

## **NHPC Climate Emergency Policy.**

### **NHPC believes that:**

1. All levels of government-(national, regional and local) have a duty and responsibility to act to limit the negative impacts of Climate Change;
2. Local action can make a difference and will be essential. Local councils are well placed to act. While our direct impacts may be limited that is no reason or excuse for inaction on our part. We can catalyse, support and influence actions by residents, other councils, national government and business on a national or global scale.
3. The IPCC report that states that the consequences of global temperatures rising more than 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be a priority for all councils.
4. Positive action can deliver benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings, market opportunities, and improved health and well-being locally and worldwide.

### **NHPC resolves to:**

1. In line with the latest IPCC report findings that we have 12 years to avoid dangerous climate change and other councils around the world, including Oxford City Council and Greater London authority in the UK, declare a 'Climate Emergency';
2. Commit to help make our community carbon-neutral by 2030 by carrying out the following actions:
  - Provide ongoing information to residents both online and offline about how local action can make a difference and what actions they can take, also explaining why NHPC has declared a climate emergency;
  - Seek-to ensure the highest sustainability standards for all major new developments within the parish and work with the VoWHDC and developers to ensure enforcement;
  - Support the Neighbourhood Plan Team through the process of Independent Examination and on to adoption of the Plan in retaining all of the elements relevant to climate change and carbon neutrality (e.g. carbon emission reduction standards, energy efficiency, renewable energy etc.) contained in the version of the Plan submitted to the VoWHDC;
  - Work-with other organisations, (including other councils) to oppose the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway.
  - Develop a climate emergency plan to enable our community to become more resilient in the face of more extreme weather such as flooding and heat.
3. Publicise through all appropriate channels NHPC's decision to declare a 'Climate Emergency' and take urgent action on climate change, and encourage other

councils to follow suit.

4. Work with our community and other councils across Oxfordshire and beyond to:
  - Determine and implement the ways in which we can best help to limit global warming to less than 1.5°C, and develop relevant strategies and plans to deliver our goals;
  - Call on UK national government to provide the policies, powers and resources to reduce the nation's emissions and enable local communities to accelerate the pace and scale of local action to make the 2030 target possible.

### **Supporting evidence:**

1. Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> & GHG emissions of all world countries, 2017: <http://edgar.jrc.ec.europa.eu/overview.php?v=CO2andGHG1970-2016&dst=GHGpc>
2. World Resources Institute: <https://www.wri.org/blog/2018/10/8-things-you-need-know-about-ipcc-15-c-report>
3. The IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>
4. Some of the UK cities taking action include:
  - Oxford: <https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/1739306/8.climate-emergency-in-oxford-as-council-rejects-expressway-plans/>
  - Greater London Authority: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/11/london-mayor-sadiq-khan-city-climate-emergency>
  - Scarborough: <https://www.thescarboroughnews.co.uk/news/scarborough-council-declares-climate-emergency-in-first-major-step-to-combat-global-warming-1-9525225>
  - Bristol: <https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/bristol-climate-emergency-carbon-neutral-2219477>
  - Stroud: <https://www.stroudnewsandjournal.co.uk/news/17284091.we-must-make-changes-to-tackle-climate-emergency/>
  - Swindon:
5. Some of the US cities taking action include
  - Berkeley: <https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/blog/2018/6/13/berkeley-unanimously-declares-climate-emergency>
  - Hoboken: <https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/blog/2018/4/25/hoboken-resolves-to-mobilize>, and the C40 cities <https://www.c40.org/other/deadline-2020>