**DANEHILL & CG PARISH COUNCIL – CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY & PLAN 2024**

**STRATEGY**

This document sets out the Parish Council’s policy to support specific strategies to minimise negative impacts on our climate and to actively contribute to and promote a sustainable environment. As a small rural community individual actions are likely to be limited but the overriding objective is to bring forward best practice to minimise negative impacts and promote good practices through communication and example.

Danehill and Chelwood Gate Parish Council will endeavour to support the global response to climate change through the publication of good practices and the introduction of established measures to reduce carbon emissions. This will include encouraging businesses and engaging with the community to develop and implement a sustainable action plan.

The Parish Council has established a focus group of like-minded individuals from the community to bring forward practical proposals to aid the Parish Council in meeting its stated policy objectives.

The areas of focus are those identified by WDC as policy objectives are:

1. Housing / Planning
2. Energy
3. Transport
4. Community Engagement and
5. The Environment

The following action plan outlines the goals, activities and timelines to support the reduction the level of climate change. This plan feeds into District and Regional Plans and our Parish Council commits to publishing information that will help support our small rural community in reducing their carbon impact.

This plan will be updated regularly and shared community wide via Parish Newsletter and Social Media.

**ACTION PLAN**

**‘CC = Climate Change’, DP = Danehill Parish Council,**

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| **Wealden ‘Header’** | **Parish Climate Change Objectives** | **Parish Activities undertaken and planned** | **Detail and updates** |
| **Housing / Planning** | | | |
|  | Ensuring planning applications incorporate CC measures | Approach on planning – formalise a policy for PC to review and adopt, where possible:-   * Sustainable energy preference – i.e. heat pumps and solar panels , thermal etc * Grey water collection * Minimising environmental impacts in immediate vicinity to application * Light impacts * Noise and flooding | **10.4.24** DPC are considering new Local Plan and ramifications. CColeman updated re: BNG – Biodiversity Net Gain which is coming in and needs to be considered in planning applications. May or may not impact local parish planning.  **5.9.24** Discuss options and ways to incorporate eco credentials into Parish approach  BM to create short report on EPC review procedure guide for PC team - Tony |
| **Energy Sustainability** | | | |
|  | Increased use of sustainable energy measures in homes and parish generally | **Sustainable Energy Options - Talk and Discussion Evening held 20 June 2024, Danehill Social Club. Supported by DPC.** | Deemed a success by all - around 70 attendees and several have since taken forward options directly with Howard.   * AOB on this matter? * Expenses completed? * Promote street options with One Zero / Howard? * Anouk / Jan to follow up with One Zero/ Wealden |
|  | Using more sustainable methods for lighting in Parish buildings | **Solar bus shelter lighting – completed**  Community buildings review usage of LED bulbs – could Parish Council support funding? | 24.2.24 **Clerk**  **5.9.24 Review any other options?**  **5.9.24 Put a recommendation forward to PC to update lights in both Halls - Tony** |
| **Transport** | | | |
|  | Supporting reduction in fossil fuel usage and introducing sustainable transportation methods for the community | EV charging point at CG V Hall. Virgin currently offering support to put in charging points. Clerk currently in discussion – need to check what the costs are and implications. | 24.2.24 **Clerk** to discuss with Parish Council  **10.4.24** Update please from **Clerk**  **5.9.24** Update please from Clerk  5.9.24 Can we mirror Hartfield set up – Clerk to keep an eye on this as to whether this could work in Pavillion car park |
|  | Community Bus (Flexibus) | CC team to promote at village markets via leaflets | Emma G looking into re: leaflets to share with Ashdown Café + markets **10.4.24** - Update needed regarding its service |
| **Wealden Header** | **Climate Change Objective** | **Activity / Date** | **Responsible** |
| **The Environment** | | | |
| **COMPLETE FOR 2024** | Wild flower planting | Various sowing been undertaken in 2022/23.  Feb 24 – awaiting narrative boards to be finalised and put in place for communication (see below) – complete. Anouk to do a FB post on this to promote.  Planning on wild flower sowing in April. Grounds to be prepared in readiness. | **CCC / Clerk** – Jan to forward narrative board to Anouk for FB post.  4.3.24 **Jan / Sara** ongoing - **Emma Clerk** to confirm digging.  **10.4.24** Anouk to promote what has been done on FB  **5.9.24** Pls can someone update FB and promote? |
| **COMPLETE FOR 2024** | Tree Planting | Church Burial Ground trees completed in 2022 Feb 24 – any new planting planned? | None currently |
| **COMPLETE FOR 2024** | Verge wilding | Managing the level of cutting – previous years this has been kept to a minimum to support wildlife and biodiversity.  Feb 24 – confirmation of this year’s plans to be had | 24.2.24 **Clerk** to update on plans  **10.4.24** Tony updated - agreed one cut a year apart from H&S areas – to be reviewed again in 2025  **COMPLETE** |
|  | Use of pesticides | Feb 24 – discussion to be had on use of pesticides which has been raised. Pesticides being used on Tennis Courts – ensure use is only on tennis courts. | **10.4.24 Tony** to propose to PC that its left to grow and only cut once a year.  **5.9.24** verges will be cut once a year. Junctions require extra to improve visibility. Flower meadow proposal was rejected regarding use of pesticides. Clerk to follow up on Copper Birches.  CC to establish which verges are to be committed as wildflower designated verges. |
| **Community Engagement** | | | |
|  | **Education – Village Markets** | Ongoing programme of attendance at local market to promote climate change initiatives which parishioners can adopt. Feb 24 – discuss plans for next market   * Promote the stall being run on Fridays selling local produce * ~~16 Mar~~ / ~~18 May~~ / 21 Sep / 16 Nov | 4.3.24 **Jan / Sara / Anouk** to pull up plants – Jan to sort stall booking . Plant swap.**Sara** to look into seeds **Anouk** to give banner to Sara **Jan** followed up with Ashdown Forest re: weald to waves for market. **Sara** to talk to Sussex Peasant . **Emma G** to talk to Mick re: Monty Mick idea  **10.4.24 Emma G** to speak to Monty Mick.  Jan awaiting response from the above for next market re: Ashdown Forest attendance  **5.9.24** Sep market is planned for 21/9. Elizabeth will talk to Forest Centre to see if they will support  Lynnie Hutcheson will attend.  5.9.24 what we’ve done sheet to promote DPCC  Julia Parker author – not sure we should be supporting |
|  | **Weald to Waves** | Review the possibilities to link in on this and promote locally. | 4.3.24 -Jansent emails – no response to date  **10.4.24** Elizabeth advised of the AF walk being done in memory of James Adler promoting the project 25-28 April. **All** to promote this via Facebook |
|  | **Facebook Parish CC page** | Promotion of CC initiatives to date and planned NB – not a large amount of subscribers. Opportunity to promote all CCC activities through main village page | 24.2.24 **Anouk** to pull together narrative for PC page + FB pages  4.3.24 No update as yet from Anouk  **10.4.24 Anouk** to run a link and info on activities to date and ahead  **5.9.24** Discuss who can support these promotional activities |
|  | **Liaison with schools** | Some initial inclusion in market activities – opportunity to extend further.  Feb 24 – to be discussed  Could Beth open up discussion with Danehill Primary to look at possible initiatives? Alongside market? Showcase kids bugs hotels?  Could TNT / baby toddler group join in / forest Jubilee Green | **24.2.24 Clerk** to discuss with Beth  **10.4.24** Update please from Emma Clerk.  **5.9.24** Discuss the opportunity to educate schools about energy use – possibly for both Danehill and Cumnor. Would Cumnor agreeing to a review FOC (BM) to find ways to improve their sustainability and educate at same time. Tony to check in with PC – BM to create a summary for Tony to present. |
|  | **Parish Council Website update** | Update the website to show various initiatives undertaken and planned. Feb 24 – who will manage this? | **4.3.24 Clerk** working on – Anouk to supply narrative to Clerk  **10.4.24**  Anouk to pass through narrative  5.9.24 Outstanding  5.9.24 Clerk to utilise Strategy Summary for website |
| **COMPLETE** | Information boards for Recreational Grounds informing local people of planting projects etc | Feb 24 - To be discussed  Info board on burial ground – could anything be put u | Clerk – this is complete for Recreational Ground. **CLOSED** |
| **COMPLETE** | Open Gardens | Idea of having a village garden open day | Emma G – idea too big for CC committee.  **CLOSED** |
|  | Collaborate with other CC communities | Look into FROW activities and Lewes and Lindfield, Maresfield Parish activities | **All** to look into  **10.4.24** - no updates |
| Sep 24 | Concerns around sewage discharge around Danehill Treatment | Over 90 discharge events in 2023 | **5.9.24 Need to improve – Tony raising with Christina Coleman and raise with PC on 15.9.24** |