

# Saving Creation: Strategic Action to Combat Climate Change

## Carbon Net Zero Parish Plan for St Mary's, Emsay with Eastby



Saving Creation  
Diocese of Leeds

Acknowledging that we are living in a climate emergency, our church is seeking to act in love to become carbon net zero, in line with the Church of England and the Diocese of Leeds who have a target date of 2030.

Set out below are the steps that the PCC will be taking over the coming years. We aim to be net carbon zero by 2025. Items in green have already been achieved.

	Action	Objective	Likely CO2 reduction	Cost	Responsible	Date	Comments Black – Zero group's comments; Green - achieved; Blue- suggestions from Diocese;
<b>1</b>	<b>Measure and Monitor</b>						
1.1	Enter energy data to EFT	Calculate carbon emissions	Informs Action	Volunteer Time	Church Treasurer	Annual (March – July)	EFT = Energy Footprinting Tool on Online Parish Returns
1.2	Add EFT carbon emissions report to annual reports	Accountability on carbon emissions	Influences Change	Volunteer Time	PCC Secretary/ Treasurer	Annually April	2021 data submitted in April 2022 and mentioned in APCM report. Add data to annual reports from May 2023
1.3	Establish baseline	Calculate carbon emissions	Informs Action	Volunteer Time	Treasurer/ EWE Zero group	Q1-Q2 2022	Limited data for 2020. Full report of 2021 data submitted in April 2022
<b>2</b>	<b>Plan and Prepare</b>						
2.1	Use the 'Practical Path to Net Zero: A checklist for your church'	Assess what actions to take	Informs Action	Volunteer Time	Church Warden/ Fabric Group to assess	Q2-Q3 2022	What are we already doing; what are we already planning to do, what else do we want to do? <a href="http://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/PP2NZC_SelfGuidedChecklist_onscreen_version.pdf">Practical Path to Net Zero: A checklist for your church www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/PP2NZC_SelfGuidedChecklist_onscreen_version.pdf</a>

2.2	<b>Hold a Climate Sunday</b>	Communicate the reasons for action to the congregation	Influences Change	Clergy Time/ Volunteer Time	Vicar/ Eco Group	Q3 2021	Our Climate Sunday service (27 June 2021) was attended by invited members of our local parish council and was part of our awareness-raising for the TCNCC project. <i>Climate Sunday</i> <a href="http://www.climatesunday.org/">www.climatesunday.org/</a> Other Worship resources <a href="http://www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/worship-teaching">www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/worship-teaching</a>
2.3	<b>Appoint a Parish Environment Officer</b>	Someone to direct and monitor	Equips for change	Volunteer Time	PCC	Q3 2020	Diana Linford appointed September 2020.
<b>3</b>	<b>Essential Energy Actions</b>						
3.1	<b>Investigate a renewable electricity tariff</b>	Cut emissions from electricity	All electric emissions	Neutral	Church Treasurer		We are currently buying electricity and gas from the Green Journey. The Green Journey scheme offers a 100% renewable electric tariff especially negotiated with SSE <a href="http://www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/green-journey">www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/green-journey</a>
3.2	Investigate renewable energy generation system	Find the best options for our church	Informs action	Volunteer time Architect's costs	EWE Zero Group + PCC	Q4 2021 + end Q2 2022 with reviews	Feasibility study received Q4 2021. Formulate plan by summer 2022 on way forward for Solar PV. Research other churches which have already installed PV systems. Make recommendation to PCC.
3.3	Install renewable energy generation system	Cut carbon emission from electricity and provide 'green' energy to grid	All electric emission	See Locogen report and Eft application	Church warden + PCC	Dependent on decision on roof restoration	Dependent on decision on roof restoration. Substantial grant funding or fundraising needed. Revisit 2025-26?
3.4	Investigate renewable heating system	Find the best options for our church	Informs change	Volunteer Time Architect's costs	EWE Zero Group + PCC	Q4 2021 + end Q2 2022 with reviews 2023 and 2025	Feasibility study from Locogen received Q4 2021. Formulate plan by spring 2023, by reviewing way forward for heating options (additional heating and possible replacement for the boiler if considered necessary after installation of electric heating). Visit/ research other churches with such systems. PCC to discuss June 2022 Small scale trial autumn 2022

							Seek advice from the DAC and explore options using the C of E guidance and webinars <a href="http://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/webinars-getting-net-zero-carbon">www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/webinars-getting-net-zero-carbon</a>
3.5	Install a renewable heating system	Cut carbon emission from heating	Potentially all heating emissions	Potentially High – see Locogen report	Church Warden + PCC	Phase 1 by Q4 2024 Phase 2 by Q4 2025	Implement plan for installing additional probably localised electric heating, run on renewable electricity, with 2 target dates: i) Install additional heating by Q4 2024; monitor effectiveness ii) Turn off gas boiler by Q4 2025
<b>4 Essential Travel Actions</b>							
4.1	Hold a walk to Church Sunday (see note)	Raise awareness of travel emission with congregation	Personal emissions for congregation	Neutral	Vicar + PCC	2021 Q3 2022	'Travel' one of our Eco Themes in 2021. Possibly called 'Leave the car at home Sunday' as this would include cycling, and car sharing where safe for those for whom there is no other option. Could link with suggested 'Forest Church' service proposed by the Eco Group.
4.2	Schedule PCC + other meetings in convenient locations or online	Cut travel miles	0.22Kg CO2 per mile	Saving on petrol/diesel	PCC Secretary	2021 onwards	Consider using places such as public houses which are already being heated. Or hold online. Many church meetings held online during 2020 and 2021. Continue with Zoom account?
4.3	Investigate EV chargepoints	Raise awareness of issue, public amenity			Zero group/fundraising group	Q3 2022 (and ongoing)	Investigate electric vehicle chargepoints – cost, type, etc. Investigate funding (esp with parish council) Mentioned to Parish Council May 2022. St Mary's Zero Funding Group investigating appropriate funding sources.
<b>5 Carbon Offsetting</b>							
5.1	Investigate carbon offset gas tariff	Offset for heating emissions	Offset all gas emission	£20 per tonne CO2	Church Treasurer +PCC	By Q1 2023	PCC to discuss whether and when to start paying for our carbon offsetting (following presentation of carbon reduction plan) in June 2022 Carbon offsetting from 2023, in 2 tranches The Green Journey scheme offers a carbon offset gas tariff with Crown

							<a href="http://www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/green-journey">www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/green-journey</a>
5.2	Budget for carbon offsetting	Pay the full price of energy used by the church	Offset all remaining emissions	£20 per tonne CO2	Church Treasurer	By Q1 2026	Links with Phase 1 of reviewing heating. Plan to install additional electric heating by Q4 2024. <a href="http://www.climatestewards.org/">Climate Stewards is a Christian carbon offsetting charity www.climatestewards.org/</a>
<b>6 Stepping Out and Up</b>							
6.1	Use the Climate Emergency Toolkit to recognise or declare	Raise public awareness of being an active and relevant church	Influences change in the community	Volunteer Time	EWE Zero Group and Parish Environment Officer	Throughout 2022 & continuing	<a href="#">Presentation to PCC about Feasibility Study 21 Jan 2022.</a> <a href="#">Webinar for other churches 25 Jan 2022 (TCNCC).</a> <a href="#">Presentation to congregation 27 Feb 2022.</a> <a href="#">Updated, comprehensive display + copies of the feasibility study in church Feb 2022.</a> <a href="#">Presentation to E with E Parish Council May 2022</a> This has been agreed as one of the key areas of planning for EWE Zero group  <a href="http://www.climateemergencytoolkit.com/">The Climate Emergency Toolkit for churches www.climateemergencytoolkit.com/</a>
6.2	Hold a Climate Sunday	Communicate the reasons for action to the congregation	Influences Change	Clergy Time	Vicar		See Climate Sunday Service info above: <a href="#">EwE Climate Sunday service (27 June 2021)</a> attended by local community. <a href="#">A second Climate Sunday service linked with the TCNCC project: Sun 8 May 2022, with Bishop Helen-Ann.</a> Consider holding another Climate Sunday service at St Mary's (but see 'Leave the car at home/ Forest Service plan above) <a href="http://www.climatesunday.org/">Climate Sunday www.climatesunday.org/</a> <a href="#">Other Worship resources</a> <a href="http://www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/worship-teaching">www.leeds.anglican.org/environment/worship-teaching</a>
6.3	Write to local press with carbon reduction plans	Raise public awareness of being an active and relevant church	Influences change in the community	Volunteer Time	PCC Secretary/ Parish Environment Officer	2022	
6.4	Register with the Eco	Celebrate our eco success	Encourages change	Volunteer Time	Parish Environment	2022-23	<a href="#">Silver Eco Church Award gained November 2020.</a> <a href="#">Gold Eco Church Award gained May 2023.</a>

	Church Award scheme				Officer/ Eco Group		
6.5	Village event	Raise public awareness of being an active and relevant church and ask for support/consult on proposed changes	Informs + influences change in the community	Volunteer time	EWE Zero group	2022	Stall at Village Fete (16 July 2022) Exhibition as part of 'How green is your village' in the Village Institute Spring 2023. Refreshments already bought by TCNCC + booklets available.

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