



Climate Change Act 2008 and Environment Act 2021

INTRODUCTION

Woore Parish Council (WPC) is committed to the creation of a sustainable community, which will benefit current residents and businesses, as well as future generations. WPC recognises that the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change are inseparable from the considerations of impact on the environment generally. How we protect and encourage biodiversity, reduce and manage waste, water, energy and air quality all impact the climate.

This policy aims to set out a framework within which WPC can operate with an improving outcome for the environment and encourage businesses and residents to do the same.

At the full Council meeting in January 2025, Councillors debated climate change and resolved that: "WPC acknowledges the Government's Climate Emergency pledge and will consider climate change in all decision making and delivery of services and activities.

- 1) Woore Parish Council passed a motion in the effect that they will make all efforts to meet the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2008 to enable their community to be carbon zero by 2030 and support where possible plans to achieve that goal.
- 2) Woore Parish Council passed a motion in support of the Environment Act 2021 in relation to the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for the County where the Parish agrees to support where possible the Local Authority in developing and reporting on the LNRS by mapping all potential habitats and green spaces in the parish, the creation of new habitats locally for nature and where possible help to maintain and improve those existing habitats in the parish."

POLICY SCOPE

This policy applies to all the land and properties that Woore Parish Council owns and land/properties that the Council manages, hires or is responsible for now and in the future. Woore Parish Council encourages and supports those who manage facilities on its behalf to do so in an environmentally responsible manner.

Where possible Woore Parish Council encourages businesses and residents in the local community to act responsibly towards the environment and participate in environmental projects.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

Woore Parish Council recognises that its activities will have some impact on the environment. The aim of this policy is to establish broad objectives to enable the development of activities that will minimise impacts on the environment and work towards protecting and enhancing the natural environment.

The Council will aim to improve its environmental performance and influence improvement in the parish in the following ways:

- Use energy, natural resources and non-renewable resources efficiently and strive to minimise waste and pollution.
- Inform the parish's residents of the Council's environmental activities and implement actions in response to feedback.



- Support individual behaviour change in our residents, leading by example and supporting environmentally friendly activities.
- Support local businesses in the adoption of low-impact practices.
- Manage its land using practices that respect the natural environment, promote biodiversity and protect habitats.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Woore Parish Council is committed to action in the following, specific areas:

Water

- Water will be used efficiently for Council activities. In the Council's parks and green spaces, planting schemes and technology that minimise the need for watering will be used.
- The Council will continue to implement water-saving measures, encouraging residents to reduce their water usage.
- The Council's Planning Committee will consider issues of water use, water run-off and water pollution when making recommendations on planning applications. The Council will support the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS)¹ in new developments and redevelopments to reduce flooding risks, manage storm-water, minimise diffuse pollution from surface water runoff and help maintain groundwater levels.
- In the long term the Parish Council will strive to improve the water waste treatment place situated within the parish for the benefit of the parishioners and the local environment.

Sustainable Development

- The Council's Planning Committee will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity when commenting on planning applications.
- The Council will press for the use of planning obligations (section 106/CiL agreements) to promote sustainable development and mitigate environmental impacts resulting from developments.

Climate Change and Energy

- The Council will monitor its energy use and improve upon energy efficiency within its used buildings by adopting energy-saving measures.
- The Council will increase awareness of energy efficiency amongst residents and encourage energy-conserving behaviour.

Waste

- The Council will minimise its waste production wherever possible, by reducing, repairing and reusing resources, and by recycling the waste its activities produce where possible.
- Waste will be disposed of safely, following the correct procedures, and only licensed contractors will be used.

Village Environment

- The Council will undertake specific highway works that contribute to the improvement of the village environment and safety. These include identifying projects for the Parish Lengthsman,



issuing hedge-trimming notices and clearing fly-posted signs.

- Working with partners such as Shropshire Council and contractors, the Parish Council will seek to implement a pollinator-friendly wildflower / no mow borders policy wherever possible along highways in the parish.

Transport

- The Council will continue to encourage sustainable transport systems, campaigning for and promoting public transport and non-polluting modes of transport within and around our villages, such as cycling and walking.
- As traffic congestion can significantly reduce air quality, which directly impacts upon human health, the Council will also press other tiers of government for the alleviation of traffic congestion within the Parish.
- As a long-term goal, the Council will investigate sustainable, minimally polluting forms of fuel for all vehicles used for Council business.

Biodiversity and Green Spaces

The Council will:

- consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity in all its activities, particularly with regard to land management.
- seek to manage green spaces in a manner that promotes, protects and enhances biodiversity.
- protect and, where possible, enhance the quality of Woore's natural environment and open spaces. The Council aims to make open space accessible wherever possible.

Sustainable Procurement

- Council procurement is continually assessed for sustainability implications, with the intention of purchasing renewable/recycled, environmentally low-impact and recyclable materials, so long as the requirements for value for money and quality are met.
- The Council will ban the use, by the Council or its contractors, of certain specified environmentally damaging products where an alternative product or method is available. These products are:
 - o Ozone depleting chemicals
 - o Wood that is not certified independently as coming from a well-managed forest
 - o Pesticides on the UK 'Red List' and EC 'Black List'2
 - o The use of peat.
- The Council will promote local produce and products within the community as appropriate, which will have the additional positive effect of supporting the local economy.

Awareness, Lobbying & Partnerships

- The Council will promote awareness of, and information on, environmental issues within the community. It will act as a voice for local environmental concerns to those agencies given statutory powers to tackle problems.
- The Council will continue to engage in partnership working with the local community,



organisations and other tiers of local government in partnerships on conservation projects.