

Braunston Parish Council Climate Action

We are grateful to the cross-party group of district councillors for providing the opportunity to explore what can be done by parish and town councils along with DDC in Daventry District.

Braunston Parish Council is required to address the climate emergency following the inclusion of sections of the Neighbourhood Plan which was made in February 2017:

<p><u>Policy D – Link to Daventry</u></p> <p>A combined cycleway and walkway between Braunston and Daventry will be supported. The route should be attractive, safe, clearly segregated from vehicular traffic and designed to have the least possible impact on areas of ecological importance.</p> <p><u>Policy M – Sustainable Development</u></p> <p>Proposals for development that incorporate features that address the challenges of climate change will be supported providing they are in-keeping with the Character Area with regards to scale, layout and materials. These features will include sustainable drainage and porous/permeable surfacing for drives.</p> <p>Supplementary Proposals:</p> <p>e) Review and consult on ways to manage open spaces and road verges in ways that increase biodiversity and reduce carbon emissions.</p>
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The following actions will also reduce Braunston’s impact on the climate.

ACTION	STATUS
1. Convert all streetlights to LED. Report to parishioners on the amount of energy and money saved.	2019/2020 Budgeted
2. Check with existing electricity supplier re: proportion originating from renewable supplies. If appropriate investigate alternative tariff.	2019 2027 Start new tariff.
3. Check whether existing bank invests in fossil fuel companies. If appropriate investigate alternative bank.	2019
4. Manage public land appropriately, avoiding the use of fossil fuel wherever possible and providing carbon sinks. This will include reducing grass mowing and shredding and allowing prunings to decompose naturally in an appropriate place. Report on the amount of energy and money saved. Carbon sinks to be provided by planting trees and other flora that retains and protects biodiversity. Promote opportunities for community involvement.	2020 Promote community involvement. Seek information from Wildlife Trust. 2021 Amended grass mowing contract
5. Provide opportunities for active lifestyles that promote health and thereby reduce car-dependence.	By 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two children’s play areas updated • Wheelpark installed • Playing field provided • Pocket park developed • Rights of way promoted • Four claims submitted to Highways authority for Definitive Map Modification Orders. All pending.

	2020 Braunston-Daventry cycleway/footpath created linking Braunston to the Daventry network.
6. Provide a guide for the use of sustainable and accessible transport to and from Braunston.	2020 Awaiting confirmation of introduction of Demand Response Transport service.
7. Install solar panels to generate renewable energy on public buildings. Use battery storage.	Aspirational
8. Convert the community car scheme to use electric vehicle(s).	Aspirational
9. Provide public land for the installation of EV charging points	Aspirational
10. Promote air-source and ground-source heating	2016 Installed in latest phase of Housing Association development. 2019 Installed in Village Hall
11. Monitor the actions and policies of other organisations including the higher tiers of local government and national government. Respond to consultations. When policies have the direct or indirect effect of increasing global heating or do not reduce or mitigate climate change, communicate with the appropriate body to put pressure on them to change the policies.	On-going

The parish council has listed 8 actions that we are taking and 3 that we aspire to take to reduce Braunston's carbon footprint. We are aware that many of the regulations and fiscal nudges that impact on people's lives and potentially lead each of us to move towards zero carbon, are set by higher tiers of local government and mostly by central government. Therefore, one of Braunston's actions is to lobby for low and zero carbon alternatives and respond accordingly to government and other consultations. We urge DDC to do the same, including lobbying our MP so that he knows we are monitoring him when he votes in parliament.