policy by this Council can only succeed if it is adopted by the people in the village, and that active personal participation is paramount in the success of the project. We should also be aware that making the transition towards a more environmentally based community is going to cost – in time, effort and money.

2. Administrative

The Environmental and Amenities Committee will be responsible for initially reviewing this document.

The E&A Committee will as of next financial year include a budget heading specifically to help fund these objectives.

Committees will regularly report to Full Council on their activities relating to climate change.

3. Objectives

The objectives of this policy are:

- Facilitate the reduction of energy consumption throughout the Parish, and identify steps which can be taken to reduce CO2 emissions.
- Assist in improving the natural environment within the Parish.
- Provide advice to residents on how they can reduce their carbon footprint.

The Council will maintain an appendix to this report which shows the way these objectives will be achieved.

4. Organisation Structure

The Village

The amount of work represented by the above will be far more than the Parish Council is able to do on its own, so ideally, we would call upon volunteers from the village to take ownership of the various projects and report back/seek assistance where applicable.

Local Authorities

There will be opportunities to link projects and discuss ideas with other local authorities. This may also include lobbying.

Actions for Individuals

All householders could carry out a domestic audit to identify ways to reduce emissions, save energy, and assess impact on the environment of their vehicles. The Parish Council could have a page on the website which could give advice on how to reduce energy usage/calculate carbon footprint etc.

The page could include information on grants that individuals can apply for, for example insulation/glazing. It will be noted that these grants depend on circumstances. Information such as this could easily be added to the LPC website. It is not the duty of the Parish Council to tell people how to spend money. It may though be useful to inform parishioners that reducing energy usage may not cost

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them as much as they may have thought, and will pay for itself over time. The website could also provide links to external advice, for example the Energy Saving Trust.

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Appendix 1
Actions taken by Lindfield Parish Council

Date	Action
14 Nov 19	Full Council confirm: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate Change Policy• Climate Change Working Group• Terms of reference of Climate Change Working Group
18 Nov 19	Each councillor is asked whether they would like to opt out of paper copies of meeting minutes