

**Glemsford Parish Council
Climate Emergency Working Group
Report 10th November 2020**

It's been a year since Glemsford Parish Council voted to declare a Climate and Nature Emergency, and following that declaration the PC Climate Emergency Working Group was set up and met for the first time in January 2020, when a plan of action was drawn up. We have managed to 'tick' several of our objectives, despite the impact of the current pandemic:

- A new Environmental Policy was approved by the PC.
- The carbon footprint of the Village Hall was calculated, and a renewable energy supplier is hopefully soon going to supply electricity.
- [On January 31st](#) James Cartlidge MP for Suffolk West met with some members of the group along with some Parish Councillors. We shared our ideas and discussed elements of the Friends of the Earth report (October 2019) regarding Babergh's performance on climate change.
- In February, Glemsford Primary School and Glemsford WI joined forces with the Working Group to create a climate awareness display as part of the Climate Coalition "Show the Love" initiative. The display started in Glemsford Surgery, moved to Glemsford Library and finished in St. Mary's Church.
- Glemsford Primary School launched their Eco School initiative in February; this has been on hold due to Covid-19 but they plan to start up again in January 2021. The Working Group hope to engage with the children in future projects.
- A social media site has been created - "Greening Glemsford" - to enable dialogue and information sharing within the village. This was launched in July during the pandemic so has been a little eclipsed by events.
- The PC has recently approved a village Noticeboard which can be used to communicate future climate and biodiversity events.
- Glemsford WI will take delivery of 30 saplings in March next year. Pending approval from the landowners (Glemsford United Charity) the trees will be planted at the entrance to the village allotments in Schoolfield to create a small copse of Silver Birch, Wild Cherry and Rowan. The WI will work in conjunction with the PC climate group to prepare, plant and maintain the Copse, which will be a community asset marking the 100th birthday of Glemsford WI in 2021.

I think we should be proud to have achieved this much!

So what next? Reverend Patrick Prigg, a member of the group, had outlined his hope that an area within St Mary's churchyard could be managed to provide a refuge for a more diverse range of wild flowers, birds, animals and invertebrates.

An advisor from Suffolk Wildlife Trust has visited the churchyard and the PC climate group is now putting together a plan to present to the Parochial Church Council.

Lesli Tunbridge