

Newent Town Council

Action on Climate Change – Plan

(Created 6th December 2021; Approved by Planning & Environment Committee 13th June 2022)

Objective 1 – Reduce the Town Council’s carbon footprint to net zero by 2030.

	Activity	Notes/Timescale
1.1	Investigate current fuel usage in daily operations and calculate carbon footprint	Calculate yearly footprint for Scope 1 emissions by mid-2022.
1.2	Switch to renewable energy supplier	By end of 2022. (Scope 2 emissions)
1.3	Manage waste, use appropriate goods and service providers, and encourage sustainable travel to work.	Reduce Scope 3 emissions. Switch to leasing ULEV vehicles when current contracts expire.

Objective 2 – 50% of the parish’s electricity to be generated from renewable sources within the parish by 2030.

	Activity	Notes/Timescale
2.1	Calculate current renewable energy generation in Newent parish to obtain baseline data by observation survey.	By end of 2022
2.2	Promote installation of renewable energy in residential, community and business premises	Ongoing. Facilitate delivery of information with surveys, presentations and public events.
2.3	Support Newent NDP to produce a low carbon neighbourhood plan.	During the policy making phase, consultancy/resources may need funding.

Objective 3 – Encourage active travel and sustainable transport

	Activity	Notes/Timescale
3.1	Develop safe walking and cycle routes in conjunction with district and county councils.	As a statutory consultee, ensure all options are explored in planning applications for walkers and cyclists. Continue to pursue footpaths or other options for safer pedestrian journeys in Culver Street. Work with local cycle groups to support pathways for safer cycling.
3.2	Install sufficient safe cycle storage in town.	Work with local store. Review other locations for potential secure storage.
3.3	Explore grants for installing EV charging points in residential, community and business locations.	Promote installation through campaigns and in local media.

3.4	Promote installation of public and private EV charging points,	FoDDC due to install EV charging points in 2022 in Lewall St car park. Continue to press planning applicants to provide more than the basic requirement including in visitor parking areas. Encourage owners of community and business buildings to provide charging points in their parking areas.
3.5	Through Newent NDP and the consultation for the FoDDC emerging local plan, make the case for another supermarket and transport hub.	Lack of competition drives many people to shop away from Newent due to high prices. Transport hub needed as part of new infrastructure for future major development on SE of town, to enable car-sharing, park and ride etc.
3.6	Slowing down traffic to improve air quality and safer streets.	Support 20mph zones more widely in the town in all residential areas.

Objective 4 – Reduce energy demand and waste in the parish

4.1	Hold energy events to share information about carbon reduction, insulation and the cost benefits for individuals and organisations.	Work with community groups to promote events such as a Climate Market/Action Fayre. By mid-2022
4.2	Work with organisations which promote recycling, re-using and repairing.	Promote Recycling Shop and Mend & Repair Café.
4.3	Encourage non-collected recycling with notice of collection points for harder to recycle materials.	Soft plastics are now recycled locally at the large Co-op. Signpost to household waste recycling centres.

Objective 5 – Increase carbon capture through tree planting and land management

5.1	Encourage tree planting by individuals, community and on farms.	Use external bodies for resources.
5.2	Work with Newent in Bloom to maximise planting through the town all year round.	Promote and support activity days run by NinB.
5.3	Hedgerow and verge management – plan for biodiversity	Connect to local biodiversity projects.

Objective 6 – Community Engagement

6.1	Work with Newent Climate Forum in new committee structure	Plan for representation on appropriate committee.
6.2	Website page for news and information	Create a page for the environment within the NTC website.
6.3	Establish better lines of communication through the NTC newsletter,	Create an opt-in email list such as Clifford's Mesne and Oxtalls parish support for all information not simply climate change matters.
6.4	Liaise with other groups across the district and county	Seek out and share successful practice and projects for replicating in/from Newent parish.
6.5	Promote toolkits and audits for better awareness.	FoDDC has produced a comprehensive toolkit in association with Cotswold district. Personal carbon audit tool is available from the GCC website. More coming.
6.6	Liaise with schools and other youth organisations for comprehensive coverage in the parish and beyond.	Children and young people can often get the climate change message across more effectively to their families. Promote their involvement.

This document has been created by Newent Town Council's Climate Change Working Group in conjunction with Newent Climate Group at a meeting on 6th December 2021.