

# Gerrards Cross Town Council



www.gerrardscross.gov.uk

## GXTC Climate Change Statement 2021

To propose that we treat climate change as a factor in future decision making

To make all our decisions as sustainable as we are able to

Replenish instead of diminish - encourage solar energy, support biodiversity, support natural resources

To propose this non binding statement to the Full Council to confirm and remind us to continue those practices we already have in place and to work towards acknowledging other changes that need to be implemented

To bring awareness to our community by communication and initiatives and turning abstract initiatives into genuine action no matter how small and insignificant they may seem

Recognising our direct powers relevant to climate change are limited and to engage for support with Bucks Council and to share and co-operate with other Towns and Parishes.

**Bringing awareness** - for example; about how much we use our cars, protecting our green spaces

**Planning decisions** - We are already consultees and therefore feedback and influence all development, we have an almost finalised Neighbourhood Plan and actively protect the Green Belt and our open Green Spaces.

**Engage with Tree Officer** - support carbon storage, plant the right trees in the right place and allow them to grow to maturity,

**Transport** - reduce emissions - we already support walking, cycling and use of public transport

**Energy** - bring awareness via website etc 1. of Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-programmes/domestic-rhi> 2. Solar energy, 3. Support installation of Electric vehicle Charging points in Town Centres

**Support our Green spaces** - via volunteer groups ie Conservation Volunteers

**Encourage** - litter picking, recycling, provide bins

**Promote** - Buying locally and buying local produce (where possible)

**Support Biodiversity** - plant trees, plant perennials that live longer and accumulate biomass, plant wildflowers and stop or eliminate use of pesticides and use alternatives such as mulching or manual removal of weeds all of which we already do and support

The Council Office can lead the way and set an example:

Reduce waste and help environment be Paper free / plastic free

Energy - renewable heating / solar panels

Encourage and practice recycling

Choose low carbon options- apart from heating and power - Energy Star appliances & computers, buy organic supplies; tea/ coffee

Walk or cycle to meetings or use Zoom etc.