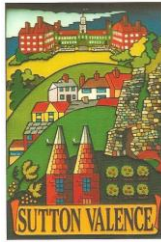


SUTTON VALENCE PARISH COUNCIL

E-mail: clerk@suttonvalence.org.uk

Tel: 01622 844135



From the Clerk:

Mrs Emma Hull
The Parish Office
Sutton Valence Village Hall
North Street
Sutton Valence
Maidstone
Kent ME17 3HS

Web site: www.suttonvalencepc.org.uk

Climate Emergency Policy

Adopted 11/5/2022

Version:	Date Approved:	Review Date:
1.0	11/5/2022	May 2023
1.1	28/9/2022	Sept 2023

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Kent County Council (KCC) has committed to reach net-zero carbon emissions for its own services and buildings by 2030 and to reducing greenhouse gas emissions for the whole county to net zero by 2050. Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) declared a climate emergency in April 2019 and has committed to making the Borough as close to carbon neutral as possible by 2030.

2. Scope

- 2.1. Sutton Valence Parish Council recognises that the global climate and environment emergencies represent a threat to future generations.
- 2.2. It acknowledges that its future actions and decisions should take account of the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the above targets.

3. Declaration of Intent

- 3.1. The Parish Council will undertake a carbon audit and create an action plan of its own activities and services in the next financial year, with the intention of becoming carbon neutral by 2030. It will undertake an annual audit of progress towards achieving that target.
- 3.2. As consultee on planning applications, the Parish Council will make climate change mitigation and nature recovery important considerations in all its responses. (Appendix 1)
- 3.3. The Parish Council will support and encourage all practicable measures to increase carbon “off-setting” actions in the Parish, including tree-planting, composting, and other carbon-sequestration.
- 3.4. The Parish Council will seek ways to facilitate and encourage the community to reduce direct and indirect CO₂ emissions and to become resilient to changes caused by the changing climate.

4. Actions

- 4.1. The Parish Council will form a climate change working group with members of the community to identify opportunities to contribute to the emission reduction targets and enhance biodiversity and the natural environment.
- 4.2. The climate change working group will:
 - 4.2.1. Inform and advise residents on ways to reduce their carbon emissions.
 - 4.2.2. Explore achievable changes and activities that can be adopted by the residents of the parish to produce benefits to the environment.
 - 4.2.3. Work with MBC, KCC and other local and national agencies to ensure resources are directed towards projects in the Parish which are designed to assist the achieving of net-zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Appendix 1 **Sustainable Checklist**

To be included in planning application responses for all new build properties / developments and all major extensions.

Sutton Valence Parish Council would ask that conditions are included to cover:

- Provision of renewable energy sources such as air / ground source heat pumps or photo voltaics
- Provision of EV charging points
- Exclusively native planting within any landscape plan
- Provision of swift and bee bricks, bat and bird boxes
- Wildlife friendly boundaries
- Encourage high levels of thermal insulation and airtightness
- Permeable parking and footway surfaces
- Avoidance of light pollution as much as possible in external lighting design