Environment and Climate Policy

1. Introduction

1.1. Lytchett Matravers Parish Council declared an Environment and Climate Emergency at a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes on 9th October 2019 and through this has consider the ecological and climate crisis across all aspects of Council decision-making.

1.2. The Parish Council recognises that a climate emergency has been declared by other government organisations at a national, regional and local level.

1.3. The Council considers that the environment is important and will comply with and, where possible exceed, all environmental regulations, laws and codes of practice, as applicable.

1.4. The Parish Council will consider the impact of its activities on both climate change and environment/biodiversity issues and will endeavour to actively support beneficial outcomes, where practicable and affordable within the resources and financial capabilities of council.

2. Aims of the Policy

2.1. Ensure that all Council decisions give due consideration to their impact on the community's carbon footprint.

2.2. Promote the importance and value of a quality environment and support local people in their enjoyment of it.

2.3. Ensure that all work is carried out efficiently to minimise or eliminate its adverse impact on our environment.

2.4. The Parish Council will specifically consider:

- 2.4.1. the impact that operating its assets has on the environment,
- 2.4.2. the impact that any goods and services procured, and their suppliers, have on the environment,
- 2.4.3. where possible and appropriate, replace environmentally inefficient assets with environmentally friendly alternatives

3. Specific considerations relating to this policy

Eight priority areas are identified to help deliver and maximise the benefits of this policy.

3.1. Development: The Parish Council will reflect on the climate, sustainability, and environmental impact of all planning applications.

3.2. Responsible & Sustainable Procurement: The Parish Council will source materials and services locally provided they meet quality and value-for-money requirements.

3.3. Energy use: The Parish Council will commit to enhancing energy efficiency across its buildings.

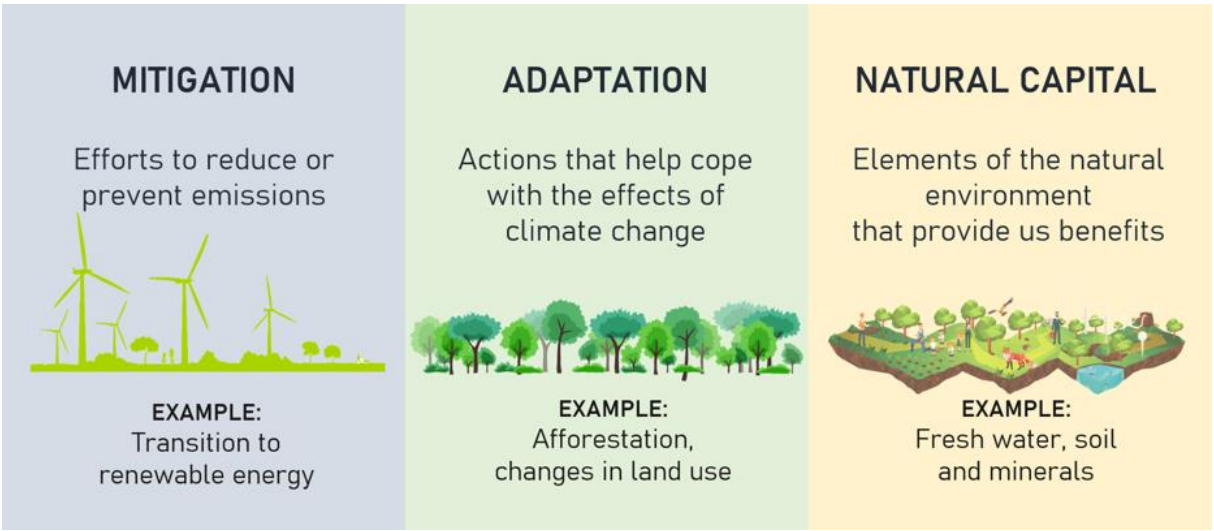
3.4. Green spaces: The Parish Council will commit to restoring natural habitats and beneficial land management

3.5. Waste & Recycling: The Parish Council is committed to reducing waste and minimising pollution, including promoting and encouraging recycling across the Parish, including providing composting facilities in relevant areas such as allotments and cemeteries.

3.6. Water Management: The Parish Council is committed to responsible water management and conservation, which includes encouraging staff, allotment holders and hirers to use water efficiently on Council premises, together with promoting and supporting natural solutions to reduce/reuse surface water run-off in the Parish.

3.7. Pesticide Use: The Parish Council is committed to phasing out the use of pesticides on assets we own or manage, except for the control of Schedule 9 plants under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, such as Japanese Knotweed, or where it is used to reduce material risks to asset integrity.

3.8. Awareness, Lobbying & Partnerships: The Parish Council will promote awareness of and information about, environmental issues within the community and ensure that all individuals involved in the organisation (including contractors) are aware of their responsibilities in implementing this environmental policy.



Adopted by Lytchett Matravers Parish Council in June 2023
Reviewed: 26th March 2025
Next review date: March 2026