

27 SEPTEMBER 2019

FOWNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL, HEREFORDSHIRE

Fownhope Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 and, since making their declaration, they have been working to create a document that sets out exactly what this means for Fownhope, not only for the parish council, but for local businesses and the community, as individuals and as a whole. This document is an action plan to support their declaration. It incorporates plans to encourage and develop local action in five main areas: transport, buildings, waste, energy and green infrastructure.

The council have considered how community groups could be set up to run 'make do and mend' or 'repair' cafes to reduce waste and to work to reduce the amount of unwanted junk mail deliveries in the village. They are considering a collective green energy purchase; a communal composting area or a communal green waste skip to reduce individual journeys of the 12 mile round trip to the nearest refuse centre; and recycling stations for both visitors and residents, to give a few examples of the many actions proposed.

In addition to this, Fownhope are in discussion with a recognised supplier (and working to secure funding) for a further innovative opportunity to support the local community. They hope that the development of a parish wide electronic carbon calculator and reporting tool kit would enable Fownhope to gain an understanding as a community about where their carbon emissions need addressing, enabling them to reduce emissions and repost on them meaningfully. The toolkit could be used across the whole county, thereby supporting Herefordshire Council's own aspiration for the county to become carbon neutral. Fownhope are fortunate to have a committed team of residents and councillors working together on our Environment Working Group.

Has your council done something similar? If so, please contact NALC through the email address: Claire.goldfinch@nalc.gov.uk

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