

Climate Emergency September 2021

Cherwell District Council has declared a Climate Emergency and Oxfordshire County Council has an extensive climate policy and as such expect planning and projects to conform to standards that do not add harm and which protect the environment.

We have a biodiversity policy and are clear that this is one small step in the national effort. In order to give teeth to this policy *it would be prudent for the Parish Council to declare a Climate Emergency* and be very public about saving energy, protecting animals and insects and all the other micro-behaviours that will help create an improved environment.

Resolution to Approve that Weston on the Green Parish Council declares a Climate Emergency and will use respond to all applications and concerns with the safety of climate, insects and animals.

Background discussions:

February 2020 Minutes:

20.349.8 For Discussion: Biodiversity, future planning applications and areas for improvement (DB)

DB highlighted to the Council that one of the items in the Neighbourhood Plan to take forward is biodiversity and the future of planning applications in the village linking to the environment.

This is a potential growth area of the Council and is of vital importance, however there is currently no capacity to take this forward, however it could be outsourced to someone in the village who would report back to the Council. DB has suggested talking to a resident who is committed to the environment, Carolyn Itoh, about pulling together a biodiversity policy for the village.

All councillors agreed this was a very important piece of work and supported the Chair conducting initial discussions with Carolyn Itoh.

March 2020 Minutes:

20.350.12 For Information: Biodiversity in the Village update & **Resolution: To Approve** attendance for up to two people at Local Environment Groups Conference (28th March 20) for a total of £87.42 (DB)

Since the February 2020 Parish Council meeting DB has met with Caroline Itoh who is involved in community wildlife programmes world-wide. She is keen to undertake a piece of work linking biodiversity with the Neighbourhood Plan and would be keen to have a small committee or partner.

Action: DB to highlight biodiversity project in the village to see in anyone else interested in supporting.

Cherwell District Council

Cherwell District Council has declared a climate emergency. We will:

- ensure our own operations and activities are net zero by 2030
- do our part to achieve a net zero carbon district by 2030 and lead through example.

See our [Climate Action Framework](#) for more details on how we intend to achieve this.