

# Walford Parish Council

## Environmental Policy

### Policy statement

Walford Parish is a community of diverse settlements in an area mostly designated AONB bordered on one side by 6 miles of the lower reaches of the River Wye designated with its banks as a Site of special Scientific Interest (SSSI) & Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The Parish includes agricultural land, pasture and woodland including several areas of ancient woodland as well as SSSI designated Coughton Marsh. The Parish is home to many protected species of plants and animals and is a unique environment.

Walford Parish Council and its residents value their environment and aim to protect and preserve it.

### Environmental commitments

- Meet all environmental legislation and regulations.
- Conserve the natural and historic environment of our own very special part of Herefordshire.
- Work with relevant organisations to preserve and protect the natural environment adhering to the guidelines and management plans of these authorities. Specifically relevant to Walford, the AONB management Plan 2020-2025 & Natural England's guidance documents for SSSI's and risk impact zones.
- Work with and support other parishes, local authorities and communities to implement wider scale environmental initiatives.
- Promote environmental awareness in the community.
- Encourage re-cycling within the parish with the aim of increasing re-cycling & re-use of resources and promote understanding of best practice by minimising waste and its impact on the environment.
- Encourage efficient use of energy within the council and by the parish and its residents.
- Lessen greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon capture by example and education within the parish. Actively encourage tree planting and hedgerow protection in the parish.
- Raise awareness of, mitigate against and adapt to climate change impacts.
- Promote the importance of and value of a healthy environment and its contribution to the quality of life for our community.
- Support planning decisions that protect and enhance landscapes, biodiversity and historic assets and seek to ensure that the developments are sustainable with reference to Herefordshire Council's Environmental Impact Assessment & the environmental responsibilities of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

### Document control

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