



Camelford Town Council
Environmental Statement
Adopted January 2020

1. Introduction

CTC has produced this statement in order to acknowledge the important issue of climate change. This statement will outline what it already does to mitigate its impact on the environment and its intended actions over the current 2019/20 financial year and beyond.

2. Aim of Statement

CTC has declared a Climate Emergency and intends to produce a full environmental policy in 2020. It will do this by liaising with other Town and Parish Councils and by getting expert advice from Cornwall Council. It will discuss and prioritise actions within its Strategic, Economic, Planning and Policies Working Group.

3. Utilities

As electricity contracts come up for renewal, CTC will sign up for 100% renewable energy tariffs. It changed the Library tariff in July 2019.

4. Nature & wildlife

CTC is engaging with Cornwall Council and will be an active participant in the Environmental Growth for Town and Parish Councils Pilot Project. It actively manages its green spaces with a view to mitigate adverse public impact on wildlife, increasing biodiversity and aims to create wildlife/pollinator corridors.

Pesticides/Herbicides

CTC has reduced its use of pesticides to minimum usage – i.e once a year. It is looking into alternatives via Cormac and other contractors. MGM has been on a course to learn about alternatives – capital input in equipment is currently prohibitive to CTC. CTC's formal garden areas are weeded by hand.

Water Management

CTC has installed a rainwater harvesting system for flushing the public toilets

CTC will be installing a compost toilet at the cemetery

Trees & Hedgerows

CTC policy is to plant 3 for 1 if a tree is removed. Species planted are native broad leaf. Its intention is to increase tree cover on land that it owns.

3 CTC Councillors and MGM are tree wardens and attend regular training and conferences. CTC will create new hedgerows at the Cemetery and in Enfield Park. As part of phase 3 of the OCM regeneration CTC will be designing and fundraising for the installation of community gardens and pollinator friendly planting schemes. *(something about sourcing UK grown stocks or starting a growing our own project?)*

5. Waste & recycling

CTC minimise waste going to landfill by recycling paper, plastics and cardboard and waste from its office and maintenance teams

CTC will investigate composting facilities for garden waste from its parks, allotments and gardens

CTC has installed bottle and cardboard recycling points in Enfield Park and at OCM Skatepark

CTC offers battery and toothpaste/toothbrush recycling points in the library

CTC will endeavour not use single use plastics.

CTC has installed a free refill water point at the public toilets

6. Asset Management

Churchfield Car park

CTC has replaced its streetlamps with LED downlighters to lessen light pollution in this 'Dark Sky' buffer zone.

Maintenance team do not trim the Cornish walls until July in order to allow birds and pollinators access to wildflowers.

2 electric car rechargers are available in the car park.

Cemetery

CTC has planted an Orchard, and a wide variety of native trees. The new cemetery layout design includes many new trees and a green burial section.

CTC allows 3 active beehives on this land.

Enfield Park

Park split into 2 sections. Half manicured lawn/play area, half natural. Natural area maintenance and planting program to be revisited as part of the environmental growth project. Pond maintenance once per year. Trees and brambles left around one section of the pond to retain natural environment; fallen trees left in this area to create bug hotels, public paths cleared to max 1m either side. Marsh area planted with appropriate wildflowers. Meadow area mown in paths to lessen impact from dogs.

Library

Installed secondary glazing, changed toilet cistern to a low-rise flush. Continuing to upgrade fixtures and fittings. In 2020-21 - Changing main strip lighting to LED, installing modern radiators for heating efficiency.

7. Policies

As CTC policies and procedures come up for review, it will take an environmentally positive stance towards wording, intentions and enforcement. It has already updated its investment strategy to note that its reserves will be invested wisely in sustainable activities only.

8. Responsible Procurement

CTC will ensure that every tender and purchase decision is made with ethical and environmental standards in mind. For example, CTC commits to buy recycled

photocopying paper, toilet paper and uses plant-based hygiene supplies for the office. When contracts are renewed, and tenders are requested; Suppliers will be asked to note their 'green credentials' and forward their environment policies; if applicable.

9. Air Quality

Air pollution levels are higher in Camelford than they should be. Cornwall Council have introduced an air quality action plan. Camelford is in an Air Quality Management Area. CTC continues to lobby CC to manage pollution levels and keep pressure on the bypass business case.

10. Planning & Neighbourhood Development Plan

CTC responds as a consultee to planning applications within the Parish. It uses local knowledge to flag concerns regarding adverse environmental impact on trees, hedgerows and amenity areas.

CTC's emerging NDP contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and reduction in carbon emissions and footprint through the following policies:

Policy 1(b), (c), (d), (e) - ensuring all new developments are well connected to footpaths and cycle paths

Policy 2 – Economy and employment – creating employment so people do not need to travel to other towns thus reducing carbon footprint.

Policy 3 – Transport and Infrastructure – provision for safe footpaths and cycle links around the town to encourage cycling and pedestrian use reducing carbon emissions.

Policy 5 – seeks to safeguard and further enhance where possible all open and green spaces and protection for valued landscapes and local spaces.

Policy 6 – Use of renewable energy to reduce carbon pollution with minimal impact on the landscape character.

11. Awareness, Lobbying and Partnerships

CTC promote awareness of and information about environmental issues within the community. It will act as a voice for local environmental concerns and will work with partners to increase environmental growth within Camelford and Cornwall, particularly in relation to environmental mitigation measures if the bypass is constructed. CTC aims to liaise with CC regarding projects such as 'Forest for Cornwall'.