



Cdfirsqwx2aCrowhurst Parish Council

Climate Emergency, Position Statement and Action Plan

Crowhurst Parish Council would like to declare a climate emergency and in doing so pledge to take actions in the following areas:

Planning

Crowhurst is an unsustainable location for development, not having access to shops etc without the use of a private car. Buses run in the village twice a week. When responding to a planning application for new residential property/ies we will:

- **Comment on each proposal for development of additional residential accommodation, whether conversion of agricultural buildings or other, that Crowhurst is an unsustainable location and reliant on the private car – hence causing carbon emissions and climate damage.**
- **Add a requirement for the premises to have renewable energy sources and to have Electric vehicle charging points included in the build.**

Crowhurst is a rural parish, benefiting from a large number of trees which ensure that it retains its rural nature. The removal of trees will reduce the rural nature of the parish. When responding to any planning application we will:

- **Request in our planning response that any tree which is to be removed in order to make way for any development is replaced by a minimum of two, either on the premises or a nominated location elsewhere in the village.**
- **Request that a tree is planted either on the premises or a nominated location elsewhere in the village, for every 10m² of build.**

An environmental impact statement is sought and gained for new build / conversions and this looks at any possible negative impact on the environment. We will:

- **Request that the environmental impact report includes positive action which can be taken to benefit the environment / nature to ensure that it can become a better location for nature and therefore beneficial for balancing the ecosystem.**

Lighting from and inside property is a large drain on energy and also causes unnecessary light pollution. In our responses to planning requests we will:

- **Request that all lighting in the development be LED.**
- **That external lighting is limited**

Flooding within the village is now very common and will be increasingly so, though thankfully not impacting property to date. Properties in the centre of the Parish do not have the benefit of mains drainage, the soakaways in place add to the excess water issue, and when soaked, nothing soaks away and, in addition, septic tanks / cesspools utilising run off facilities, do not run off.

- **We will request in the Parish Council response to planning and development, that any development in the Parish has a specific consideration for the potential flooding and drainage issues noted above.**

We will also include the above in our Neighbourhood Plan.

Council Administration

- **We will reduce printing and reliance on paper for council meetings, by using electronic devices for the council papers and agenda.**
- **The clerk and councillors will find smarter ways of working to ensure that printing is not necessary and therefore we no longer spend on ink cartridges or paper.**



Other ideas

Add a 'pledge an action' to the Annual Parish meeting whereby the community can each pledge an action that they will do to make a difference.

Consider power generation for the village / next to village hall to power the hall.

Landowners get together to create a green super highway and once the land is committed to this purpose that changes are made if necessary to encourage a broad ecosystem across the parish.

We will identify a location to plant trees, buy trees in bulk and give a tree to Parishioners to plant at home, or in the identified location.