

Climate change and Llanfair Caereinion



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Town Clerk

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1. Introduction

Llanfair Caereinion Town Council at its Full Council Meeting held on 14th February 2022

- a) Declared a 'Climate Emergency'
- b) Agreed to take action to improve the Town Council's own practices to reduce our own contribution to Climate Change.
- c) Agreed that the Town Council Action plan be adopted as per appendix A.

2. Aims and objectives

This document sets out the aims, objectives and policy of Llanfair Caereinion Town Council With regards to actions to help with the 'Climate Change' issues.

3. The Need to seek Climate Change

Extreme weather events this last few years have presented severe challenges to transport, agriculture and other services, though what we have experienced in the Llanfair Caereinion area is almost insignificant compared to many parts of the world.

Unless we act on climate, we collectively face the greatest threat to our local and global environment. According to October 2019 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predicts a 1.5C increase in temperatures over the next few decades.

The report suggests that humanity has 12 years to deliver the major actions needed to turn this around (and that was in 2019), so we can avoid reaching tipping points where we no longer have the ability to avoid extreme weather events.

It is clear to many of us that we must act locally and globally.

Business as usual is clearly no longer an option.

We need local wisdom and action to increase our resilience and to prepare for the changes already in the system.

Llanfair Caereinion can play its role in preventing dangerous and extreme weather events in its own little way.

4. Our Aspiration

The Town Council has the aspiration to take action to:

- * help move towards Llanfair Caereinion being a net-zero carbon producer as soon as possible
- * increase local resilience to climate impacts

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- * maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as health, agriculture, transport and the economy
- * Call on Wales and UK Government to provide the support and resources to make this possible
- * Work with other organisations, such as Renew Wales, other Community Councils and Local businesses to help counter climate change

5. Background Information & links

Along with any changes due to the Natural Cycle it is clear Humans have already aided irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world.

Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels.

Atmospheric CO₂ levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity.

The IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published in October, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause compared to a 1.5°C rise, and told us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector and local communities.

Councils around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing resources to address this emergency.

6. Working with others

The Council will seek to work with others (where possible) which might include: Welsh Government, Powys County Council and other Communities around us.

7. Action Plan and Monitoring

The action plan is attached at appendix A.

The programme to achieve the items listed is noted next to each item. The Council shall receive a report quarterly on progress. This Policy shall form part of the Annual Report issued in December each year.

APPENDIX A

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

No	Activity	Current situation	Planned actions	Priority
1	Youth lead To involve the youth and take their advice on the activities proposed to help with restricting global warming.	There is a need for youth involvement in the future.	A Youth Council is to be set up with the High School and possibly the new Junior School.	HIGH
2	Drive less Walk, bike, car-pool or take mass transit more often. You'll save one pound of carbon dioxide for every mile you don't drive! Use vehicles less.	Most of the Council's work is local so can be done on foot. A car is only used where necessary.	To continue seeking a reduction in car use where possible.	MED
3	Recycle more You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide per year by recycling just half of your business waste.	Limited recycling taking place with the Council litter bins going to normal rubbish.	A planned recycling procedure to be put in place in the office and where possible when disposing of Council rubbish.	HIGH
4	Drinks cups Use bio-degradable cups for Council and Buildings use	When the Council hosts events either bio-degradable cups or rewashable cups are used.	This policy to continue	HIGH
5	Water in a bottle Provide a drinking water station to help encourage people using re-usable bottles.	Provision in the Town is required for a water in a bottle facility.	The provision of a central water point to be put in place. The site to be registered.	MED
6	Avoid products with a lot of packaging You can save 1,200 pounds of carbon dioxide if you reduce your garbage by 10 percent.	When ordering products little attention has been made to the packaging issues.	Where possible to seek purchase of goods with either less or limited packaging.	LOW
7	Plant a tree Manage woodland and plant new trees as appropriate.	The Council looks after a woodland area.	The Council will continue to manage the woodland and ensure that all best practice for forestry is completed.	HIGH
8	Wildlife To protect wildlife and in particular control cutting of hedgerows.	Hedge cutting and grass cutting is completed in line with guidelines on nesting etc.	The Council to continue this practise.	HIGH
9	Wild planting To protect where possible habitats which support wild growth.	To leave areas to grow wild where appropriate. To remove weeds where necessary only.	To continue with leaving areas of wild growth where possible.	HIGH

No	Activity	Current situation	Planned actions	Priority
10	Pollinating To manage the Council facilities to ensure pollinating is supported.	Areas of appropriate planting maintained.	Continue current practises and also introduce a pollinating garden or gardens.	MED
11	Turn off electronic devices Simply turning off your television, DVD player, stereo, and computer, when you're not using them, will save you thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide a year.	The Council has no office so to date has no way of doing this. Staff are encouraged to turn off equipment at the end of the day.	The Council has a new office and all equipment will be turned off at the end of the period of use.	MED
12	Efficient equipment When equipment is renewed to replace with energy efficient products.	The Council has not considered this aspect.	All equipment must where possible be replaced with energy efficient products.	MED
13	Renewable Energy Support renewable energy schemes.	The Council supports in principle renewable energy but subject to constraints.	The Council will continue to support in principle renewable energy schemes but only to an extent where any power lines are not intrusive or power is carried on 440kva power lines.	MED
14	Publicity Make the public aware of the Council's actions and consider how to promote the global warming issues.	The Council has not taken this into account to date.	Where possible the Council will promote its Climate Change Policy.	LOW
15	Monitoring Ensure monitoring of the policy so that progress is made.		The Council will have a short report each quarter with a full assessment to be contained in the Annual Report.	HIGH

Key:

Red – top priority (asap)

Blue – medium priority (within a year)

Green – low priority (within 3 years)