



MEMBER OF WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS.

GRIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL - CLIMATE CRISIS PRESS RELEASE

Adopted by Grimley Parish Council 18th November 2019: Date for review: Nov 2020

Grimley Parish Council has declared a climate emergency, with Cllrs agreeing that there are only 10 years to achieve significant action before irreversible damage is done to our planet and way of life.

In November 2019, Grimley Parish Cllrs passed a resolution recognising the urgency of the situation and aim to fully grasp this opportunity to inform residents and take all possible action in our parish to combat the threat of global warming.

A resident of Sinton Green said "The threat is real and cannot be underestimated. Although there is not one clear agreement on the nature of that threat, this does not mean that it does not exist."

A resident of Monkwood Green said "Ability to take action at parish level may be limited, but real opportunity exists in our public areas, in our gardens, in our lifestyles and in our preparedness and willingness to change".

The parish council declaration includes the aims to assist in regenerating and rebuilding parish ecosystems and promote and support adaption measures to reduce the risks to our community arising from climate change. **Chair Cllr Stanley of Grimley village said** "Our emergency declaration is an opportunity to create a better and sustainable future for ourselves and our children, that will enhance our community environment, local economy and overall well-being.

Volunteers are being sought locally to join a Parish Council led Working Party, exploring ways that Grimley parish residents and the much wider community can make a difference and come up with projects that can contribute towards a more sustainable, low energy, climate friendly Worcestershire.

All ages and backgrounds welcome. Duties, activities, meeting dates and times can all be arranged to suit the volunteers. **It is hoped that neighbouring Parish Councils and other local organisations/higher tier authorities can also be involved and ask to be kept informed of our activities.**

Please contact the Parish Clerk, Lisa Stevens for more information.

07950256363 clerkgrimleypc@gmail.com

Contact the Clerk to be put on our 'environmental crisis' email distribution list

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GRIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL – COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2020

Correct as of 13/01/2020

All meetings at **Peace Hall, Sinton Green**, unless otherwise stated.

Please always double check meeting dates and times before attendance, as meetings may unavoidably change at short notice.

Residents are welcome to attend. You may be asked to confirm your name/address prior to speaking. View our privacy notice on our website.

• **January meeting – Monday 20th January, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting**

- **Monday 24th February**, 7.30pm – Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting.
- Sunday 1st March, 10.30am – 3pm – Parish wide **Community litter pick**.
Further details to be published asap.
- Sunday 1st March, 10.30am – 3pm - **Parish Clerk Surgery** at The Peace Hall, includes cake and coffee. Public Drop-in session. Residents can attend to discuss any item with the Clerk.
- **Monday 23rd March**, 7.30pm – Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting.
- **Monday 20th April**, 7.30pm - Annual Parish Meeting – **Venue: St Bartholomew's Church.** Grimley Village, WR2 6LU.
- **Monday 20th April**, time subsequent to above – Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting.
- Tuesday 5th May, 10.30am til 2pm – **Parish Clerk Surgery** – public drop in session
- **Monday 18th May**, 7.30pm - Annual Meeting of Grimley Parish Council
- **Monday 18th May**, 7.45pm approx - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting.
- **Monday 22nd June**, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting
- **Monday 13th July**, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting
- Monday 24th August, 1pm til 7pm – **Parish Clerk Surgery** – public drop in session.
- **Monday 24th August**, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting – signing of finances and accounts only. No other Parish Council business.
- **Monday 21st September**, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting **Venue: Grimley St Bartholomew's Church. Grimley Village, WR2 6LU.**
- **Monday 19th October**, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting
- **Monday 16th November**, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting
- **Monday 7th December**, 7.30pm - Grimley Parish Council monthly meeting

Appendix 1

MEMBER OF WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS.

GRIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL - CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY DECLARATION.

Adopted by Grimley Parish Council 18th November 2019: Date for review: Nov 2020

Introduction. Following the recent IPPC Climate Change report which warned that humanity has only 12 years to take emergency action in order to prevent global warming greater than 1.5°C, and the Government amending the Climate Change Act 2008, Grimley Parish Council declares that it recognises the urgency of addressing this Climate Change crisis. The Parish Council acknowledges that whilst its ability to take direct action is very limited, the Council will also endeavour to exercise further action through information, education and influence.

Objectives. The Council will pursue its actions and support in the delivery of three objectives:

First. A significant and ongoing reduction in the use of energy in buildings, transport, food, and consumption. This contributes to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, pollution and biodiversity loss. The consumption of energy, particularly fossil fuels is a primary cause of Climate Change.

Second. The regeneration and rebuilding of our natural ecosystems which will contribute to drawing down carbon from the air into carbon stores in our soils, woodlands and grasslands. Such action in our gardens, allotments, woodland, grassland, verges, wetlands, farmland etc will also contribute to the enhancement of biodiversity, wildlife, flood/drought mitigation, pollution reduction.

Third. Promote and support adaptation measures to reduce the risks to our community arising from Climate Change. Areas of our parish are regularly inundated by floodwater with distressing impacts to homes, businesses and farmland. The forecast with climate change is for the frequency and severity of such occurrences to increase. More extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and expanding ranges of new species of insects, birds, plants etc will have pose a threat to our familiar native species of wildlife, crops and farm animals.

This may appear to involve pain and frugality. This is not so, but does require a change of mindset.

As an example consider transport. Taking a car to drive into town is considered to be readily accessible, convenient in terms of time of leaving, comfortable, low-cost – maybe parking!

In contrast walking, cycling, taking public transport results in a reduction of fossil fuel use and climate change, a reduction in noise and local air pollution that benefits residents and our children's health and mental wellbeing, hence a reduction in NHS costs, road maintenance costs etc

Our Emergency Declaration is about creating a better and sustainable future for ourselves and our children, that will enhance our community, environment, local economy and our overall well-being.

Grimley Parish Council will have full regard for the above Objectives specifically in regard to:

1. The management of Parish staff, land, commons and greens.
2. Contracts and the commissioning of projects.
3. Promoting local food production, businesses and enterprises.
4. Commenting on planning applications, developments – green spaces, transport, infrastructure.
5. Information to individuals and Parish, businesses, organisations and schools in our area.
6. Information to wider authorities and colleagues, lobbying higher tier councils and Government.
7. Creation of an Environment Working Party of local volunteers, in order to harvest resident ideas on changes that can contribute towards a more sustainable, climate friendly Parish.
8. This declaration will be reviewed annually. It will be supplemented by supporting documents identifying specific targets and actions that will be developed by the Council and Environmental Working Party.

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Appendix 2

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GRIMLEY PARISH COUNCIL – RESIDENT SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS SO FAR.

Adopted by Grimley Parish Council 18th November 2019: Date for review: Nov 2020

The below list is ‘unpolished’, is for general illustrative purposes and shows the ideas that local residents are coming up with. The Parish Council will look at all of these suggestions, see if the proposed projects are viable, whether they ‘go far enough’ (make sufficient impact on climate declaration aims etc) and look to allocate appropriate budgets, resources and volunteers.

- a. Proposal for creation of three vegetation and green infrastructure maintenance teams ‘Grimley Green Jackets’, with an emphasis on residents/volunteers keeping fit whilst conducting maintenance on the Commons/village greens and parish green areas.
 - b. Improve Green Infrastructure Green infrastructure is not simply an alternative description for conventional open space. It includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands – and also street trees, allotments, private gardens, green roofs and walls, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) and soils. It includes rivers, streams, canals and other water bodies, sometimes called ‘blue infrastructure’.
 - c. Connect Grimley Village with Sinton Green via new walkway/right of way inside hedgeway up Dark Lane.
 - d. Plant one tree per WW1/WW2 fallen hero within the parish.
 - e. Fund hedgehog and bat boxes.
 - f. Provide bench seating (encouraging walking) and bike storage facility at parish hall.
 - g. Vehicle electric charging point at the Peace Hall.
 - h. Reduce carbon emissions in Grimley village by providing parking for school parent drop-off/pick-up at top of Grimley approach road.
 - i. Wild flower beds at Sinton Green Common and in churchyard.
 - j. Encourage play on Sinton Green via regular mowing of a cricket-style pitch.
 - k. Encourage residents to switch to greener energy suppliers. (Bulb has a £50 cash back referral scheme. The £50 could be donated to parish fund for enviro projects).
 - l. Improve facilities in bus shelters – clearer timetables, lighting, regular cleaning.
 - m. Phone boxes could hold a first aid kit for walkers and bird watchers – encouraging walking and exercise.
 - n. Replace public footpath sign at Peace Hall.
 - o. Get photos of important local species (already provided by local resident and in care of Clerk) finally framed and displayed at Peace Hall (subject to permission) as a way of educating on local rare and endangered species.
 - p. Educational leaflet on buying local produce (where to buy, time of year to focus on certain vegetables etc)
 - q. Book recycle/lending facility in Grimley phone box.
 - r. More regular litter picks including using pubs/Parish Hall for coffee, tea and cake.
 - s. Investigation of a local energy scheme (idea being that locally generated power is used locally and not fed into the nation grid).
 - t. Screw and nail deposit, so that left overs can be donated and put available for use by others – so that residents do not have to buy a whole pack of screws when they only need one.
 - u. Better care of pond at Sinton Green and in wider parish.
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