



Calstock Parish Council

Environment and Climate Emergency Strategic Plan

Approved at Full Council 14-03-2023

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Environment and Climate Emergency Strategic Plan

version: Sunday, 2 July 2023. RNC

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.

The Council is committed to engaging with the community in the development and implementation of this strategy. Effective communication will therefore be critical to the success of the strategy.

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

Lead councillor: Andrew Brown

Team:

Alison Freshney

Steve Wood

Peter Bloomfield

Sarah Ashley

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 merging into Dartmoor Nat Park, , National Trust, Cornwall Council, Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Tamara Project, Woodland Trust and other local environmental groups.

Key partner bodies:

Tamar Valley AONB
National Trust
Cornwall Wildlife Trust
Tamara
Pollenize

Representatives/link

Dorothy Kirk, Sarah Ashley , AB, JF
AB
Jude Wood
AB
AB

Reducing Impact

Lead councillor: Richard NC

Team:

Gill Court

Jude Wood

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:

- Planning in the context of Cornwall DPD
- Improving the quality of the river Tamar and its tributaries so that they are safe to bathe and play in
- Reducing pollution - air, soil and water
- Encouraging environmentally sensitive farming practices
- Recycling
- Reducing packaging eg single use plastic
- Public transport use -
- Infrastructure for EV vehicles
- New energy generation possibilities - revise NDP
- Traffic control measures particularly with regard to air quality
- Grow local schemes
- Shop local schemes
- Procurement policy
- Protecting our local public environment eg footpath

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

Key partner bodies:

Tamar Valley AONB
Tamar Catchment Partnership
Tamar Grow Local
Port of Plymouth Marine Liaison Committee
EA Flood Defence Partnership
SW Water and EA liaison
Duchy College
Plymouth University

Representatives/link

DK, SA
RNC, AB
Alex Polglase
Alex Polglase
AT, PS
AT, JWa, DK, RNC, AB

Improving Health

Lead councillor: Alex Polglase

Team:

Phil Spurr

Mark Warwick

Jim Wakem

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 facilities 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

Key partner bodies:

Representatives/link

Tamara Project

Ramblers Association

Calstock Footpath Society

D&C Cornwall Rail Partnership

Tamar Valley Line Forum

Kit Hill Advisory Forum

Cornwall Countryside Access forum

TV Health Centre and the patient participation group. Pete

Commissioning Group. + social subscribers Peter

Jim Wakem

DK, JWe, RA, PS, AT

DK, JWe, RA

Jim Flashman, RA

Action plan

Recovering Nature

- Hedgerows. Parish- Peter Bloomfield
- Willow Tit project Cotehele quay 22nd April.
- May 23rd presentation to environment committee -ANOB – Valerie Darwall- Project manager -brief. Nature Enhancement and Recovery Plan.
- Derek Gow, IF NOT NOW, WHEN? Species Reintroduction & Rewilding UK Fri 28th 29th 30th July 2023.
- Community Bioblitz with iNature- Pollinize. May organise sponsorship for seed packets. August -September collect wild flower seeds. August -September onwards sow wildflower seeds. Presentation from More Meadows? Calstock Arts?
- Pheasants and partridge fact finding exercises.
- Tree and hedge planting November – February
- Orchards. Benedict Macdonald A Year in England's Eden, Talk at Calstock Arts to coincide with National Trust grafting weekend next year?
- Dormice box project.
- Bird box, Barn Owl box and Pine Martin work shops.
- March 2024 collect mistletoe berries from Cotehele and plan workshop at Cotehele implanting mistletoe.
- Steve Wood, Sophie Pavelle, to speak at Calstock Arts.
- May swift boxes. Nick Bentham -Green willing to advise. <https://www.swift-conservation.org/Contents.htm>

Reducing Impact

- Simplification of Cornwall DPD for local consumption
- Planning in the context of Cornwall DPD
- New energy generation possibilities - revise NDP
- Infrastructure for EV vehicles
- Public transport use - particular rail - data on use - timetable doesn't encourage local use or tourism
- Meetings with SWW and Hanson re pollution
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Improving Health

- Devon and Cornwall Food Action Group - stopping food going into landfill - 35 families signed up Delaware academy - Gunnislake and Calstock
- Town Farm Field - development as community asset
- Footpath network - active management to improve use

Modus operandii

The Environment and Climate Emergency committee will meet as a full committee at least every eight weeks. In the intervening period the three teams will meet in three locations at the TVC, coming together briefly at the end of the scheduled 60 minutes to share conclusions to be taken to the next full meeting. Teams will be led by the lead councillor and meetings are informal, noted, not minuted.

The agenda for all meetings and any actions arising should derive from those identified in the Strategic Plan detailed above.

Either teams or full meeting can invite external speakers where relevant. Any such presentations should be noted or recorded for wider circulation.

Visits to conferences or other external events should be co-ordinated through full committee meetings. We would ask attendees to take brief notes to circulate to other members.

Communication

Communicating effectively about the activities and concerns of the E&CE committee is a vital part of our role. In effect we have few actual powers, but we can seek to effect change by identifying the issues and informing parishioners of what we can all do to further the aims of our plan.

The principal means of disseminating information from the committee is via the Parish Council website, where it appears as the second item on the drop down menu and has a follow on news page. We will aim to update the news page at least every two weeks and post the links on Facebook and Twitter. Otherwise we will continue to make use of our links with the Tavistock Times (currently via Kat Archer) and other local media to feed relevant stories.

All communication which comes from the Parish Council needs the approval of the chair and clerk and must meet the requirements of the Press and Media Policy.