

# TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL



## Environmental Policy

## **1.0 Our Aim**

- 1.1 Tenbury Town Council is committed to support a sustainable community. The Council recognises that some activities will have a negative impact on the environment, and the aim of the policy is to establish broad objectives to develop actions to help reduce the impact.
- 1.2 The Council will endeavour to be as conscientious as possible about conservation, use of resources and recycling.
- 1.3 The Council will operate suitable procedures and systems in order to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and look at ways to limit its environmental impact.
- 1.4 The Council will endeavour to care for the environment through its practices, encourage and work with the community to help reduce negative effects on the environment.
- 1.5 The Council will encourage environmentally friendly ways of working through its processes, such as those listed below:

## **2.0 Energy and Water Management**

- 2.1 The Town Council is committed to responsible energy and will promote energy efficiency through its operations:
  - Encourage staff to ensure electrical equipment and unnecessary lights are switched off when not in use
  - Encourage staff to close windows and external doors when heating is on
  - Replace lighting, when required, with LED
  - Encourage staff to use water efficiently on Council premises
  - Where possible utilise water-butts fed by downpipes as a non-drinking water source
  - Ensure staff and Members minimise vehicle miles driven on Council business and encourage car sharing
  - Provide free tap water refills to the public to help prevent plastic pollution.

## **3.0 Recycling and Conservation**

- 3.1 The Town Council will:

- Encourage the recycling of wastepaper and cardboard
- Encourage the recycling of all suitable plastics and glass
- Promote and encourage recycling
- Use recycled paper products where feasible
- Minimise the amount of printing
- Use both sides of paper whenever possible
- Utilise electronic communications where possible
- Print the minimum number of promotional leaflets as necessary and recycle those not used
- Recycle used ink cartridges
- Minimise the use of harmful pesticides
- Compost garden and kitchen waste and use controlled burning only when necessary
- Use the local recycling centre when necessary
- Wherever possible reuse, recycle or reduce

#### **4.0 Biodiversity and Green Spaces**

##### 4.1 The Town Council will:

- Seek to protect and where possible enhance the quality of the natural environment and open spaces
- Support the conservation of trees, hedgerows, ponds and streams
- Consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity particularly considering the management of its land
- Seek to manage its green spaces in a manner that promotes and protects biodiversity
- If possible, plant more trees and use indigenous species as much as possible
- Minimise the use of harmful pesticides

## **5.0 Awareness, Lobbying and Partnerships**

### **5.1 The Town Council will:**

- Work with other local authorities to promote awareness of, and provide information on environmental issues within the community
- Where appropriate, act as a voice for local environmental concerns to those agencies given the statutory powers to tackle these issues
- Work with the community to help reduce activities that have a negative impact on the environment
- Ensure staff and Members are aware of their responsibilities in implementing this environmental policy
- Promote and use local recycling initiatives where possible

## **6.0 Sustainable Procurement**

### **6.1 The Town Council will:**

- Where possible seek to minimise, environmental damage caused through the transportation of goods by sourcing materials and services locally if the requirement for value for money and the quality of goods and services are met
- Purchase recycled goods where appropriate
- Use of email, SharePoint or telephone in preference to the postal service
- Where possible, limit the purchase of single use plastics