



Kempley Parish Council - Climate Change Emergency Report on progress to the January 2022 Parish Council Meeting.

Introduction

Kempley Parish Council (KPC) declared a Climate Change Emergency at our meeting in October 2019. We agreed at our November 2020 meeting that the KPC would move forward towards carbon neutrality by 2030 by taking the following actions:

1. **Baselining our current community carbon emissions**
2. **Showcasing best examples of carbon reduction programmes**
3. **Promoting the uptake of existing grant schemes that will support carbon reduction**
4. **Promoting the full uptake and use of superfast broadband [to drive change in the way we work, travel and shop to reduce carbon emissions].**

Summary on progress

Baselining our current community carbon emissions

Progress – Workshop to explore how to get the best out of the IMPACT Tool (which provides our base line data for the Parish on Carbon emission) later this month (26th January 2022)

No progress on creating a new data layer on Parish Online to record carbon improvements in Kempley.

Showcasing best examples of carbon reduction programmes

Progress - The Forest Climate Group (FCG) of Parish and Town Councils in the Forest of Dean continue to meet on a bi-monthly basis to share best practice and to pool ideas on joint projects. The last meeting was held on 13th January. Major reports on the EU AURORA project were presented along with a FCG Action Day, now planned for SATURDAY 5th MARCH at The WEST DEAN CENTRE. This event will take place for most of the day and KPC Cllrs are invited to take part.

No further progress from Bob Earll and Mark Warrilow on their Sharing the Benefits initiative, exploring resident's response to the climate, over-consumption, and nature emergency.

Promoting the uptake of existing grant schemes that will support carbon reduction

Progress – Caplor Energy have agreed to give a presentation on air source and ground source heat pump technology and the new grant scheme on a date to be agreed end February early March. The new grant scheme is not expected to go live till July 2022.

Progress - AURORA started on 1st December 2021 and will run for 3.5 years. It will bring over €500,000 of investment from the EU to the Forest of Dean. Its prime aim is to support local people on their journey to Net Zero Carbon and will offer a community photovoltaic scheme in which we can all invest. The Parish Council will be able to encourage local parishioners to take part in the project. The scheme will be led locally by the Forest of Dean District Council and Centre for Sustainable Energy Bristol. The scheme will link our local community to research underway on how to reduce community carbon emissions in Spain, Denmark, Germany, Portugal and Slovenia.

Promoting the full uptake and use of superfast broadband

Progress - New Gigaclear Community liaison officer in post end January 2022. We still have no information from Gigaclear on when installation works will commence. Another years delay is now unacceptable after successive delays in previous years. The roll our programme is losing all credibility in our community and we need help from Cllr Gill Mossley to increase the pressure on Gigaclear to commit to roll out dates and to be held accountable for non-delivery by Fastershires the joint County Council implementation programme for Herefordshire and Gloucestershire County Councils.

Martin Brocklehurst
Chair Kempeley Parish Council – November 2021