



Peakirk Climate Emergency Group Newsletter June 2021

In November 2019 Peakirk Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency. We set up an independent Climate Emergency Working Group to work with the John Clare Countryside Parish Nature Recovery Plan and Peterborough City Council.

We want to look at different ways we can cut our Carbon Footprint and make our parish a more joined up, wildlife friendly place to live.

We currently have TWO Logos (see above).

Visit our website to vote on which you think is best.

<http://www.peakirkvillage.co.uk/parish-council/peakirk-climate-emergency-group/>

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate reported in March 2021, that in this area, we generate over 25% more carbon emissions than the UK average. A great deal of research is currently being carried out as to why this is so. Studies, such as this, carried out at neighbourhood level, usually depend on Personal Carbon Footprints using figures relating to size and age of housing, number and type of vehicles, access to public transport, size of households, personal incomes, type of heating, holiday travel and food consumption. This often means that rural villages, with larger houses and more cars show a larger footprint. We welcome any ideas on how to reduce our emissions.

2021 has been a difficult year, but we have started work on the Nature Recovery Projects involving the people who live here in making a practical change. We will review the areas next year and what has been successful and see what further changes are needed.

Please contact us if you could help in any way or have any good ideas that we can look at in the future.

Details of our current Projects on the other side of this flyer.

Thank you.

Allotment Orchard: An area on the Allotment site has become available for us to plant fruit trees and maintain as a pollinator garden. We have held a couple of work parties to clear the site, sow wildflowers and we will be planting the fruit trees in the Autumn. All help is welcome. Contact David Hankins david.hankins2009@btinternet.com or Neil Pople neiljulia@outlook.com

Village Hall Planting: The first stage is complete. The nettles at the back of the Village Hall have been removed and bulbs and plug plants added. More help is needed for further planting and maintenance. Contact Emma Crowson peakirk.cllrcrowson@gmail.com

Millennium Corner Pollinator planting: The existing planting has been removed and we have the help of many local residents to grow on wildflower seeds that are suitably bee friendly. We are also looking for suitable plants from your gardens. We aim, in the Autumn, to add plants that extend the interest for as long as possible, with planting for all four seasons. We welcome any spare garden plants such as:

Aquilegia, Autumn Crocus, Campanula, Cosmos, Foxgloves, Geranium, Grape Hyacinth, Hellebores, Hollyhocks Honesty, Michaelmas Daisy, Nigella, Ox-Eye daisy, Pulmonaria, Rosemary or Thyme.

The area will not be “tidied up” during next winter, as we aim to provide year-round cover for insects, but we are keen to get your comments on the good and bad results, with a view to changing things the following year, if necessary. Contact Sally Jackson jackson.sallyann@gmail.com

David’s Wood Firdale Close: Our aim is to create a woodland glade in the existing trees at the entrance to Firdale Close. We have left the central area to grow on until September, when it will be cut and tidied up, but first, we need to survey what plants are there already and what work needs to be carried out on the trees (with the necessary Tree Preservation Order permissions). This will encourage David Dearman’s bluebells to flourish again. The final stage would be deciding on suitable plants to add and get together a working party to plant up, as necessary. Contact Anne Tuley peakirk.cllrtuley@gmail.com

Village Green:

Two No Mow Areas have been set aside to encourage wildflowers and four nesting boxes were added in the Spring. Contact Henry Clark cllr.h.clark@elipso.eu