



SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Sustainability is a core objective of Heath Hayes & Wimblebury Parish Council. It is firmly committed to keeping its part of Cannock Chase a very special place both through its own activities and through co-operation and consultation with others.

In all its involvement the Council will seek to:

- **Minimise waste and pollution:**

- a. Reducing the use of resources.
- b. Re-using materials whenever possible.
- c. Recycling when waste is produced.
- d. Seek to eliminate the unnecessary use of energy and reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions.
- e. Provide information electronically as much as possible.
- f. Avoid and advocate against the use of single-use plastic items.
- g. Minimise the environmental impact of travelling on Council business, where practicable and safe, by walking, cycling, car sharing or the use of public transport.

- **Procurement**

When purchasing services and goods, where practical and economical, the Parish Council will give preference to:

- a. Local suppliers.
- b. Options that are environmentally friendly.
- c. Products that have been manufactured from recycled materials
- d. Products that can be disposed of in an environmentally sustainable manner.

- **Contractors and maintenance**

The Parish Council will require that contractors, councillors and volunteers who carry out maintenance on Parish-managed land, or on other areas of the Parish at the instigation of Council officers:

- a. Minimise the use of harmful pesticides and chemicals.
- b. Minimise adverse impacts on air quality.
- c. Undertake the work in a manner that, where practicable, benefits wildlife and the environment.
- d. Where practicable use locally sourced plants grown in the UK. In appropriate locations encourage the use of native, wildflower and bee friendly species.

- **Decision Making**

In its decision making the Parish Council will take careful consideration of:

- a. The importance of encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport when practicable.
- b. The need to reduce, re-use and recycle to protect resources.
- c. The need to avoid adverse impacts on air quality.
- d. The need to conserve and improve natural habitats.
- e. The need to protect vulnerable and protected species.
- f. The need to conserve the natural beauty of its woodlands, Commons and surrounding landscape.

- **General**

Where the Parish Council has the opportunity, in a way that is both practical and economic, it will:

- a. Discourage all forms of littering, particularly dog fouling, including around open areas used by families and children.
- b. Encourage the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
- c. Encourage reduction, re-use and recycling of resources within the Parish.
- d. Encourage the use of materials and systems that improve energy efficiency of developments, both new-build and changes, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- e. Encourage new-builds and changes to be nature friendly, located close to public transport and amenities, to provide electric vehicle charge points.
- f. Recognise the importance of trees, hedgerows and deadwood, as an essential corridor for the movement of wildlife, and a support for animals and plants.
- g. Encourage local action in support of the environment i.e., Highlight the importance and value of our local environment and its contribution to our community's quality of life.
- h. Ensure the nature conservation value of the Parish's Commons, woodlands, and surrounding landscape by encouraging maintenance and enhancements.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....10/3/2021.....

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