

Biddulph Town Council Environment and Climate Change Action Plan 2021-22

		Will the Town Council be able to make a difference?	Can the Town Council ask others to make a difference?	Our hands are tied, but we will re-visit this
Renewable Energy				
1	Electric Car charging points on local car parks		SMDC responsibility- query timescales and request early installation	
2	Showcase for renewable energy – Visitor Centre	BTC took over Visitor Centre and Town Hall in August 2020 and is responsible for energy.		
3	Municipal/Community energy production farm (wind/solar)		Write to SMDC/ SCC to query intentions and request consideration. Bemersley Road location is a possibility.	
4	All new builds south facing rooves		Write to SMDC Planning Dept. Query whether within emerging Local Plan.	
5	Community owned wind turbines		Write to SMDC/ SCC to query intentions and request consideration. Bemersley Road location is a possibility.	
6	All new builds to have solar panels/ground source heating		Write to SMDC Planning Dept. Query whether within emerging Local Plan.	
7	Solar farm – shares		Write to SMDC/ SCC to query intentions and request consideration. Bemersley Road location is a possibility.	
8	Ground source heat pumps	Identify what information is available and make accessible for community in leaflet form or on website.		
9	Retro fitting of newer builds, water wastage systems, solar panels etc		Write to SMDC Planning Dept. Query whether within emerging Local Plan.	
10	Provide information/opportunities for people to take advantage of solar schemes	Identify what information is available and make accessible for community in leaflet form or on website.		
11	Campaign against fossil fuel subsidies		Identify who BTC could write to and send letter outlining concerns.	
12	Get our Pension fund to de-invest from fossil fuels			As LGPS for information about investments. Change unlikely as only 3 staff affected.
13	Buy only electricity from sustainable 'green' providers	BTC took over Visitor Centre and Town Hall in August 2020 and is responsible for energy.		
Rewilding and Tree Planting				
14	Enforce replacement tree planting one for one	Town Council does not have enforcement role, but can adopt this policy for the areas it manages.		

15	Identify areas to plant trees locally – use Woodland Trust to source trees	Link this work with emerging Local Green Spaces and Neighbourhood Plan. Consider developing more 'pocket parks'.		
16	Be part of 'Big Climate Fightback' – 30 November 'mindful' tree planting day	Consider role in this annually.		
17	Community orchards	Link this work with emerging Local Green Spaces and Neighbourhood Plan. Consider developing more 'pocket parks'.		
18	Plant fruit and nut trees for food 'Every household to plant in front gardens'	Town Council does not have enforcement role, but can adopt this policy for the areas it manages. Incorporate this message in any literature, e.g. 'little things you can do'.		
19	Re-forest the whole valley		Significant aspiration. Town Council can write to partners to encourage them to increase tree planting.	
20	Rewild Biddulph Brook with trees, shrubs, marginals, water-plants etc. more interest around flood defences	Link this work with emerging Local Green Spaces and Neighbourhood Plan. Consider developing more 'pocket parks'.		
21	More wild flowers and less 'structure'	Work with Biddulph in Bloom volunteers to look at options.		
22	Wildlife corridors	Mapped as part of Neighbourhood Plan; Town Council will work to protect and enhance.		
23	Pollinator friendly species	Work with Biddulph in Bloom volunteers to look at options.		
24	Food Forest project	www.thefoodforestproject.org (improvements in mental health through reforestation) Research projects and identify whether ideas are transferable to Biddulph.		
Environmental Resilience				
25	Encourage community project that will enable us to survive the future better by making use of natural resources	Next public meeting to explore this concept further.		
26	Adopt Preston Model (absolutely!) for local sustainability	Principle- Award key contracts to local firms- keep funds within the local economy. Biddulph's Procurement Policy includes this aspiration.		
27	Follow model of #SEAC Shelton Environmental Awareness Campaign	Group pushing environmental awareness within Stoke-on-Trent; promote wellbeing and empower citizens. BTC will investigate whether model is transferable.		

28	Reduce food waste – supermarkets to supply excess food to community projects AND stock/sell more Fairtrade products + local products	BTC could look to sell Fairtrade products in the Town Hall.	Identify who BTC could write to and send letter querying use of excess food.	
29	Eat seasonable products	Identify what information is available and make accessible for community in leaflet form or on website.		
Education				
30	STOP the use of herbicides, even on road-edges. The invertebrates NEED the dandelions etc change our cultural ideas of what 'looks good'?	Work with Biddulph in Bloom volunteers to look at options.		
31	Dedicated cycle paths throughout town – encourage children/Young People to cycle or scooter rather than travel by car	Link this work with emerging Local Green Spaces and Neighbourhood Plan. Consider developing more 'pocket parks'. Consider role of local schools in passing on this message.		
32	Climate focus week in schools, growing, recycling	Consider role in this annually.		
33	Art Exhibition on 'climate crisis' by the children of Biddulph to expose households to climate change and pass on the message	Plan this with local schools for 2021; use Town Hall.		
34	Schools to use locally sourced food in kitchens and include regular vegetarian/vegan meals		Write to schools to ask whether they would consider this.	
35	Children to carry out energy audit at school and home		Write to schools to ask whether they would consider this.	
36	Film nights (environmental theme) Town Hall	Plan this for 2021.		
37	Sustainable living courses.	Carry out research- what is involved, where are the delivered, what would be the benefits and costs.		
Refuse Reduce Reuse Recycle Repair Rethink				
38	Municipal compost facility for the community		Write to SMDC/ SCC to query intentions and request consideration.	
39	Guidance for households on how, what and where to recycle . . . what do our County recycle and where can we recycle what isn't accounted for?	Identify what information is available and make accessible for community in leaflet form or on website.		
40	Clothes drive – reuse and repurpose old clothing to others. Sale at Town Hall? Clothing Swap	Possibly part of the Ethical Fair or separate event in the Town Hall.		
41	Public buildings – recycling schemes	BTC took over Visitor Centre and Town Hall in August 2020 and has more of a role with bins, recycling at public buildings.		
42	Drinking water fountains to allow water bottles to be refilled	Consider options available with national schemes, e.g. Refill.		
43	Clothes to be made from natural (degradable) fibres			Limited role with clothes production.
44	Plastic free artisan market	Look at options for 2021 market.		

45	'Attic' loan 'shop' for unwanted items – short term loan	Consider options available with national schemes/ projects.		
46	Establish repair/renew workshop	Consider options available with national schemes/ projects.		
Other				
47	Local musical groups should play outside the Town Hall – a 'happier atmosphere' in which people want to hang around and chat	Contact local groups to query whether there is any interest.		
48	Close the town centre to traffic <u>every</u> Saturday	BTC to develop more events at the weekend. Closing town centre every week is not currently feasible. Look at pedestrianisation options.		
49	Visit other towns who are doing this well – 'strength in numbers'	Plan this for 2021.		
50	Set up a 'Transition Biddulph Group' to explore ways that we can grow a vibrant, thriving community	BTC has developed an Environment and Climate Change Working Group.		
51	Maximum use of Neighbourhood Plan	Consider implementation when NP is adopted in spring 2022.		
52	What do we do about plastic at Fast Food chains?	No fast food chains in Biddulph.		
53	Meat free Monday #meatfreemondays reduce meat consumption – put this to our school caterers		Write to schools to ask whether they would consider this.	
54	More public meetings – momentum will grow – weekend target schools	BTC has developed an Environment and Climate Change Working Group. More public meetings planned for 2021.		
55	BTC assets to be as green as possible	Carry out a review in 2021 to consider impact.		
56	Continue to map biodiversity within the town, ensuring that development takes place in the right places, with little negative impact on the wildlife in the town.	BTC to continue to commission organisations to complete mapping exercises.		