

Climate Emergency Network

Biosphere Parish / Town Report

Advice on writing a report, which should be presented annually to the Town/Parish Council and a copy to the Network team.

Three very important caveats:-

A) **Be positive.** This is not the place for criticism of the actions of individuals or companies. It may, however, be a suitable occasion for the local council to praise particular developments or initiatives, whether their own or by local societies or individuals.

B) **This is a bottom-up operation.** Some ideas for the areas you might consider are given below, but there is no set format for these reports, not until you have agreed one among yourselves as you all get to share information and expertise. The value is to give your Council the opportunity to do something valuable in the climate emergency. Concentrate on issues specific to your parish.

C) **Build a team.** You may have real expertise or experience in one or two areas, but not all. Winkle out the other local people with experience who can help, and build a team. Include the young; they have shown how much they care.

Adapting to Climate Change

Energy sources, e.g. wind turbines, photovoltaic, hydro power.

Sea level rise: adaptations, changes expected.

Resilience: coping with major weather events, floods, storms, droughts

Transport use. Bike increases? Electric cars? Car sharing schemes? Public Transport?

Home insulation and other initiatives to reduce carbon in the home

Recycling / reusing / composting, especially plastics. Beach and river cleans.

Farming changes noted locally and perhaps using local NFU and YF?

Cropping changes

Development of organics

Changes in animal husbandry

Small-holding and hobby farming

Woodland and forestry. New woodland and use of wood. Disease spread.

Hedge laying and development of hedgerow trees.

Bio diversity

Horticulture, Allotment schemes (local Garden Club initiatives?)

Garden boundaries? Accessibility through fences and hedges.

New or lost habitat e.g. ponds.

Lanes, roads and verges

Wildlife changes and records – monitoring of e.g. birds, mammals, insects (inc bees and other pollinators), fish.

Invasive species

People

Public educational initiatives. Both school and adult.

Exhibitions, Lectures.

Money raising for climate and environmental activities.

Local societies and groups.

Issues with tourists and visitors.

Do not ask what the Biosphere can do for you, but what you can do for the Biosphere.