



**Climate Change Action Plan  
2022-2030**

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## 1. Introduction

This document sets out what Corsham Town Council is doing to reduce the impact of climate change on our community through reducing carbon emissions, improving biodiversity, building resilience to extreme weather, reducing fuel poverty and supporting a greener economy.

The document explains the roles, opportunities and drivers for Town Council-led action and sets out the benefits for local people and places.

Our aim is to achieve positive outcomes for Corsham's residents, businesses, visitors and the natural environment.

## 2. Our Commitment to Action

Climate change is the large-scale, long-term shift in the planet's weather patterns and average temperatures. To avoid significant increases in the average surface temperature, we must cut greenhouse gas emissions and switch to renewable energy sources. We also need to use land more sustainably.

In 2019, the Town Council made a commitment to reduce the carbon footprint of our community in support of Government and Wiltshire Council's targets and commitments to reducing carbon emissions. It held an Environmental Group launch event in November 2019 and established an Environmental Task Group of the Town Council and local interest groups to take action on climate change. The purpose of the group is to influence, facilitate, communicate and carry out projects that will result in a lower carbon footprint for Corsham parish area.

In October 2021, Corsham Town Council declared a climate and ecological emergency stating:

**'Corsham Town Council fully accepts the need for urgent action in response to the climate and ecological emergencies that we face. We are committed to reducing the carbon footprint of our community in support of Government and Wiltshire Council targets to reduce carbon emissions. We are implementing a carbon reduction plan for our own operations which will enable us to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030. From 2022, we will implement a biodiversity action plan to protect and enhance our green and blue infrastructure.'**

The Town Council was making progress towards reducing its carbon emissions and managing its resources in an environmentally sensitive way prior to the declaration. Since the declaration, we have been more focussed on environmental issues and carbon reduction across all our activities.

*Some of the actions already taken include setting up a community focussed environmental task group and employing a full-time Environmental Officer to commission, produce and deliver carbon reduction and biodiversity action plans.*

Beyond the Town Council's own assets and services and clear environmental improvements, there are co-benefits of taking action on climate change including

economic - job creation, and social - equity and social cohesion, health and well-being, resilience and community engagement.

*As a local council we are taking on a leadership role in creating a low carbon and climate-resilient community.*

Individual Councillors also have a key role to play in offering vision and direction to local groups; representing local concerns and views; encouraging residents and businesses to participate and facilitating and encouraging coordinated action.

### 3. How we will achieve our Objectives

Society is dependent on our climate and biodiversity;, we need to acknowledge the impact that the decisions we make have on these natural systems.

*Consideration of our climate and nature are ingrained in what we do and the decisions we make.*

Our goal is to ensure that the climate and ecological emergencies are at the centre of all our decisions, so we reach net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Our key decision-making processes include listening and engaging with our community; establishing and maintaining partnerships; empowering people and groups; providing support, funding and information; representing, through advocating for change, and looking after the interests of vulnerable people. We will provide transparency and accountability about our goals, actions and progress against targets.

Our key decisions involve considering how we will help meet national and local net zero carbon targets, reduce air pollution and protect and restore nature.

We will offer carbon literacy training for all Councillors and staff. It is important to ensure that everyone is trained in carbon literacy so they can work towards cutting carbon emissions in their work and make informed decisions.

### 4. Finance and Resources

Our goal is to have sufficient resources to invest in the changes needed to meet carbon reduction and biodiversity goals. We plan to maximise opportunities to bring investment into the town through external funding mechanisms.

As well as our own resources, we will use planning mechanisms such as Section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy to fund climate actions and biodiversity improvement projects.

We will provide a community grant budget which local groups can apply to for funds towards carbon reduction projects.

We will continue to seek to procure locally sourced services and products, or Fairtrade alternatives where available.

We will review our investments with banks and move away from those who have investments in the fossil fuel industry.

## 5. Community Engagement

Active engagement with residents and businesses is essential in realising the benefits of adapting and responding to the challenges of climate change and in the creation of a low carbon and climate-resilient community.

There are significant opportunities for coordinated action to help deliver local priorities, improve health, save money, boost the local economy, improve the transport system and enhance biodiversity and the natural environment.

***Environment-linked community engagement initiatives already underway include:***

- *Leading, managing and administrating the Environmental Task Group of Councillors, residents and key stakeholders.*
- *Survey of the local schools on their carbon reduction and biodiversity plans and awareness.*
- *Organising a community Eco Fair to facilitate communication between residents and the Town Council on climate action that people want to see.*
- *Reviewing and improving how we involve residents in our decision-making processes.*
- *Working closely with Corsham Climate Action to promote, support and encourage action on climate change locally and further afield.*

## 6. Influencing Others

Addressing climate change requires action across the whole of society. By working together, we will be able to share resources and expertise and have a greater impact on cutting carbon emissions locally. Our goal is to encourage and support others with their contribution to addressing the climate and ecological emergencies. We will lobby Wiltshire Council and other local authorities and government for zero carbon planning and delivery of services.

*We are adopting a joined up approach with our local parish councils and Wiltshire Council and are an active member of the Area Board's Environment Collaboration Group.*

We are keen to involve residents and stakeholders in developing and delivering our Climate Change Action Plan and Biodiversity Action Plan.

We will continue to promote community sharing and reuse to reduce waste and unnecessary consumption.

Residents - Engagement and support from residents is essential in constructing plans and we will involve a diverse range of residents from our community to help ensure a wide variety of ideas are heard and that solutions to problems are found collectively.

Businesses - We will work with local businesses to help to cut energy, water and resource use and encourage them to generate their own electricity where appropriate. We will encourage and support other entities with their contribution to addressing climate change and to increase biodiversity. We are surveying businesses on their progress toward lowering their carbon emissions and will direct them to sources of information, expertise and funding.

Schools – We are using our existing connections with the local schools to find out what they are doing to reduce carbon emissions and increase biodiversity. We are surveying each school on areas which include energy use, travel, school meals and biodiversity. We will encourage and support schools in becoming Eco-Schools.

Community Groups – We will provide information and offer support, guidance and expertise in climate change and environmental issues. Our community grants scheme will encourage applications from groups who are working towards carbon reduction and action on climate change.

## 7. Buildings

We acknowledge current challenges with gaining permission for energy improvements to our listed buildings: the Town Hall, Arnold House and Guide Hut. We will seek to overcome these through innovative retro-fit solutions and close working with Wiltshire Council, as the local planning authority.

Any new Town Council buildings will be designed to achieve our target of net zero carbon by 2030. New Town Council building will be an exemplar in sustainable, low energy and low carbon design.

## 8. Transport

Our goal is to significantly increase the proportion of people that travel by walking, cycling and public transport through support of lower carbon travel initiatives. The benefits of this include improving local health and wellbeing, encouraging investment by promoting sustainable transport and creating a cleaner environment.

### ***Areas we are working on include:***

- *Promotion of walking by supporting and promoting local walking groups and routes.*
- *Production of the Corsham Cycling Strategy and investing in the projects within the Cycling Action Plan to increase good quality cycling infrastructure and promote cycling in general.*

- *Reducing car use through measures such as promoting public transport.*
- *Working to introduce 20mph speed limits or zones in certain locations to make them more cycle and pedestrian friendly.*
- *Encouraging a shift to electric vehicles by supporting the installation of electric vehicle charging points.*
- *Including working from home in the rota for Town Council staff to reduce miles travelled.*

## 9. Vehicles, Plant and Grounds Equipment

We aim to deliver a transition of our own fleet and machinery to electric.

The Town Council has purchased one electric vehicle which is used daily by the grounds team. When new vehicles are needed, they will be replaced with electric ones wherever possible.

All small machinery and plant will be replaced with electric versions where feasible. This includes chainsaws, strimmers and hedge cutters.

## 10. Energy

### **Direct**

The Town Council has moved to a 100% renewable energy tariff for its directly purchased electricity and gas supplies from April 2022.

We will work to reduce energy use in all council owned buildings and switch to renewable energy systems such as solar panels, heat pumps, etc. where and when feasible.

### **Indirect**

*We are looking to encourage employers and landlords to implement energy efficiency measures and renewable energy systems, starting with the larger businesses and premises.*

Improving housing so that buildings can withstand rising summer temperatures, and everyone can afford to keep warm in winter is important to us. We will seek to help owner-occupied homes be more energy efficient by promoting grant schemes and supporting energy companies to provide households with insulation.

We will support the development of renewable energy and energy storage through the planning system, for example strengthening our Neighbourhood Plan policies and when responding to planning applications.

## 11. Water

Water is a valuable resource. We have installed water-saving devices in the Town Hall and public toilets. Our aim is to further reduce consumption at our allotment sites and in our floral displays by rainwater harvesting, promoting water butts and using more drought-resistant plant varieties.

## 12. Waste

Our goal is to be a sustainable community where all waste is minimised, recycled or reused as part of a circular economy approach.

*The Town Council separates its plastics and cardboard for recycling and food waste is composted. We have introduced a public recycling bin scheme for the town centre and some parks and aim to extend this to all parks and play areas.*

*The Town Council keeps its single-use plastics to a minimum and encourages its suppliers to follow suit. Stallholders and entertainers at Town Council events are encouraged to use alternatives to single-use plastics.*

We support and promote Corsham Recycling Hub at Springfield Campus and publicise Corsham Climate Action and its 'A-Z Re-use and Recycling Guide.'

We will support and promote Refill Corsham, providing free water refills to residents and visitors to the Town Hall, reducing single use plastic bottles. We will encourage more local businesses to join the scheme.

There is currently no separate waste collection for food waste in Wiltshire. The Town Council will encourage Wiltshire Council to introduce such a scheme.

## 13. Health and Wellbeing

Not everyone is impacted by climate change in the same way. There is a wide range of inequalities which make some people more vulnerable to its effects, such as age, race, disability and levels of income/wealth. We aim to identify those people, groups and places in our community that are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and to establish how we can support them.

We will work with others to support those disadvantaged through our Health and Wellbeing Group. Our Environmental Officer will work with our Community Services Officer (Health and Wellbeing) on initiatives such as:

- Helping households save money on their energy bills and keep warm by improving the energy efficiency of local homes.
- Helping the most vulnerable by identifying those most at risk from the impacts of extreme weather such as flooding, over-heating and cold.



- Collaborating with partners to promote active, healthy lifestyles and to refer those at risk of fuel poverty to sources of help.

We will target some of our resources for dealing with climate change and biodiversity to vulnerable people and the areas where they live.

## 14. Land Use and Planning

Our aim is to protect and enhance our own green spaces, making them more biodiverse and ensuring appropriate public access. Our Biodiversity Action Plan sets out how we will increase biodiversity and wildlife value and enhance our green and blue infrastructure. We will manage Town Council-owned land in an environmentally sensitive way. This includes minimising pesticide use and significantly increasing planting of trees, shrubs and wildflowers and the creation of ponds.

We will continue to protect our existing tree stock in order to store carbon, support nature, aid flood protection and deliver mental health benefits. Trees will only be felled where they pose an identifiable risk to people or property.

Our goal is to ensure everyone has access to nature and to restore nature to help draw down carbon pollution from the atmosphere.

As part of the review of the Corsham Neighbourhood Plan, we will ensure greater emphasis and focus on the environment and sustainability. The CNP Batscape Strategy will be reviewed and updated periodically. It will be used as a constraint to development and an indicator of the state of our natural environment. We will seek to ensure new homes meet ambitious standards of energy and water efficiency.

Our Neighbourhood Plan seeks to reduce the need to own and use a car by trying to ensure the location and design of new developments is accessible by safe cycling, walking routes and good quality public transport.

Our Biodiversity Action Plan will seek to increase the amount and quality of our green spaces and to restore nature and provide corridors connecting them for wildlife.

We will support and encourage the major landowners in restoring land for wildlife.

## 15. Adapting to the effects of Climate Change

Adaptation is the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) term for the process of taking action to prepare for and adjust to both the current effects of climate change and predicted impacts of the future.

Adaptation to climate change will protect people from higher temperatures, flooding, more extreme weather events and impacts on health and well-being. Some people are more vulnerable to these effects than others, such as those living in poverty. Corsham residents are vulnerable to a range of effects of climate change

and are likely to experience an increase in flooding, droughts and possibly wildfires as summers are predicted to get hotter and winters are expected to get wetter.

Corsham Town Council is working to adapt the town to the effects of climate change by implementing the following measures:

- Flooding - Corsham has several areas that could be at risk of flooding.

*The Town Council has a Flood Plan and Flood Warden Scheme. The wardens play an important role monitoring areas affected by flooding and providing (non-emergency) assistance to vulnerable members of the community.*

- Droughts - Hotter, drier summers are expected because of climate change. This will mean increased care for the vulnerable. Also, increased care of the council's outdoor spaces such as parks, nature reserves, etc.

*The Town Council is reviewing the type of planting and changing to more drought resistant species.*

*Corsham Town Council is creating cooler spaces for people by creating tree shade or installing pergolas in parks and green spaces. Green canopies provide shade from direct sun and cooler air through transpiration. Pergolas have been installed at The Centenary Garden along Beechfield Road and in the play area in Neston Recreation Grounds. The Town Council is exploring where else to create more shade, including at Springfield play area, to protect children and adults from the sun.*

- Grassfires – Areas of long grass may become at risk of fire during heatwaves. Residents may raise concerns over wildflower meadows or areas near their property left to rewild.

*The Town Council will monitor and risk assess these areas during periods of extreme heat and cut them if necessary.*

## 16. Delivery and Monitoring

Corsham Town Council's Carbon Reduction Plan and Biodiversity Action Plan will be aligned with our other plans, policies and guidance. Our overall Strategic Plan will have a focus on dealing with the effects of climate change.

Our plans will include SMART objectives along with interim and measurable carbon reduction and biodiversity targets.

We will make our plans easily visible by providing information and updates on our website. We are accountable for our actions, and we want to ensure residents know the climate action we are working on and planning.

We will set up a steering group of Councillors and officers to monitor the action plans and ensure timely progress is being made and delivered. The group will meet

throughout the year and updates will be provided to all Councillors, staff and the community.

A key target on carbon reduction is about calculating and reporting on all of greenhouse gas emissions.

*We will commission an annual independent carbon footprint report, that includes all of our scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions. To independently check if Corsham Town Council are on course to meet its net zero carbon by 2030 target.*

5 April 2024

## Appendix 1 - Carbon Reduction Plan

Corsham Town Council's Climate Change Action Plan						
Climate Action	Target	Lead Officer	Impact of action on carbon footprint reduction	Scope of emissions	KPI	Comments
<b>Corsham Town Council Total Carbon Footprint</b>	<b>Net Zero by 2030</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>2024/25 Target: 23.6t</b>	<b>Actual Location Based Emissions including local offsets: 2022/23 – 33.52t 2023/24 – 27.80t</b>
<b>Finance and resources</b>						
1. Create and update annually the Town Council Sustainable Procurement policy.	On target	DM/GF/MJ	High	3	Policy reviewed and updated on an annual basis. All staff have read and understood their responsibilities to deliver the policy.	Review current policy and determine if changes required.
2. Aim to reduce the calculated supply chain emissions by purchasing locally sourced and environmentally friendly goods and services, wherever possible, in line with the Sustainable Procurement policy.	On target	GF/MJ/DM/ST/JW	High	3	Review annual supply chain carbon emissions and look where reductions can be made. Review all purchase orders and identify purchases that do not meet the Climate Action criteria. Aim for at least 85% meeting the	As of September 2024, on average, over 90% of purchases are meeting the local/environmentally friendly criteria.

					local/environmentally friendly criteria.	
3. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to the purchase of office equipment.	Emissions Targets: 2023/24 – 2.0t 2025/26 – 1.0t 2026/27 – 0.5t 2029/30 – 0.3t	GF/DM/MJ	Medium 2023/24 emissions were 0.96t.	3	Office equipment emissions reduced by 90% from 2022/23 baseline of 2.36 tonnes per annum.	Look to minimize new office equipment purchasing where possible. In March 2024 office phone equipment was reduced for some staff who switched to using mobile phones only.
4. 100% of main contractors hired by the council have a good environmental policy by end of 2025.	Targets: 2023/24 – 75% 2024/25 – 100%	JW/DM/GF	Low Progress is being made, but unclear if on target.	3	100% of main contractors (any contractor paid over £30k per annum) have a good environmental policy.	Grounds maintenance contractors, idverde, have good environmental policies on their website. Glazing installers, Mitchell & Dickinson, have good environmental policies on their website.
5. Review use of all chemicals used by CTC (e.g. cleaning products, pesticides, etc.) and seek environmentally friendly alternatives.	On target for end of 2024.	JW/GF	Low	3	All harmful chemicals replaced by environmentally friendly by end of 2024. Percentage of chemicals that meet the criteria.	Confirm all chemicals now being used are environmentally friendly.
6. Divest all investments from fossil fuels.	On target for end of 2025.	GF/MJ/DM	High	3	By end of 2025 no investments are used to benefit fossil fuel companies.	One of the two CTC bank accounts has been moved from Santander to the more climate friendly Unity Trust Bank.

7. Review all funding so that it aligns with the net zero ambition.	Ongoing	GF/DM/MJ/ST/JW	High	3	Review all funding on an annual basis and highlight where it does not meet the criteria.	Explore if/how the funds for free car parking can be better used to encourage active and public transport travel that supports the High Street businesses.
8. Spend an annual £24k Town Council budget (excluding any additional grant funding) to support the delivery of the BAP and CAP.	Target Spend: 24k per year	GF	Medium	3	Review spend against budget and aim to use all funds annually to help deliver the CAP & BAP.	For 2023/24 total spend was £7.5k For 2024/25 current spend as at September 2024 is £8.5k. With spending on the ECO Fair, wildflower seeds, Carbon Footprint Report, bicycle hire, bicycle parking installation and grass cutting hire. Part of 24/25 budget to be reallocated to the Town Hall secondary glazing. If necessary.
<b>Community Engagement</b>						
9. Continue to lead and manage the Environment Task Group to facilitate further climate action projects outside of the council.	Targets: At least 20 active members and at least 5 active projects.	GF	High	N/A	Number of active members and number of projects delivered by the group. Amount of carbon being saved (if possible to calculate).	Over 50 people on ETG mailing list, 10 people attended the March 28 meeting.
10. Hold the annual Corsham Eco Fair to promote climate action taking place in Corsham, with	On target	GF	High	N/A	Hold the fair on an annual basis and monitor the impact in terms of number of	ECO Fair held on 20 April 2024. 22 stallholders participated. Community attendance was the

eco-friendly businesses, organisations and community groups.					stall holders and local community response.	highest it has been for this event and feedback from stallholders was extremely positive. Next fair scheduled for 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2025.
11. Engage with at least 7 local schools to support environmental activities.	Target: engaging with 7 schools.	GF	Medium 6 schools actively engaged.	N/A	7 local schools apply for a Corsham In Bloom Best Eco School Award. Assist all 7 schools with at least one eco-friendly activity.	Two out of seven schools applied for and were reviewed for the Corsham In Bloom Best Eco School award. Two schools promoted and provided videos for the ECO Fair. 6 schools took part in the Storytown ECO themed activities.
12. Support community groups, schools and individuals with climate and biodiversity projects that they wish to pursue.	Target: support 8 local groups/projects.	GF	Medium Corsham Climate Action supported with various projects. Supplied bicycle racks to Gastard church and village hall.	N/A	Annually at least 8 local groups and projects supported through helping to obtain funding, attending events, providing assistance and other supporting activities. If possible calculate amount of carbon saved.	Enabled CCA Corsham Court litter pick in March 2024, as part of the Keep Britain Tidy: Great Spring Clean Event. Delivered a well-received climate literacy event to Neston Women's Institute in May 2024. September 2024, Box Scouts renovated bug hotels at Beechfield Nature Area. Regency Laundry helped manage the wildflower area at Neston Rec.

13. Award grants for local community carbon emissions reduction projects.	Target: 6 grants issued per year.	GF	High Currently no grants submitted or issued for 2024.	N/A	6 grant applications awarded and projects supported per annum that save at least 5 tonnes of carbon emissions in total per annum.	November 2023, grant awarded to Gastard community hall towards new glazing insulation. Not enough grants are being issued. The aim is to promote and issue more ECO grants.
<b>Influencing Others</b>						
14. Lobby Wiltshire Council and other local authorities/ government to help promote Net Zero policies.	Targets: 1 policy per year.	GF/KG/DM	High Unclear what impact any lobbying is having.	1 & 2	Successfully lobby at least once per annum that results in an improved environmentally policy.	CTC responding to consultations on the Wiltshire Design Guide, Local Plan and Local Transport Plan (LTP4). Highlighted if all new builds would, or would not, be connected to the local gas grid network. October 2024 providing feedback on our Bat Scape Plan for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. October 2024, responded to Wiltshire Council's survey request as to where to install on street EV charging points.
15. Report on air quality monitoring annually to the Property and Amenities meeting.	Target: Reduce air pollution by at least 50% by 2030.	GF	Low	N/A	Air quality data is being recorded by Wiltshire Council. Present data to	Checking when last Wiltshire Council data was available and present to the next P&A meeting.



					Property and Amenities meeting annually.	
16. Promote the council's climate action through the council website, social media pages, newsletter, etc.	Target: At least 20 social media posts, 4 newsletter articles per year.	GF	Low	N/A	At least 20 social media posts a year. Council website is 100% up to date with climate information. 4 newsletter articles a year.	On track to deliver targets with three newsletter articles and over a dozen social media posts by September 2024. Issue is with gauging how effective these posts and articles are in promoting action.
17. Work with local community groups, schools, etc. to install community renewable energy systems or insulation schemes that reduces carbon emissions.	Target: 5 schemes implemented.	GF	High	1 & 2	At least 5 groups supported to implement carbon reduction schemes. At least 5 tonnes of carbon saved in total annually.	No projects implemented to date. Environmental Office currently focusing on other priorities and lack of schemes currently in the pipeline.
<b>Buildings</b>						
18. Town Hall: Improve the energy efficiency of the building by installing insulation measures.	Total town Hall emissions targets: 2025: 12t 2027: 4t 2030: 1t	GF/JW	High 2023/24 total emissions were 16.3t	1 & 2	Install insulation measures to help meet the target to reduce the town hall's energy based carbon emissions to 1t by 2030.	Town Hall loft insulation work completed August 2023. Secondary glazing being installed July 2024. Energy emissions declined by about 0.6 tonnes compared to 2022/23 and by 1,600 kWh.
19. Town Hall: Install renewable energy systems on the building.	Total town hall emissions targets: 2025: 12t 2027: 4t	GF/JW	High 2023/24 total emissions were 16.3t	1 & 2	Install low carbon energy systems to help meet the target to reduce the town hall's energy based carbon	Implementation of renewable energy systems scheduled from 2025. Pre planning

	2030: 1t				emissions to 1t by 2030.	application to be submitted.
20. Other Sites: Arnold House , investigate and install renewable and energy saving systems to make the building net zero compliant.	Emissions Targets: 2025: 1.2t 2027: 0.8t 2030: 0.1t	GF/JW/DM	Medium 2023/24 emissions were 1.4t	2	If retained install renewable energy systems by end of 2026 to reduce emissions by at least 2 tonnes per annum	July 2024, currently looking at possibility of changing all energy sources to a green energy tariff.
21. Other Sites: Guide hut, investigate and install renewable and energy saving systems to make the building net zero compliant.	Emissions Targets: 2025: 1.2t 2027: 0.8t 2030: 0.1t	JW/DM/GF	Medium 2023/24 emissions were 1.4t	2	If retained look at installing renewable energy systems and insulation to make the building net zero before 2026. Saving at least 0.5 tonnes of carbon per annum.	Investigate best course of action by end of 2024 to make the building net zero.
<b>Transport</b>						
22. Reduce staff commuting carbon emissions by at least 90% by 2030.	Targets: 2025 5t 2027: 3t 2030: 0.5t	GF/DM	High 2023/24 emissions were 5.5t	3	Reduce staff commuting carbon emissions by at least 7.5 tonnes per annum by 2030.	Efforts to reduce staff commuting emissions raised at staff meetings. Encouraging staff to look at lower carbon transport options. Ongoing scheme to encourage staff to leave car at home at least once a day per month to encourage alternatives to using the car.
23. Introduce a staff electric bike scheme to replace local journeys made by staff for work purposes.	Completed	GF	Low	3	By end of 2024 at least 100 miles of staff journeys per annum are made using a	Ebike hired July 2024. Used by 5 staff mostly for commuting for about 50 miles.

					bicycle or ebike; saving at least 0.2 tonnes of carbon emissions per annum.	Due to lack of use for work trips the results of the trial did not justify the purchase of an office ebike.
24. Encourage staff to use lower carbon forms of transport for work travel for journeys outside of Corsham parish.	2026	GF	Low	3	By 2026 replace at least 50% of current staff work trips made by car with lower carbon transport options saving at least 0.3 tonnes of carbon per annum.	For 2024 one train journey taken so far.
25. Reduce Town Councillor travel emissions for Corsham Town Council business.	Ongoing	GF/DM	Low	3	Reduce councillor town council related travel emissions by 90% by 2030.	Record current emissions from Councillor business travel and determine where these emissions can be reduced.
26. Support the development and delivery of a Town Transport Plan.	Ongoing	GF/DM	High	N/A	Town transport plan developed and reviewed and updated annually and funding allocated.	Town Transport Plan launched and planned for completion in early 2025.
27. Significantly increase Active Travel including the number of journeys made by bicycle, that replace higher emitting carbon journeys, throughout Corsham parish.	2030	GF	High	N/A	Annual survey of Corsham parish active travel journeys. Implement at least 3 initiatives annually to increase the number of active travel journeys. At least 20% more journeys by active travel by 2030.	2024, Active Travel Group created a bicycle route map to Lacock. New bike hoops installed on the High Street. An Active Travel Survey in July 2024 received 131 responses. Family cycling event being planned for May 2025.

						Corsham Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) scheduled for 2025.
28. Develop and improve public transport to help reduce car journeys.	2030	GF/DM	High	N/A	Local bus services show a 30% increase in usage by 2030 compared to 2019 levels. New railway station created by 2030 (contact Phil Grocock for bus usage information).	Bus Action Group looking to encourage more bus use. Improvements made to bus stops and the promotion of the bus services. Looking at extending the No10 bus service and installing electronic bus stop signs on Newlands Road.
<b>Vehicles, Plant and Grounds Equipment</b>						
29. Replace all ground staff fleet with fully electric vehicles.	Targets: 2024 – 2 electric 2025 – 3 electric 2028 – 4 electric	JW/GF/TB	Medium Current - 2 electric vehicles	1	All town council vehicles fully electric by 2028. Saving at least 2.5 tonnes of carbon emissions per annum.	As of July 2024 two out of the four vehicles are now electric. One vehicle planned to be changed to electric for 2025.
30. Replace all petrol powered equipment with electric.	2026	JW/GF/TB	Low	1	100% of all tools electric powered by end of 2026 (list maintained by the Technical Assistant).	As of January 2024 there are 12 diesel/petrol powered tools remaining.
31. All hired vehicles to be electric.	2028 100% electric	GF/DM/JW	Low	1	100% of all vehicles hired for town council business to be fully electric by 2028 saving at least 0.2 tonnes of annual carbon emissions.	Establish register of hired vehicles and identify whether these are electric or not.

<b>Energy</b>						
32. Switch to renewable energy for all council owned buildings.	Completed in April 2022	JW	High	2	100% renewable electricity and gas in April 2022	Confirmed for 2024: the Town Council buildings are on 100% green gas and electricity tariffs.
33. Encourage staff to identify and reduce energy use and wastage.	2030 (see Town Hall energy emissions targets)	GF/DM	Medium	1 & 2	Regularly monitor and inform staff of energy usage against targets. Identify and implement at least 5 energy saving/reduction actions that reduces energy use by at least 3,000kWh per annum.	Ongoing general awareness of where energy is being used and potentially wasted. Lights and heaters regularly being switched off when not necessary.
<b>Water</b>						
34. Reduce carbon emissions from water usage and waste water to 0.1t by 2030.	Targets: 2023 – 0.5t 2027 – 0.2t 2030 – 0.1t	GF/JW	Low 2023/24 emissions are 0.4t	3	Implement annual reductions in water use and waste to reduce carbon emissions to 0.1t by 2030. Install at least three rainwater harvesting schemes by 2030.	Aim to add sub-meters and troughs to all allotment sites agreed at Internal ETG 20/2/23. On hold due to tenant feedback. Aim to trial at Park Place Allotments from 2025.
<b>Waste</b>						
35. Introduce at least 10 recycling bins in public areas and parks to reduce landfill waste.	Targets: 2025 - 7 bins 2030 – 10 bins	GF	Medium	3	Record number of bins installed annually.	Seven public recycling bins have been installed so far. Ongoing review of the potential for installing more bins.
36. Reduce emissions from waste to 0.8t by 2030.	Targets: 2023 – 3.3t 2027 – 2.0t 2030 – 0.8t	GF/JW	Medium 2023/24 emissions are 1.6t	3	90% of annual waste to be recycled by 2030. Reduce waste produced by at least	Hills Waste Solutions send us data on waste produced and amount recycled on a monthly

					50% by 2030. Reduce emissions to at least 0.8t by 2030.	basis. Investigate ways to reduce amount of waste produced.
37. Completely reduce the use of single-use plastic in council offices and premises.	2025	GF	Low	3	Identify single use plastics and target reduction of single use plastic to 0 kgs	By 2024 almost all single use plastics have been eliminated from the council offices.
38. Achieve Plastic Free Community Accreditation for Corsham.	2024	GF	Low	N/A	Awarded Plastic Free Community Status by Surfers Against Sewage by end 2024.	September 2024, almost completed with 2 more business left to be accredited.
39. Aim to move to a more paperless office. Reducing emissions to almost zero by 2030.	Targets: 2023 – 0.1t 2030 – 0.0t	GF/DM/MJ	Low 2023/24 emissions 0.2t	3	Reduce paper buying and waste produced by 90% by 2030.	Look at other councils for example of best practice. Review processes for reducing paper use. 2024, all paper purchased is recycled.
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>						
40. Promote grants and funding available to help households improve their energy efficiency.	Target: 5 schemes per annum.	GF/VF	Medium	N/A	Actively promote and inform householders of schemes available using social media, etc. At least 5 schemes promoted annually.	2024, promote Wiltshire Solar Together scheme and home insulation scheme for low income households. October 2024, promoted the Warm & Safe Wiltshire support for home heating issues.
41. Promote active, healthy, sustainable lifestyles to children through activities held and run by the council.	Target: 5 activities per annum	GF/VF	Low	N/A	At least 5 activity days run or supported per annum.	2 schools participated in the 2024 ECO fair. Children's ECO craft stall at the ECO fair. Box Scouts activity delivered at Beechfield

						Nature Reserve, September 2024.
<b>Land Use and Planning</b>						
42. Review the implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan from an environmental and sustainable planning perspective.	Ongoing	GF/KG/DM	High	N/A	Conduct an annual review that the environmental criteria of the plan are being met.	Corsham neighbourhood plan for 2024-2038 is currently being produced. All environmental criteria included in the plan to be reviewed and plan to be implemented to ensure that these are delivered.
43. Allotments- review policies, practices and tenancy agreement and make improvements where possible.	2025	JW/DM/TB	Low	N/A	Refer to allotment policies available on Town Council website. (What measurable improvements do we want to implement? Separate ones for each site?)	New allotment planned for Park Place using water troughs and with a community orchard.
44. Create and deliver a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) to enhance and build climate resilience in to the natural environment of Corsham parish.	2028	GF/TB	High	N/A	10 biodiversity objectives created from the Biodiversity Action Plan: 1: Create and maintain at least one community orchard. 2: Plant and maintain at least fifty additional trees 3: Maintain and expand wildflower areas across all applicable sites.	Recent delivery on objectives: 1: Community orchards planned for Neston and Freestone Way. 3: Expanded wildflower areas for Neston, Meriton Rec and Coppershell. Grass cutting and clearing on schedule for 2024. 6: New Beechfield and Coppershell ponds scheduled for winter 2024.

					<p>4: Deliver at least 5 additional pollinator planting schemes</p> <p>5: Plant at least fifty additional shrubs across all applicable sites</p> <p>6: Create and maintain at least five new ponds and maintain all existing ponds.</p> <p>7: Create at least 5 new hedges and improve hedging across all applicable sites.</p> <p>8: Maintain and improve all woodland areas.</p> <p>9: Create at least 5 new additional habitats</p> <p>10: Install at least 100 new wildlife shelters</p>	<p>7: New hedge planted at Coppershell play area January 2024. New hedge planned for Neston in winter 2024.</p> <p>8. Tree maintenance carried out in spring 2024.</p> <p>9. Beechfield Nature Reserve dead hedge created, summer 2024.</p> <p>10: Brunel men's shed tasked to build wildlife boxes. Bird box build activity planned for 2025 ECO Fair.</p>
<b>Delivery and Monitoring</b>						
1. Review and update the Town Council's Environmental Policy so that it delivers the Town Council's net zero goal.	Ongoing	GF/DM	High	N/A	Annually updated and approved by the Town Council and presented to staff.	Review, and if necessary, update the policy by November 2024.
2. Create an annual Carbon Emissions report that shows year on year reduction in the Town council's carbon	2030	GF	High	N/A	Annual plan completed showing year on year reductions in location based carbon emissions, from	2023/24 report showed annual emissions for CTC to be 30.5 tonnes of CO2e, a reduction of 5.72t on the previous year.



emissions in line with achieving net zero by 2030.					baseline year of 2022/23, in line with net zero target.	
3. Staff and Councillors are knowledgeable about the climate emergency.	Target: All staff climate literate by 2024. All councillors climate literate by 2025.	GF/DM	High	1,2 & 3	Percentage of staff and Councillors who have undertaken a climate literacy course. Percentage of staff and Councillors who have read the CAP & BAP.	Carbon literacy training delivered to all staff and 8 Councillors by January 2024.
4. All staff encouraged to identify and implement changes to reduce Corsham Town Council's greenhouse gas emissions.	Targets: 5 initiatives per annum	GF/DM	High	1,2,3	Number of staff initiated ideas that are implemented that reduce Corsham Town Council's greenhouse gas emissions.	Record staff ideas and changes being implemented (aim for 5 per annum).
5. Raise at least £250k of external funding to help deliver the Corsham Town Council's Climate Action and Biodiversity Action Plan's goals by 2030.	Target funds raised: 2026: 100k 2028: 200k 2030: 250k	GF/DM	High 2024: £4k of funding raised.	1,2 & 3	At least £250K of funding raised by 2030 to support Net Zero and Biodiversity targets.	2024, £4k of funding raised to support delivery of the Biodiversity action Plan. Salix funding to be applied for to install low carbon energy systems in the Town Hall.
6. By 2030 offset at least 4 tonnes of Corsham Town Council's greenhouse gas emissions by locally planting over 300 trees, hedges and shrubs to achieve the Net Zero target.	Targets: 2022 – 2.5t 2026 – 3.5t 2030 – 4.0t	GF	High 2024, 2.7t carbon absorbed per annum.	1,2 & 3	Plant enough trees, hedgerows, etc. to absorb 4t of carbon per annum.	As of Summer 2024, since the start of 2021, there have been 288 trees and 400m of hedges planted. Absorbing 2.7t of carbon per annum.

Key:	
Grey	CTC Net Zero emissions reduction action
Red	Not started/not likely to be achieved
Amber	In progress/likely to be mostly achieved
Green	Complete/likely to be achieved

Lead officers:

JW - James Whittleton, Head of Technical Services

DM - David Martin, Chief Executive

MJ - Maxine Jones, Head of Finance and Administration

KG - Kirsty Gilby, Finance and Planning Officer

VF - Vickie Fauset, Health and Wellbeing Officer

GF – Garry Ford, Environmental Project Officer

TB – Trudy Boughey, Head of Grounds Team