









## Wem Town Council Climate Emergency Action Plan





**This climate change action plan was last updated in October 2022 when the following recommendations were identified as the Town Council’s key priorities in 2022-23.**

**Priority 1 - Planning Applications** – The Town Council should submit comments on every planning application for domestic and commercial new builds, extensions, conversions that request conditions relating to use of appropriate insulation / the installation of low carbon heating systems / use of low carbon products in the build installation of EV charging points / tree planting etc. The Working Party consider that this is essential to ensure that comments about low carbon development become more mainstream so that in time they can become material considerations. Edward Towers is to seek advice from Shropshire Council for suggestions on the type of comments that could be considered – 2024 *this is considered in all planning applications.*













**Priority 2 - Installation of rapid vehicle charging unit in the town** - Working party consider this to be a priority as there is no rapid vehicle charging unit in the area. This project will be dependent on Shropshire Council permitting the use of its car parking spaces for this purpose and there being sufficient electricity supply in the area. The Bowensfield car park has been discounted as the electricity supply is already at capacity in this location – 2024 *update - Shropshire Council are still to install electric charging units and these are not fast chargers*












**Priority 3 – To consult with schools and youth groups in Wem to seek views of young people to understand what Wem related projects / initiatives the Town Council should progress to tackle the climate emergency.** Work will need to be carried out prior to this to identify the best way to communicate with young people either through use of a digital survey or paper based questionnaire. *This has not been progressed by the Town Council however WACA are working with Thomas Adams School on projects.*















		<b>S/M/L Term</b>	<b>Time Commitment</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Update 29.2.24</b>
		S – 2019/21	 low	£ low	
		M - 2021/25	  medium	££ medium	
		L – 2025/30	   high	£££ high	
<b>Lobbying and Leadership</b>					
	Organisational Review of Policies to align with Climate Emergency Commitment	Short	 	£	Ongoing





	Publicise commitment	Short		£	Ongoing
	Climate Emergency Page on Website	Short		£	Ongoing requires more information – and link with Climate Emergency Group
	<b>Commenting on planning applications – The Town Council should submit comments on every planning application for domestic and commercial new builds, extensions, conversions that request conditions relating to use of appropriate insulation / the installation of low carbon heating systems / use of low carbon products in the build/ installation of EV charging points / tree planting etc.</b>	<b>Short</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
	Add Climate Emergency References in all new contract specifications and Tenders and add to the evaluation process	Short		£	Ongoing reference included in Floral planters, Streetlighting and Public Toilets contracts

## Carbon Reduction of Assets






	Undertake Carbon Footprint Audit	Short	  	££	Completed by Marches Energy Agency 2019 update needed.
	Replace Street Light heads with LED	Short	 	£££+	Completed 2018
	5 year plan to replace all concrete street lighting columns	Medium	  	£££+	Started 2022 – ongoing 2024
	Consider climate impact on new purchases of plant & machinery	Medium	 	££	Groundsman has trialed battery operated hand tools and hopes to change in Spring 2024
	Reduce carbon footprint of toilets	Medium	 	£££	Consider rainwater harvesting unit installation – <b>not cost effective as water savings would be limited.</b> PIR sensors fitted for lighting.

					Sensors fitted to reduce flushing of urinals.
	Consider carbon footprint of any buildings to be taken on by the Town Council in the future	Long	 	££	Ongoing
	Reduce carbon footprint of Town Council office activities	Short		£	Reduce printing, request minimal packaging on items ordered e.g paper. All appliances with exception of phones and CCTV turned off at plug each weekend. Turn off copiers at end of each day. Use bicycle for travel to meetings / inspections within the town.
<b>Renewable Energy</b>					
	Request energy from Town Council's electricity providers is renewable	Medium		£	Switched to renewables complete.
	Explore potential for installing Solar/Wind mitigating measures on Council Land/Buildings	Long	   +	£££+	2020 RCEF report identified options for Wem Swimming & Lifestyle Centre, works on hold due to funding and other more pressing items
<b>Transport</b>					
	<b>Installation of rapid vehicle charging unit in the town</b>	<b>short</b>		<b>£££+</b>	<b>Not currently progressed as most suitable location owned by Shropshire Council</b>
	Improve pathways and encourage walking & cycling	Medium	  	£££+	Deep clean of Drawwell Walk in 2022 has improved area, vegetation needs cutting back, Other pathways being monitored for overgrowth and reported. Parish Paths Partnership Established in Town.



					Cycle repair kit and pump donated for cyclists visiting town, suitable central location to be found to house it.
<b>Waste Minimisation</b>					
	Paperless Council Meetings	Short		£	10 councillors now receiving meeting papers via email.
	Encourage Contractors to have a “Zero to Landfill” policy	Long	 	£	To be written into new contracts
	Ensure all waste is recycled and reused wherever possible	Short		£	Office waste is recycled Contractor collecting waste from recreation ground and cemetery to be asked about recycling of waste.
<b>Open Spaces</b>					
	Develop Open Space Management Plans	Medium	   +	££	Since 2022 two areas of long grass left on Trentham Road and The Wheatfields Public Open spaces – Wildflower Meadow created in 2023 in The Wheatfields and new meadow to be created on Trentham Road POS
	Identify potential new open space areas		 	£££	Worked with Wem Area Climate Action to identify locations. Millfields and Fothergill Way Open Spaces are possible areas.
	Any future Public Open Space adoption to include any Climate Emergency Needs	Medium	 	££	Ongoing
	Develop a long-term approach to tree planting, including encouraging community tree planting and identifying locations for bulk planting	Medium	  	£££	2021 Tree planting has taken place on Wheatfields Play Area, Trentham Road Play Area and Wem Recreation Ground.

					70 trees planted for the Jubilee in Town gardens in 2022
	Purchase Peat-Free Compost	Medium	 	££	Floral planter's 100% peat free.
	Continue replacement of floral planters with built-in water reservoirs to reduce the need for watering	Medium	 	££	All new planters have built in reservoir


## Community Engagement

	Consider amending Town Council's grant application form to request evidence of applicants' commitment to tackling the climate emergency	Medium	 	££	Completed
	Establish Area forum to encourage the community to embrace the Climate Emergency agenda	Short			WACA Established with links to Town Council. Supported creation of Green Market
	Encourage Councillors to promote climate change	Short		£	Ongoing
	Publicise and promote achievements in reducing the Council's carbon footprint on website and in the Wemian	Medium		£	Articles have been published

## Young People


	<b>To consult with schools and youth groups in Wem to seek views of young people to understand what Wem related projects / initiatives the Town Council should progress to tackle the climate emergency.</b>	<b>short</b>	 	<b>£</b>	<b>Contact schools and youth groups to identify the best format to engage</b>
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## Monitoring

	Report 6 monthly reviews against plan	Short		£	Not achieved, no review in 2023
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29.2.24

Agenda item 14b Climate Change Recommended Priorities

	Undertake annual carbon footprint audit	Medium		<b>££</b>	Next review due
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This Action Plan was last reviewed by Wem Town Council on October 2022