



Millbrook Parish Council Environment and Climate Change Policy

Policy statement

Millbrook Parish Council aims to carry out its activities with environmental efficiency, actively seeking to protect and enhance the local environment and biodiversity within its area of operation whilst endeavouring to ensure wider adverse environmental impact does not occur as a result.

Background

Millbrook Parish Council recognises that a climate emergency has been declared at national, regional and within some organisations, local level.

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting, held on 21st May 2019, Millbrook Parish Council voted to declare a climate change emergency.

On 21st January 2020, minute 83, the Council resolved to (i) align with Cornwall Council's target and aims to become carbon neutral by 2030 and (ii) commission a Carbon Energy Audit

The Parish Council will consider the impact its activities have on both climate change and biodiversity issues and will endeavour to introduce measures that either mitigate negative outcomes or actively support beneficial outcomes, where this is practicable and affordable within the resources and financial capabilities of council.



Millbrook Parish Council

Millbrook Parish Council, The Village Hall, The Parade, Millbrook, Cornwall, PL10 1AX
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The Parish Council will specifically consider the following:

- the impact that operating its assets has on the environment,
- the impact that the goods and services it procures, including the environmental commitment of its suppliers, has on the environment,
- where possible and appropriate, replace environmentally inefficient assets with environmentally friendly alternatives
- the impact that execution of the Parish Council's activities may have on the environment

Aims

In all its activities the Parish Council will aim to;

1. Minimise the consumption of all resources used in its operations, particularly in respect of the buildings and equipment it uses and the administration of its activities.
2. Seek, wherever possible, to only use contractors and suppliers who have their own environmental policy, which is continually reviewed, updated and measured against recognised, best practice examples.
3. Where possible, affordable and commensurate with Parish Council powers and duties, support local initiatives aimed at climate change and or, biodiversity protection or enhancement.
4. Where possible and cost effective, use alternative to pesticides to control unwanted vegetation.



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Weed control

This policy was adopted by Millbrook Parish Council during the Parish Council meeting held on 16th February 2016:

Weed control is needed to prevent blockages to gutters and storm drains and to protect road and pavement surfaces from damage.

Weed control will be limited to man-made surfaces, pavements, paved areas, gutters and gravelled areas.

The only possible exception to this would be to eradicate invasive species such as Japanese knot weed with specific treatment.

The Parish Council favours hand-weeding by volunteers and council staff as the prime method of weed control.

If further weed control is required the Parish Council reserves the right to use approved herbicide subject to the following:

- Only materials approved by the Government code of practice for use in public areas will be used.
- Such materials will not be used near streams and water courses.
- Warning signs will be displayed when herbicides are being applied.
- Herbicide will only be applied by suitably equipped trained operatives who hold the relevant qualifications.
- A record of all herbicide use detailing date, time, location and area covered is held by the Parish Council.
- All appropriate health and safety regulations will be followed.