



## **Bayston Hill Climate Emergency**

### **Introduction:**

The Scientific evidence is clear that we are experiencing global warming due to the man-made creation of Greenhouse Gases. The following activities create these gases, burning of fossil fuels, the transportation and production of natural gas and oil, deforestation, farming livestock, wastewater treatment, solid waste to landfill and incineration.

The Parish Council has committed to be carbon zero by 2035 and is considering declaring a Climate Emergency. By doing this we are acknowledging that measures and actions taken so far to fight climate change have not been enough and the declaration is a formal commitment to set priorities to mitigate climate change.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in a report published in 2018 states

*“Limiting global warming to 1.5 °C will require drastic action. Humanity has a limited window in which it can hope to avoid the worst effects of climate change.”*

This paper sets out the aspirations of the Parish Council and summarises what action we could take as a community to meet this challenge.

The Parish Council recognises that they alone cannot make the difference and it will require all of us within the community of Bayston Hill to play our individual part if we are going to be carbon zero by 2035.

### **What is Climate Change:**

We produce Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrous Oxide and Ozone through a number of activities mentioned already. The result is that more of the reflected heat from the sun's radiation is reflected back to the earth's surface causing a gradual rise in temperature. This rise in temperature is having the effect of melting the ice sheets and increasing the area of sea water. Sea water can absorb more of the the suns radiated heat and the heat reflected back by the the greenhouse gases than ice does, which results in a rise in the Earth's average temperature. To break this cycle, we need to achieve a carbon zero state.

We need greenhouse gasses as without them the average global temperature would be -18 degrees centigrade, the problem is that by increasing them we are causing the temperature to continually rise. An increase of 2 degrees centigrade could trigger the irreversible loss of the ice sheets.

The production of carbon dioxide is also having the effect of reducing the PH value of the sea and making it more acidic. An increase of 2 degrees centigrade could result in the loss of 99% of living corals.





**What will your Parish Council do:**




We will be taking several actions for the buildings and activities we have a responsibility for to reduce are carbon footprint and maintain and encourage greater biodiversity within the Parish.

1. Complete an energy audit for buildings it is responsible for
2. Ensuring that our energy is provided from a renewable source.
3. Reviewing if we can increase the number of solar panels we have currently on our buildings.
4. Ensuring that we are using low energy light bulbs across our buildings, facilities, and the street lighting we are responsible for.
5. Making sure that we have thermostats set at the optimum temperature and that we are only using energy when we need it.
6. Making sure that where practicable lights in our buildings are operated by a passive infrared (PIR)motion sensor.
7. Making sure that where practicable any external lights are operated by a photo electric cell/PIR when required.
8. Switching our equipment over to electricity fuel where practicable.
9. Looking at ways to reduce our waste and recycling as much as we can.
10. Looking to reduce our water usage as much as we practically can.
11. Encouraging the use of Public Transport
12. Facilitating a cycle friendly Parish
13. Planting trees in land owned by the Parish Council
14. Encouraging the natural environment in land owned by the Council
15. Becoming a paperless Parish
16. Review where we invest the parish funds

**What we can all do to reduce our carbon footprint:**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Energy</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn down the heat                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 1<sup>o</sup> C reduction can cut 5-10% of your bill and avoid up to 300 kg of CO2 emissions.</li> <li>➢ Program your heating not to run while you are out</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Use energy saving light bulbs</li> <li>• Only use the tumble dryer when necessary.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Waste</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycle as much as you can</li> <li>• Choose products that come with as little packaging as possible</li> <li>• Reuse bags</li> <li>• Think about the impact on the environment when you purchase items</li> <li>• Stop burning of household rubbish</li> <li>• Refill bottles when you can</li> </ul>



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Water</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turn off the tap             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fill the kettle only with what you need</li> <li>• Take a shower instead of a bath</li> <li>• Only use the washing machine and dishwasher when they are full</li> <li>• Avoid bottled water</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transport</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycle to work</li> <li>• Use public transport             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Support programmes that strengthen public transport</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Avoid using the car for short journeys</li> <li>• Explore alternatives to flying</li> <li>• Do not accelerate or break harshly when driving</li> <li>• Maintain tyre pressure</li> <li>• Consider car sharing</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Food</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try not to waste food</li> <li>• Recycle organic waste</li> <li>• Reduce meat and dairy intake</li> <li>• Eat local and seasonal produce</li> </ul>

**Other Opportunities:**

1. Formation of a Climate Action Group in the village
2. Formation of an environmentally friendly village
3. Provision of charging points for electric vehicles
4. Establish schemes to subsidise renewable energy opportunities for homeowners.
5. Provision of Climate Change guidance on the Parish Website

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