



# PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

## Pucklechurch Parish Council Environment Policy

### Purpose

To promote and ensure appropriate consideration is given to the environment whilst Pucklechurch Parish Council (PPC) and its employees or contractors are conducting its business and activities. In order to do this, PPC needs to take responsibility for its actions and need to have a sense of duty and care for the world in which we live.

### Scope

All employees, contractors, those receiving grant funding from PPC and users of PPC owned resources (land and buildings). This document also has a bearing on those with delegated authority to purchase materials and or goods from suppliers and to instruct/employ contractors to undertake various types of work with or on behalf of Council; as these third party activities can have a direct impact on the environment.

### Policy Statement

PPC is committed to protecting and maintaining the quality of the environment by managing its land and properties and carrying out its services in an environmentally sensitive way where this is practicable. PPC recognises the growing importance of environmental considerations and will, wherever practicable, promote the concepts of sustainable development. Sustainable development is about 'meeting the needs of today's society without compromising future generation's ability to meet their own needs'.

PPC believes it has a responsibility to care for and protect the environment in which it operates. PPC is fully committed to improving environmental performance across all of its activities, and will encourage our delivery partners and members of the wider community to join us in this effort.

PPC recognises its key impacts to be in the areas of:

- energy use
- raw material use
- waste generation
- emissions to air/water
- water use
- transport
- procurement

It will strive to:

- Adopt the highest environmental standards in all areas of operation, meeting and exceeding all relevant legislative requirements.
- Assess its activities and identify areas where it can minimise impacts.
- Minimise waste through careful and efficient use of all materials and energy.
- Purchase sustainable products wherever feasible [e.g. recycled, FSC or low environmental impact products and energy from renewable sources].
- Publicise its environmental position.
- Ensure contractors use good environmental practice and encourage involvement in environmental action.
- Reduce risks from environmental, health or safety hazards for parishioners.
- Adopt an environmentally sound transport strategy.
- Aim to include environmental and ethical considerations in purchasing decisions where appropriate.
- Assist in developing solutions to environmental problems.

*This policy is reviewed annually by the council at the annual council meeting when any relevant changes will be made. See minutes for further details*



## PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

- Continually assess the environmental impact of all our operations.

### **Energy**

PPC will reduce the amount of energy and water it uses by careful housekeeping and where possible use energy from sustainable sources.

### **Paper**

PPC will reduce the amount of paper it uses by:

- Writing and printing on both sides of the paper whenever possible
- Filing photocopies for use at a later date if appropriate
- Sending information electronically where appropriate
- Buying paper that is environmentally friendly

Any paper that cannot be re-used will be recycled

### **Purchasing & Contracts**

Where possible and practicable PPC will purchase its goods and services from local suppliers who share the Council's environmental viewpoint:

- Purchase and use products, which have been manufactured from recycled materials and can be disposed of in an environmentally sustainable way.
- Use contractors (as and when required) who share the Council's environmental objectives or when working for the Council, adopt equivalent environmental standards.

### **Waste Disposal**

Council (and contractors) will aim to reduce the amount of waste produced and where practicable recycle/re-use so reducing the amount of waste that goes into landfill.

PPC fully supports South Gloucestershire Council's recycling door step/kerbside collection scheme and will support and promote recycling facilities within the Parish.

All other forms of green waste collected (where practicable) will be recycled through Composters and turned into a garden mulch/soil for use in Council maintained areas.

### **Management and Maintenance**

Council (or council contractors) will:

- Asses chemicals used, ensuring there is appropriate safe disposal
- Minimise the use of harmful pesticides and herbicides.
- Compost and shred green waste and not use burning
- Routinely service and maintain equipment to ensure efficient operation.

### **Transport**

Council will liaise with the County Council and other relevant bodies in embracing all initiatives aimed at encouraging the use of, and improvements to, the public transport infrastructure. This will include schemes aimed at increasing the number of people who walk or cycle to work/school and the use of public footpaths for pedestrians and the less able-bodied people to use and enjoy.

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## **PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Litter & Dog Fouling**

The Council will actively seek to discourage all forms of littering in particular Dog Fouling. Any incidents brought to the Council's attention will be investigated and reported to the relevant authorities including the Police and Dog Warden.

### **Natural & Historic Environment**

PPC will work to protect, enhance and preserve the natural environment within the Parish for today's and future generation's enjoyment.

### **Building & Development**

PPC will support South Gloucestershire Council's approach to managing the impact of development on the local natural and historic environment as well as its features and resources as referenced in the policies contained within its Local Plan Core Strategy 2006 – 2027.

### **Adherence to Policy**

It is the responsibility of the Clerk to notify and provide copies of this policy to contractors and councillors.

### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed regularly and amended as necessary.