

BILBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Environmental Policy

Introduction

Bilbrook Parish Council (BPC) recognises its operations and activities have an impact on the environment. It has responsibilities to minimise adverse impacts and maximise positive impacts.

Aims

In all its activities the Parish Council will aim to make a positive contribution to protecting and enhancing the local and global environment. To achieve this BPC will:

1. Meet all relevant environmental legislation and regulation.
2. Regularly update and improve policies in light of increased understanding and knowledge.
3. Where appropriate prepare, implement and monitor environmental action plans for all of its assets
4. Minimise the consumption of all resources used in its operations and consider the lifecycle impact of purchases. In particular, reduce the use of single-use plastic where possible.
5. Minimise waste in BPC activities. Recycle and reuse waste materials where possible. Dispose of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.
6. Minimise energy use and emissions to air. Use renewable energy sources as far as possible. Recommend energy conservation technology where applicable (including insulation, low energy light bulbs, low water use toilets)
7. Work with and support other parishes and local authorities to implement widescale environmental initiatives.
8. Encourage community-led initiatives where appropriate.
9. Support initiatives that encourage sustainable transport, such as providing places for cycle parking, cycle path, recharging points for electric cars.
10. Respect and protect natural resources through conservation and good management.
 - a. Where possible conserve water from buildings and on allotments and check/protect/remove external taps in winter.
 - b. Encourage users of BPC owned grounds and allotments to enhance biodiversity to encourage wildlife and plant-life where appropriate.
 - c. Cleaning fluids, polishes and glues etc. should be as environmentally least damaging as possible. Bleach and solvents harmful to the environment to be avoided.
11. Where possible use contractors and suppliers who
 - a. have an environmental policy which meets best practice and is updated regularly
 - b. are local, thus minimising transportation and supporting the local economy