

Harwell Parish Council

Sustainability Policy

Sustainability is a core objective of Harwell Parish Council. It is firmly committed to keeping its small part of the Vale WHDC a very special place both through its own activities and through co-operation and consultation with others.

The council declared a Climate Emergency on October 13th 2020 and will work with such organisations as Sustainable Harwell to raise awareness of the issue within the parish.

In all its involvement the Council will seek to:

- promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources
- minimise environmental pollution and waste in all of its own activities and encourage the conservation, reuse and appropriate recycling of resources
- seek to eliminate the unnecessary use of energy
- reduce the need for movement of people by satisfying local needs using local resources and encouraging walking, cycling and public transport
- work in partnership with other organisations to promote the health of Harwell both ecologically and physically
- progressively build environmental concerns and sustainability into all its policies
- promote understanding and participation in environmental issues throughout the Parish through education, information and consultation

In order to achieve this, the Parish Council will:

- operate an environmental system that co-ordinates work affecting the environment
- review local environmental indicators, such as water quality and waste recycling
- enforce regulations designed to protect the environment, as applicable
- adopt practices that minimise the effects the Council has on the environment
- educate in respect of its environmental policies and objectives as applicable
- involve the local community and local groups and encourage local action in support of the environment
- Request use of sustainable materials and working methods in all planning applications, in particular those for large developments, to aim for zero-carbon standards
- Devise Planting and maintenance schemes for all council-owned lands in consideration of the environment
- Reduce use of pesticides and herbicides on council owned land