

HELMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Prepared by: Parish Clerk
Adopted by Resolution of : Helmingham Parish Council **on** 15th May 2026
Reviewed & Re-Adopted:
Date of Next Review: May 2027

Declaration

Helmingham Parish Council ("the Council") hereby declares a climate emergency and pledges to work alongside Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council in support of their published climate ambitions, declarations and policies.

Aims and Objectives

The Council supports a carbon negative future where possible.

The Council aims to preserve and enhance the parish's ecological wellbeing, biodiversity and landscape and foster the engagement of residents, local organisations and businesses in its environmental activities wherever possible.

Implementation

The Council will ensure compliance with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations.

The Council will apply this policy to all its decisions and activities that may have any environmental impact.

The Council will review the implementation of this policy periodically and make any such revisions or alterations to it as deemed necessary.

General Principles

The Council will control and manage any estate for which it has responsibility in a manner that complies with the aims, objectives and commitments of this policy.

The Council will encourage the use of land, premises and property within the parish in which it is interested in a manner that is consistent with this policy.

The Council will encourage local engagement with green initiatives.

Key Environmental Commitments

Climate change: Develop resilience to climate change by reducing the Council's greenhouse gas emissions.

Biodiversity: Ensure all relevant Council activities are supportive of biodiversity and promote sustainable practices and activity in the parish to enhance local biodiversity.

Transport: Promote the use of environmentally friendly modes of transport in the parish wherever possible.

Waste: Ensure that any waste generated by the Council is reduced, reused or recycled wherever possible and is disposed of responsibly. Give support to a circular economy and where possible maximise the opportunity to generate funds from recycling for public benefit.

Power: Encourage residents and businesses to reduce their consumption of electricity and carbon emissions. Promote an increase in energy efficiency within the parish by the use of green technologies and promote a switch away from fossil fuel reliance.

Planning: Promote environmental improvements in new developments.

Education: Promote training and education on climate and environmental policies to supporting staff and councillors and promote awareness of environmental issues in the wider community.

Collaboration: Encourage the promotion of environmental projects and activities through collaboration with Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, other agencies and organisations to facilitate the community acting as a group or small groups to improve the environmental wellbeing of the parish.