

## Eardisland Environment and Sustainability Group

### Eardisland Parish Council Carbon Reduction Impact Report 2022 – 2023

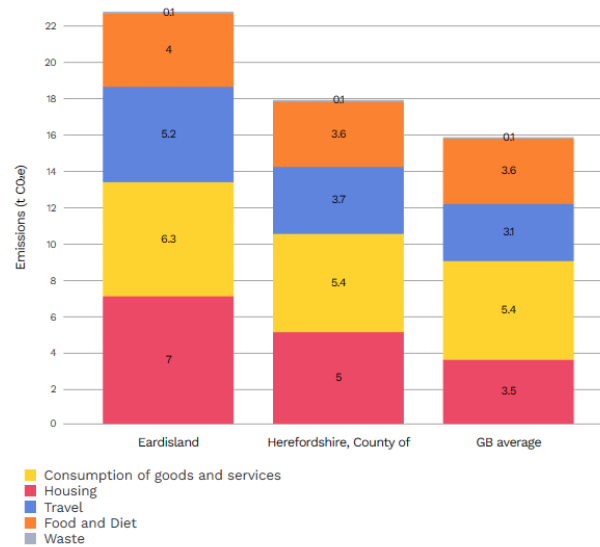
#### Community Carbon Calculating

The carbon footprint is "a measure of the impact human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide".

The figures below are from the IMPACT Community Carbon Calculator ( <https://impact-tool.org.uk> ) which provides parish-level analysis. It is produced by the Centre for Sustainable Energy with backing from the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and others. The IMPACT tool with data specific to Eardisland Parish Council can be found at: <https://impact-tool.org.uk/footprint/footprint?regionId=E04000747&geography=parish&footprintType=consumption&scale=absolute>

It is recommended that the full IMPACT report (on the above page click the 'PDF Report' button) be read alongside this Carbon Reduction Impact Report to help understand the estimated carbon footprint of the parish and possible ways the Parish Council can help with reducing it.

#### How Does Eardisland Compare?



## Parish Council Progress

As this is Eardisland's first Annual Carbon Reduction Impact Report it details all actions taken since the formation of the Environment and Sustainability Group in October 2021.

### The Layout of the Report

Action	Progress	Problems	Notes
The actions are taken from the current Eardisland Parish Council Environment & Sustainability Policy. They are grouped into six areas where the Parish Council has influence.	Any progress on the actions has been noted.	A record of problems encountered when trying to take action. Also, any actions taken that go against new policy.	Including suggestions for how to move forwards.

### PC Activity

Action	Progress	Problems	Notes
Investigate all opportunities to reduce its use of resources, including energy.	A significant start has been made by the creating of the E&S group, including representatives from the PC. Moving forwards this group will be able to offer advice and guidance.	No current assessment of the use of PC resources exists.	Improve insulation etc. in VH to reduce energy use.
Reuse materials whenever possible.	The clerk reuses paper where possible.		Only small amounts of materials directly used by the PC. Most likely to be office supplies.
Recycle waste materials where possible and dispose of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.	The clerk recycles office supplies and packaging where possible.		Very little waste material produced.

Make sure low energy LED lights are used in PC owned buildings.		No current assessment of type of lighting in PC owned buildings. Recent EPC has made recommendations about changing lamps.	The PC only owns the VH.
Explore all opportunities to secure renewable, low carbon energy for PC owned buildings and aim to move to 100% renewable energy as soon as possible.	The VH now has an Energy Performance Certificate which will help when looking at energy use and future options.	Choice of energy supplier for the VH is made by the EVHMC. New gas central heating has recently been installed in the VH.	The PC only owns the VH. Gas central heating was considered the best option at the time of installation. Look at possibilities for encouraging the EVHMC to use 100% renewable energy.
Minimise the impact of travelling on PC business, where practicable and safe, by meeting online, walking, cycling, car sharing or the use of public transport.	The clerk's mileage is likely to be the largest impact of travelling. This will be significantly lower over the past year than previously due to the clerk living in the village. Where possible the clerk has tried to combine visits to Hereford or attend Hereford based meetings virtually.	Impractical for the clerk to use public transport to get to Hereford. New clerk may not live locally.	Councillors travelling to PC meetings is a small number of miles compared to trips to Hereford, but walking, cycling or car sharing should still be encouraged.

## Procurement

Action	Progress	Problems	Notes
The PC will give preference to local suppliers.		<p>No records of suppliers used. It may not always be possible to use local suppliers.</p> <p>Note that this is not just about reducing miles travelled for contractors, but also the carbon</p>	<p>List of suppliers taken from last years minutes:</p> <p>Mowing</p> <p>HiTrees (Lengthsman and repairs)</p> <p>PIP printing</p> <p>eUKHost (website)</p> <p>Woodcock Web Services</p> <p>J Harper</p>

		<p>footprint due to miles travelled by resources.</p>	<p>PKF auditing  Microshade auditing  Posh Sheds  R. Davies  Signworx printing  Roundabout Stationary  F White – Playground inspection  Total Event Displays  Flying Colours Flags (Jubilee flag and bunting)  Ashridge Trees Ltd  Hereford Heating  Vodaphone</p>
<p>The PC will give preference to options that are demonstrably environmentally friendly and low impact.</p>	<p>VH kitchen extension met current building standards.  Frequency of verge mowing carried out to be as low impact as possible?</p>	<p>Could VH extension have been commissioned to be lower impact?  Suggestion to suggest preference for use of electric mowers for mowing contract rejected.  Support for E-Team work on PC land could be assessed for environmental impact while recognising the groups hard work and visual impact of village centre.  Parish Magazine printing could be looked at.</p>	<p>Lessons to be learnt from building projects?</p>
<p>The PC will give preference to products that have been manufactured from natural and recycled materials, or that can be reused or disposed of in an environmentally sustainable manner.</p>		<p>The PC agreed to the purchase of (plastic) bunting.  Parish Magazine printing could be looked at in terms of volume and carbon footprint of paper.</p>	<p>It is difficult to make informed decisions on purchasing items needing an immediate decision.</p>

## Place shaping

Action	Progress	Problems	Notes
The PC will require a Sustainability Statement to outline how a proposal has considered and included sustainability features.		Unclear if this has been carried out for past planning applications.	Ensure this requirement is publicised and met.
The PC will expect new builds to incorporate renewable energy, mindful that we have Conservation Area constraints.		Unclear if this has been carried out for past planning applications.	Look at possibility of drafting some standard responses to planning applications, to make sure comments on planning applications always stick to PC policy. PC to look at problems with renewables connecting to National Grid.
The PC will encourage sustainable, integrated, and active transport systems.		Unclear if this has been carried out for past planning applications.	Look at possibility of drafting some standard responses to planning applications, to make sure comments on planning applications always stick to PC policy.

## Partnerships

Action	Progress	Problems	Notes
The PC will support and promote the actions of groups and organisations within and aligned to the parish, which share our aims of working to eliminate, reduce or mitigate negative environmental impacts and actively facilitate beneficial outcomes.	The PC has supported the E&S group's projects to reduce carbon use. The PC has signed the Greener Footprints pledge committing it to considering actions proposed by Herefordshire Council's Climate and Nature Partnership Board.	Take up for TGC has been low across the county. The idea is that the PC has access to the data showing how many individuals and businesses have signed up and what actions they are engaged with and can use this data to plan Carbon Reduction Actions. Currently 8 people signed up.	

	The PC has signed up to The Great Collaboration which allows individuals and businesses to sign up and view a list of carbon reducing and ecologically beneficial actions.		
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### Showcasing, engaging, and communicating

Action	Progress	Problems	Notes
The PC will publicise its positive environmental actions and promote best practice.	The PC has a regular column in the Parish Magazine.		Need to ensure that positive environmental actions are included in each issue.
The PC will support the work of the E&S Group, including projects aiming to monitor and reduce carbon emissions and protect and enhance habitat diversity locally which could include the setting of targets and monitoring progress against agreed timeframes.	The PC has declared a climate emergency and committed to produce this document. It has supported the E&S group starting the 'Plastic Free Communities' initiative, and distributing winterproofing materials.		
The PC will identify and engage with local and national experts such as the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and Herefordshire Green Network.	The PC is a member of HGN.		Look at setting up 'field trips' to positive projects in the parish, for example renewable energy.
The PC will seek and apply for opportunities for funding for environmental and sustainability actions on behalf of the parish, including supporting grant bids by others where sustainability is a core objective	The PC supported grant applications by the E&S group to Herefordshire Councils Climate and Nature grant in Jan 2022 (Tree Audit and Thermal Imaging) for £2275.50 and The Woodland Trust in Jan 2023 (Tree & Hedge planting) for £1606.50.		

<p>The PC will share best practice that is recommended by the E&amp;S Group with the local community and local businesses.</p>	<p>The PC has a regular column in the Parish Magazine.</p>		<p>Need to ensure that positive environmental actions are included in each issue. More use could be made of the MailChimp mailing list held by the PC as it provides a quicker method of communication than the PM.</p>
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