

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council Environmental Sustainability Policy

Proposed at the Full Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 10th January 2023

Context

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council is a small sized parish with 244 houses and a population of approximately 500 residents. It consists of Piddington Village, Piddington Lane and houses around and adjacent to Wheeler End Common. Any environmental policy must affect every aspect of daily life.

Policy Statement

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council is committed to preserving and protecting the local environment by adopting an Environmental Sustainability Policy that recognises the importance and value the environment contributes to the quality of life for current parishioners and future generations.

To achieve this goal Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council will consider environmentally sustainable principals in its day-to-day operations, and within its statutory powers meet all relevant environmental legislation.

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council will form an Environmental Sustainability Working Group comprising of The Clerk, one Councillor and a non-voting parishioner who will annually review the policy, considering new standards and updated knowledge. Reporting back to Council annually.

Principles

Where practical and within its financial capabilities the Parish Council will support both locally agreed and Unitary Authority environmental sustainability initiatives.

1. The Parish Council will:
 - Seek wherever financially feasible to use contractors and suppliers who are local and comply with the parish's environmental sustainability goals.
 - Aim to use products where possible that are manufactured from recycled materials, which can be disposed of in an environmentally sustainable manner.
 - Explore opportunities for community involvement in green energy and home insulation programs
 - Encourage recycling where possible to reduce waste to land fill.

2. In all its involvements the Parish Council will seek to lead by example in the field of environmental sustainability by and not limited to:
 - Ensuring the natural conservation value of the Parish managed by encouraging maintenance and enhancement activities.
 - Consider the use of managed Parish land for carbon capture schemes such as tree planting and community orchard, community, and group allotment schemes.

3. Encourage biodiversity initiatives to support birds and insect populations via:
 - The use of suitable UK grown flora such as native wildflower bee friendly species for Parish planting schemes.
 - Eliminate or minimise where feasible the use of harmful pesticides and chemicals on Parish land.

4. Minimise the adverse impacts on air quality:
 - Continue to lobby for better public transport options and maintain and advertise local foot paths to reduce car usage.

Last Review date: January 2023

Owner: Simon Digby, Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council