Lytchett Matravers Parish Council – Climate Emergency Working Group

Progress Report to Full Council, December 2019

1. Working Group

* Working Group members have been consulted on the Climate Emergency Article, and the Survey.
* The second meeting is planned for early January 2020.

1. Parish Council Website

* The Climate Emergency Article and the Survey have been posted on the website. The Survey will be left open until the end of January.
* A resident has contacted a member of the Parish Council to express the view that the Climate Emergency documents being published are in breach of the purdah rules for the General Election. The resident added that they have referred the matter with the Returning Officer.

1. Lytchett Matravers Carbon Footprint

* Three methods have been used to provide preliminary estimates of the villages carbon footprint. Key inputs are the number of houses in the village and its population. A Population and Housing report presented to the Parish Council in 2018 gave estimates of 1455 households (~57 vacant houses) with a population of 3610 in 2017. Using these estimates provides the following results:
  + A spreadsheet provided by Low Carbon Dorset uses the total carbon footprint for the Purbeck District, divided by the population of that District, to calculate the average carbon footprint per person in this area. This is 6.4 tons of CO2 per person per annum, giving an estimate of the village’s carbon footprint of 23,000 tons of CO2 equivalent per annum. The two largest contributors are road transport and domestic gas heating. However, the total carbon footprint for the Purbeck District includes emissions from Commercial, Industrial, and Agricultural activities in the District. Since the level of these activities in the village is limited, this estimate can be expected to be high.
  + The UK Committee on Climate Change estimates the average household carbon footprint to be 8.1 tons of CO2 equivalent. Using this number gives an estimated carbon footprint for Lytchett Matravers of 11,800 tons of CO2 equivalent per annum.
  + A spreadsheet has been developed by Frome Town Council which is focussed on domestic carbon footprints, using parameters suggested in a book called Sustainable Development Without the Hot Air. This spreadsheet is constructed to allow improvements in energy efficiency to be input, so could be used over the next 10 to 20 years as the Climate Emergency progresses, and the village changes. The estimated footprint for Lytchett Matravers calculated using this method is 8,600 tons of CO2 equivalent per annum.
* A preliminary estimate of the Parish Council’s carbon footprint is in the range 15 to 20 tons of CO2 per annum, about 0.2% of the carbon footprint of the village.

1. Climate Emergency Action Plan

* Work is underway on the Action Plan. This includes further research into the Climate Emergency, investigating Climate Emergency Declarations by National and Local Government organisations around the world, and examples of Climate Emergency Action Plans already published.
* It is intended that a Phase 1 Action Plan will be presented to the Council in January.

1. Climate Emergency Budget for 2019, and 3 year Forecast submitted.

Councillor Carswell

Councillor Watts

December 2019