



Eco Church group plan

REVISED NOVEMBER 2022

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Action	Progress	Comments
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<p>A. Worship and Teaching</p> <p>A1. Hold special Sunday services about caring for God's earth and include related hymns and songs, prayers, sermons, and liturgies celebrating God's creation.</p> <p>A2. Invite guest speakers from Christian and other environmental organisations to speak about environmental issues.</p> <p>A3. How we 'Care for God's Earth' features in our work with local schools.</p> <p>A4. Create a prayer labyrinth and interactive outdoor prayer stations in the churchyard and invite village members and pupils from the school to add their contributions. https://www.urcwales.org.uk/news/outdoor-prayer-ideas/</p> <p>A5. Our website, newsletter and other publications feature regular items relating to the theme of 'Caring for God's Earth'.</p> <p>A6. Future events include 'messy church goes wild' with picnic</p> <p>A7. DCC agreed to fund the purchase of a book full of different ideas on organising such events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eco church launched at Sunday service 17th October 2021 - A successful Wild Worship service was held in the Church yard on July 17th. The activities were well used. - Speakers from other churches have attended services and meetings. - School children given a voice at the 21st of September open meeting on Caring for creation - October 2nd Harvest service to be Creation based, if possible, outside our local school will be invited to attend - Not in place yet work preparations have started. - The Parish newsletter and website regularly includes information and features relating to 'Caring for God's Earth' <p>These events to be incorporated into 2023 calendar</p>	<p>Prayers and hymns relevant to 'Caring for God's earth are now a regular feature in church services</p> <p>Farnley Tyas school are becoming more interested and involved in Eco church related activities.</p>
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<p>B. Building</p> <p>B1. All future buildings will be subject to BREEAM criteria (national sustainability assessment for building projects)</p> <p>B2. Measure our energy use and have set targets to reduce our carbon footprint annually. Replace existing radiators with improved energy saving heating appliances.</p> <p>B3. Ensure that our electricity supply is generated from renewable sources.</p> <p>B4. Explore possibilities of generating renewable energy (air or ground source heat pump, solar panels, wind turbine). Explore ways of retaining heat within the building insulation and glazing.</p> <p>B5. Ensure that we have the most economic form of external lighting internally and externally.</p> <p>B6. Collect rainwater install water butts and explore ways to use 'grey water'.</p> <p>B7. Use recycled toilet paper, hand towels and recycled paper for office supplies.</p> <p>B8. All cleaning products used are environmentally friendly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No new building work carried out - Our energy use is measured regularly, and targets will be set once a decision has been taken about how we heat the church building in future. - Our electricity supply is from a renewable supplier. - We have a meeting with external specialist consultants in church engineering and architects in October/ early November after which an option appraisal on a generating and delivery system for St. Lucius will be undertaken - In place - Water butts being installed September - All in place - Some 'old stock' being used up replacements will be environmentally friendly 	<p>Funding for a building and energy surveys approved by PCC St. Lucius recognises and is planning to apply to church authorities for a full 'Faculty' to install a new heating system.</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>
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<p>C. Land</p> <p>C1. The DCC will develop a management plan for the church land which involves our local community especially the school; community group, church gardener and WI and includes the following:</p> <p>C2. Managing the church land in ways which encourage wildlife by installing boxes for: birds and insects; bats; hedgehogs.</p> <p>C3. Establishing a mowing regime appropriate to the conservation of the grassland working with the gardener on enhancing specified sections of the churchyard.</p> <p>C4. Bat boxes & bug hotel installed during winter</p> <p>C5. A 2-year management plan has been developed Compromises have had to be made to achieve a balance between aesthetics and improving the eco environment.</p> <p>C6. To explore 'Living Churchyards' and 'Adopt a Grave' schemes and make recommendations and liaison with local churches who have experience to take place.</p> <p>C7. To explore growing fruit and vegetables</p> <p>C8. Growing plants which benefit birds, bees, and butterflies. Plant bulbs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A collaborative approach has been taken in managing and transforming the church land to become more ecologically sustainable, 9 working parties have taken place up to November 22 and members of our parish community, WI, community group and school have taken part. - Bird boxes are in place and hedgehog boxes are built and installed. Bird feeders are in place. Bug hotel materials being collected. - This is work in progress - Good progress is being made in achieving the outcomes in the plan - This will be carried forward in 2023 - A map of the graves taken place in October/November - A feasibility study will be done in early 2023 	<p>Contact with Kirkburton church made.</p>
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<p>D. Community and Global Engagement</p>		
<p>D1. Host or contribute to lobbying events involving local Councillors/MP's on environmental issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Councillors have been invited / involved in our open meeting event, Lobbying MP's will take place September/ October 	<p>A local Green Party councillor is fully supportive.</p>
<p>D2. Host or contribute to network events which focus on global environmental issues, including invitations to expert speakers on environmental topics and issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Depending on outcome of 21st September event further meetings will take place 	<p>Lobbying of local MP re holding the government to account on climate change targets on going.</p>
<p>D3. Support the Diocese through working in partnership with local/global environmental agencies and organisations for example: The Environmental Alliance Huddersfield https://epiks.org.uk/greenstreams/, 'Transition Towns' https://transitionnetwork.org/news/evaluation-survey/, 'Carbon Fast' http://www.ecofaithrecovery.org/carbonfast/, and WWF carbon footprint model https://www.wwf.org.uk/learn/why-your-footprint-matters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact has been made with transition towns network and information received via web site and newsletters - The event on 21st September includes several local sustainable food businesses and Woodland Trust. 	
<p>D4. Support 'Fair Trade', 'Green Fairs' and other initiatives which promote local food producers and supporting local and national environmental campaigns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Parish fair trade policy is in place 	<p>Lobbying of local MP re Fair Trade taken place</p>
<p>D5. Ensure that 'church office holders are trained in reducing energy use and environmental issues and encourage all church users to conserve energy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several church office holders: e.g., treasurer, church wardens, eco church chair have attended webinars on environmental issues 	
<p>D6. The church displays notices reminding users about the importance of conserving energy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In place 	
<p>D7. We support the Diocese work in collaboration with overseas countries and engage with specific environmental projects such as Water Aid, Toilet</p>		

<p>E. Lifestyle</p> <p>E1. A subgroup of the DCC has been set up to champion the cause of our church community in becoming more environmentally sustainable and able to meet the Church of England’s goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2030. In line with the <u>Synod motion</u> passed in February 2020. https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/about-our-environment-programme</p> <p>E2. Walking, cycling, and car sharing to church will be encouraged.</p> <p>E3. Information and advice will be made available on how to undertake a carbon footprint audit to church members.</p> <p>E4. Information and advice will be made available to church members through our web site, newsletters, and presentations on methods to reduce waste, energy consumption, re and up-cycling and in how to invest personal savings through ethical investments.</p> <p>A clothes/household goods swap and upcycling café event to be organised in early 2023 in collaboration with a neighbouring church where the cost-of-living increase is having a big impact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Eco Church subgroup has continued to meet regularly and has made steady progress through obtaining A Rocha bronze award in January and subsequently silver in July 2022. - A significant number of members walk to church services and activities, car sharing is encouraged - Yet to start - The Parish website contains a lot of information about our activities with helpful tips and articles on how to reduce our individual as well as our organisational footprint 	<p>The Parish Environmental Officer PEO will offer more encouragement and support to the other churches in the Parish to minimise their carbon footprints in line with Church of England’s goal in 2023.</p> <p>A Lifestyle audit tool & Individual carbon footprint questionnaire will be available for our parishioners in January 2023.</p>
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