

Sheet Parish Council

Global Warming response

Sheet Parish Council is aware of the effects of global warming and accepts the predictions of possible outcomes of a warming climate.

Although we are a small community the Parish Council accepts that everyone should be encouraged to reduce their carbon footprint and adopt a more sustainable lifestyle. However, we have only limited powers to encourage this attitude, are not able to dictate building practices, road usage, house fuel burning, etc.

What the Parish Council is doing:

- 1) Surveying the Village Hall to ensure efficient lighting is installed.
- 2) Ensuring that insulation and heating in the hall is as effective as possible, given the age of the building. There is always a trade-off between maintaining equipment, and replacing with new that itself has a manufacturing and delivery carbon penalty.
- 3) Engaging with Hampshire Highways to install 'switch off engine' signs at the level crossings.
- 4) Is lobbying to reduce the speed limit on London Road to 30mph.
- 5) Is also lobbying to introduce traffic calming measures throughout the rest of the village.
- 6) Managing Sheet Common, the Millennium Field and adjoining area in a way to encourage natural flora that is beneficial to invertebrates and wildlife.

What the Parish Council has done:

- 1) Planted approximately 100 native trees on the field next to the Millennium Field
- 2) Planted a community orchard to provide education and enjoyment for parishioners.
- 3) Removed all plastic tree sleeves on Sheet Common and is progressing with this on the Millennium Field.
- 4) Eradicated Himalayan Balsam from the Common, and monitors other non-native invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed and Russian Vine.
- 5) Encouraged and carried out ecologically enhancing work on the Common to encourage growth and health of broad leaf species such as Oak, Field Maple, Small Leafed Lime, Chestnut etc.
- 6) It has provided a grant to ecological volunteers who not only help on the Common, but on the nearby Ashford Hangers and within the South Downs National Park.