



Climate Emergency Working Group

Terms of Reference

These Terms of Reference should be reviewed regularly and presented to the Full Council for approval.

INITIAL INTRODUCTION

Climate change is already affecting the entire world, with extreme weather conditions such as drought, heat waves, heavy rain, floods and landslides becoming more frequent, including in the UK. Other consequences of the rapidly changing climate include rising sea levels, ocean acidification and loss of biodiversity.

Serious steps need to be taken to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, a threshold the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) suggests is safe.

Burnham Parish Council declared a climate emergency on 15th March 2021.

WORKING GROUP PURPOSE

1. Coordinate action towards making Burnham a sustainable community, by making Burnham Parish Council Net Carbon neutral before 2030 and working to stop nature loss.
2. Set targets and measure progress against that goal.
3. Work with other organisations and stakeholders in Burnham Village towards the same aims.
4. To investigate all possible sources of external funding and match funding to support this commitment.

Membership and Quorum

5. The group shall consist of up to 8 members, at least 3 of these are to be Burnham Parish Councillors.
6. Quorum will be 3 Parish Councillors
7. The group will appoint a chairman and secretary.
8. The Climate Emergency 2030 Working Group will meet as called by the Chairman.
9. The Clerk, or other Parish Council officer, may attend each meeting to advise or take notes.
10. The Climate Emergency 2030 Working Group may co-opt members and liaise with a community panel as they so wish.
11. A person may no longer be a member, if they are absent for three or more concurrent meetings of the group.

Reporting

12. The Climate Emergency 2030 Working Group will report to the Full Council. All recommendations will be reported to Full Council for consideration.

13. The working group shall advise the Clerk on how it wishes to spend any grant funding.

14. The Clerk, in discussion with the group, shall be able to incur expenditure up to the amount raised from the Council or other body for exclusive use on the museum project.

15. All expenditure must be in accordance with the Parish Council's Financial Regulations.

16. On matters that require further research, for example requesting a more detailed report or seeking clarification from third parties on a specific item, then the Climate Emergency 2030 Working Group shall have a delegated power to act.

ADOPTED DATE: 15/05/2023