**Environment and Climate Emergency Strategic Plan**

Suggest this bit goes on the website as an intro:

*The Environment and Climate Emergency Committee of the Calstock Parish Council is working toward protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of all who live in this area with respect to the threats posed by the Climate Emergency.  As a start it has put together a Strategic Plan to address areas of concern which align with the Cornwall County plan whilst focusing on local issues such as the River Tamar and pollution along the A390.  Given that this affects everyone, and that the committee is quite small, we would invite any local resident, whatever their age or ability, to join us in attempting to tackle the issues below.  If you have an interest in one or more of the issues and would like to help make a difference in our community and join a likeminded team please contact Clare Bullimore, Deputy Clerk.*

This to be the intro paragraph:

Calstock Parish Council is committed to reducing our impact on the environment across the Parish, reducing the impacts of a changing climate upon our community and protecting and enhancing nature and biodiversity.

In 2019 along with Cornwall Council and Parliament,  Calstock Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency. The Cornwall County Council climate risk assessment highlights the very real threats posed by the changing climate. Cornwall is expected to be effected by more extreme weather with predicted high rainfall events and localised flooding together with prolonged periods of drought. The coming decade is likely to be the most important in trying to mitigate those threats.

We have set three policy objectives to address the challenge:

* Restoring Nature,
* Reducing Impact and
* Improving Health and Well Being.

Calstock Parish Council will set a target to be Carbon Neutral across its activities by 2030 and will encourage its suppliers and partners to set their own ambitious targets. With the adoption of our Climate Emergency Action Plan the Council will weigh all its decisions against these criteria and it will be central to everything we do.

Every policy and decision of the Parish Council should be measured against each of these.

Does it help with:

* **Recovering Nature**
* **Reducing Impact**
* **Improving Health**

**Recovering Nature**

The aim is not just to preserve what we have now, but to recover the flora and fauna we have lost, to expand the natural world around us for its own sake and in doing so to create a much richer and more diverse environment for people to enjoy.

This aligns closely with the Cornwall Nature Recovery plan and AONB plans.

To encourage, support, sponsor and partner to act to restore flora and fauna in the parish through:

* Encouraging wild flower meadows
* Re-wilding marginal land
* Extending wetland environments
* Extending woodland and encouraging its natural management
* Protecting hedgerows and encouraging sensitive management thereof

Encouraging:

* Beavers
* Badgers (inoculated)
* Hedgehogs
* WIllow tits and other endangered bird species
* Wetland birds
* Pine martins
* Goshawks
* Bats

Discouraging:

* Pheasants
* Feeding of species which predate those at risk eg Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers
* Grey squirrels

Potential partners: Tamar Valley AONB, National Trust, Cornwall Council, Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Tamara Project, Woodland Trust and other local environmental groups.

**Reducing Impact**

Our collective impact on the world we live in has lead not only to a severe climate crisis, but also a crisis across the natural world with pollution, severe species loss, poisoned oceans and increasingly infertile lands. If we are to address this we have to reduce our impact.

This aligns with the Cornwall Climate Emergency DPD.

To encourage, support, sponsor and partner to act to reduce our impact on the environment through:

* Cleaning the river Tamar and its tributaries
* Reducing pollution - air, soil and water
* Encouraging environmentally sensitive farming practices
* Recycling
* Reducing single use plastics
* Better building design
* Public transport use
* New energy generation possibilities
* Area heating plans
* Encouraging better insulation
* Traffic control measures
* Grow local schemes
* Shop local schemes
* Procurement policy

Potential partners: Cornwall Council, SWW, the Rivers Trust, Tamar Valley AONB, National Trust, Tamara Project, Duchy College, Tamar Grow Local, Plymouth National Marine Park, the Tamar Catchment Partnership, Plymouth University and other local environmental groups

**Improving Health**

As well as impacting the natural world, our activities are ruining our own health and well being. Whatever we aim to do should be measured against its impact on our health.

To encourage, support, sponsor and partner to act to improve the health and well being of our parishioners through:

* Encouraging footpath use
* Extending the footpath network
* Protecting and extending open access land
* Developing the skatepark
* Biking facilites and special routes
* Encouraging playground use
* Support for local sports clubs
* Community fridge/pantry
* Allotment use
* Supporting older age groups’ activities
* Helping people adjust to climate change

Potential partners: Cornwall Council, Ramblers Association, Tamar Valley AONB, , Tamara Project, Tamar Grow Local, local sports clubs, TV Health Centre and the patient participation group, Calstock footpath society