**WATCHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY**

**Agreed 19/10/2021 Item 85**

**Annual review**

“Watchfield Parish Council is committed to adjusting policies and practices to enhance the local environment and minimise our carbon and environmental impact”

Watchfield Parish Council commits to the following within the constraints of government directives and budget limitations:-

1. Adapt grounds maintenance programmes to suit environmental pressures and create more biodiversity
2. Respond to all Planning in terms of sustainability and environmental factors, promoting the decarbonisation of building and living
3. Encourage seasonal and local growing by the use of allotments to reduce food miles and promote healthy eating
4. Encourage the use of organic fertilisers and discourage the use of pesticides and herbicides
5. Encourage walking and cycling
6. Promote public transport use by encouraging use of the bus route through the Watchfield
7. Consider moving energy providers for Council buildings to ‘Green’ producers and move away from fossil fuels
8. Buy local, seasonal and organic where possible
9. Consider buying second-hand, reusing materials and sharing equipment where possible
10. Look to support local groups and volunteers with environmental aims
11. Ensure council owned buildings are thermally efficient and use green technologies where possible
12. Attend meetings virtually, where permitted, to reduce travel or use active, public or shared transport
13. Encourage electric vehicle charging points
14. Discourage litter with notices and bins and aim to recycle more of generated waste
15. At council events, use compostable or reusable sundries
16. Support efforts for locally produced green energy

Signed…………………………………….. Date……………………………...