Temple Guiting Parish Council Wednesday 2nd December 2020 Report by Cllr Nigel Moor Gloucestershire County Council

Climate Change Strategy

I will be bringing our annual progress report to Cabinet in December. Some of the highlights.

County Council emissions 2019/20 show a net 97% reduction against our 2006/07 baseline[[1]](#footnote-1).

Our corporate emissions (energy, fuel and mileage) fell by 8% on 2018/19 emissions to 7,719 tCO2e[[2]](#footnote-2). This is a reduction of 73% on our 2006/07baseline.

Javelin Park Energy from Waste facility came online in October 2019. 50% of the electricity generated is deemed to be renewable; 30GWh for the period. This is a reduction of 7,143 tCO2e for standard gridelectricity and reduces our net emissions to 577 tCO2e; a reduction of 97% on our baseline.

In September 2019 the council switched to a green electricity tariff, which comes from 100% renewable sources.

We anticipate that during 2021 Gloucestershire County Council across all of its estate and activities will be carbon neutral.

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**Property Services contracts**

As part of our response to the Climate Change Emergency GCC have revised their procurement policies so as to :

* All new contracts emphasise recycling, disposal of waste, reduction in the single use plastics etc. with a view to improvement over the duration of the contract.
* All new contracts seek to minimise their carbon footprint, for example our waste contract for all schools and corporate buildings includes the removal of general, recycling, food, confidential, and clinical waste in the same waste contract, and therefore only using one vehicle to collect all waste streams.
* Schools food waste utilises the Anaerobic Digestion plant at Bishops Cleeve. This powers the plant itself with excess energy sold back to the grid.
* Our Waste contract includes promotional material to schools to encourage children to recycle.
* Our Catering contract sources 78% of its food locally, and includes involvement with schools to encourage children to grow (and compost) their own food, learn about where their food comes from, encouraging new tastes, etc.
* All our contracts are Small & Medium Enterprise (SME) friendly so that we can award to local companies who employ locally and keep travel to a minimums.
* Thermal imaging surveys are carried out every three years and is available to schools to identify areas where insulation would be beneficial.

**Gloucestershire Tree Strategy**

* In October, Cabinet signed up to Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership’s (GLNP) Gloucestershire Tree Strategy. This aims to position the county at the leading edge nationally for tree planting, to provide huge benefits for Gloucestershire’s residents, environment and economy. The strategy’s vision is for a thriving network of sustainably managed trees and woodland covering at least 20 per cent of the county by 2030. Nationally it is being recommended to increase woodland cover to 19 per cent by 2050, but as Gloucestershire has a higher proportion of tree cover than the national average, the GLNP’s partners have set their aims much higher; securing 35 million additional trees through planting and natural regeneration. The strategy’s main principles include to:
	+ Support Gloucestershire’s aim of becoming net carbon zero.
	+ Nurture lifelong connections between trees and people, recognising health and wellbeing benefits.
	+ Ensure that existing woodlands and trees are promoted, protected and well managed.
* As a direct result the Woodland Trust invited the council to submit an Expression of Interest to their Emergency Tree Fund pilot. A proposal for £300,000 has been submitted, seeking to bring about at-scale tree planting and woodland creation in Gloucestershire this planting season and next, making a rapid start to delivering the Gloucestershire Tree Strategy, building on successes to date, in support of delivering 20% canopy cover by 2030 and a Net Zero county by 2050.
	+ Phase 1: Development Dec 2020 – Jan 2021. Developing and agreeing the roles and accelerated delivery approach with Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership (GLNP) constituent partners.
	+ Phase 2: Trees for landholders/tenants 2020-2023. Get significant numbers of trees planted and lay the foundations for a longer-term relationship with landholders/tenants.
	+ Phase 3: Scaling up the approach 2021-2023. Develop and put in place measures to help deliver 20% canopy cover by 2030 by securing land and significant funding for tree planting, woodland creation and ongoing maintenance and support.

**GCC Highways**

I am pleased that the parish council are commissioning the VAS system for the village and I was able to contribute £1000 towards the costs. I have also been able to assist with the commissioning of speed surveys at locations selected by the parish council.

**Please contact me at nigel.moor@gloucestershire.gov.uk**

1. 2006/07 baseline year, rather than government’s 1990 baseline, due to data availability and quality. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. tCO2e = ‘tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent’, which is a standard unit for measuring carbon footprints. The idea is to express the impact of each different greenhouse gas in terms of the amount of CO2 that would create the same amount of warming (global warming potential). That way, a carbon footprint consisting of lots of different greenhouse gases can be expressed as a single number. The conversion factors used in the UK are published annually by Government – [Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)