

## Wem Climate change Action Plan

### Introduction

Climate change is at the core of the Town Council's priorities for the council term as agreed in January 2022

#### **2. Continue the Town Council's commitment to progress Climate Change and Environmental Initiatives**

*Work in partnership with interested groups to secure the Mill Fields as informal recreation space for residents.*

*Work in partnership to promote and create cycleways and footpaths in and around the town.*

*Engage in tree planting projects.*






*Wherever possible invest and promote green technologies on Council owned facilities.*

*Continue progress on Climate Change Action Plan*










Following discussions at the July 2022 Town Council meeting it was agreed that to ensure the action plan is a live document to review the current action plan and identify 3 projects aimed at addressing the issues created around climate change that the Town Council would commit to progressing over the next year.









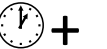


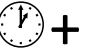
## Wem Town Council Climate Emergency Action Plan


		S/M/L Term S – 2019/21 M - 2021/25 L – 2025/30	Time Commitment 🕒 low 🕒🕒 medium 🕒🕒🕒 high	Cost £ low ££ medium £££ high	Update 14.7.22
<b>Lobbying and Leadership</b>					
	Organisational Review of Policies to align with Climate Emergency Commitment	Short	🕒🕒	£	Ongoing
	Publicise commitment	Short	🕒	£	Ongoing

Join Global Covenant of Mayors	Short		£	no longer in active membership Jan 2021
Request support for carbon neutral status	Short		£	Letter sent to Sec of State for Energy and Climate Change July 2019. Representation made to SALC for NALC to lobby government.
Climate Emergency Page on Website	Short		£	Ongoing requires more information – and link with Climate emergency Group
Make reference to Climate Emergency and need for renewable energy measures when commenting on planning applications	Short		£	Ongoing
Add Climate Emergency References in all new contract specifications and Tenders and add to the evaluation process	Short		£	Ongoing Floral planters, Streetlighting and Public Toilets.





## Carbon Reduction of Assets

Undertake Carbon Footprint Audit	Short	  	££	Completed by Marches Energy Agency 2019 annual monitoring needed.
Undertake a Buildings Audit to identify any efficiency measures	Short	 	££	Report from Severn Wye Energy Agency complete November 2020
Replace Street Light heads with LED	Short	 	£££+	Completed 2018
Consider climate impact on new purchases of plant & machinery	Medium	 	££	Emissions of models considered during purchase of tractor and mower however there is not currently an electric model on the market in the council's price range. This will be reviewed when the mower is changed in the future. Clerk and Groundsman investigating changing to battery operated strimmers and hedgecutters in the future.

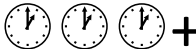

	Reduce carbon footprint of toilets	Medium	 	<b>£££</b>	Consider rainwater harvesting unit installation – <b>not cost effective as water savings would be limited.</b> PIR sensors fitted for lighting. Sensors fitted to reduce flushing of urinals.
	Consider carbon footprint of any buildings to be taken on by the Town Council in the future	Long	 	<b>££</b>	Ongoing
	Reduce carbon footprint of Town Council office activities	Short		<b>£</b>	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		<b>£</b>	switch to renewables complete.
	Explore potential for installing Solar/Wind mitigating measures on Council Land/Buildings	Long	   +	<b>£££+</b>	2020 RCEF report identified options for Wem Swimming & Lifestyle Centre, works on hold due to funding and other more pressing items
<b>Transport</b>					
	Explore infrastructure requirements and power capacity for electric vehicles	Long	   +	<b>£££+</b>	Installation of electric vehicle charging point considered as part of RCEF project. Discussion taking place about leasing a car parking space on Bowensfield to a company to install a rapid vehicle charger. Shropshire Council is to roll out car park chargers during 2022.










	Improve pathways and encourage walking & cycling	Medium		<b>£££+</b>	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.
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## Waste Minimisation







	Paperless Council Meetings	Short		<b>£</b>	10 councillors now receiving meeting papers via email.
	Encourage Contractors to have a “Zero to Landfill” policy	Long		<b>£</b>	Not currently progressed
	Review Litter Bin Locations	Medium		<b>£££</b>	Not currently progressed
	Ensure all waste is recycled and reused wherever possible	Short		<b>£</b>	Office waste is recycled, slightly more difficult with waste collected on recreation ground and bins as this is labour intensive also concerns for health and safety of staff.







## Open Spaces

	Develop Open Space Management Plans	Medium		<b>££</b>	During 2022 two areas of long grass left on Trentham Road and The Wheatfields Public Open spaces – due for cutting early August, review to take place in Autumn
	Identify potential new open space areas			<b>£££</b>	Working with Climate Change Group to identify locations. Millfields and Fothergill Way Open Spaces are registered as Assets of Community Value. - no update

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	 	££	2022 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	 	££	Amended in 2020 to make reference to climate change
Establish Area forum to encourage the community to embrace the Climate Emergency agenda	Short			Established and projects are being developed.
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
Investigate the production of reusable "Wem Cups" for use in takeaways and at Town Events	Short		£	<a href="http://www.shrewsburycup.co.uk/">http://www.shrewsburycup.co.uk/</a> insufficient number of town events to warrant this outlay however something that could be pursued in the future

<b>Young People</b>					
	Include Climate Emergency in any youth activity	Short		<b>££</b>	Outstanding
	Liaise with schools about Climate Emergency initiatives for young people with appropriate incentives	Medium	 	<b>£</b>	Contact with Thomas Adams group
<b>Monitoring</b>					
	Report quarterly reviews against plan	Short		<b>£</b>	Delayed due to coronavirus lockdown period now reported 6 monthly
	Undertake annual carbon footprint audit	Medium	 	<b>££</b>	Next review Winter 2022

This Action Plan was reviewed by Wem Town Council on 27.1.22