

**Town Clerk  
Mrs G Bell**

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2 April 2024

Dear Councillor

**Environment Committee**

You are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of Environment Committee which has been arranged for **Monday 8 April 2024 at 7.00pm** at the Town Hall, York Street, Selby.

Yours sincerely

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Gill Bell  
Town Clerk

To Councillors: K Franks, F Matthews, M Davis, I Lawton, S Andrew, R Harrison, H Davis and T Beharrell

**All Councillors for information.**

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## AGENDA

**E1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**

**E2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**E3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

**E4 NATURE RECOVERY**

E4.1 Nature Recovery Action Plan  
To **receive** and **consider** the report of the Clerk and the draft plan (Pages 4 to 12 attached).

E4.2 Nature Action “Badge”  
To **consider** adopting the design for the Nature Recovery Action Badge, and to **consider** ways to promote and award the badge. (Page 13 attached).

**E5 CLIMATE ACTION**

E5.1 Climate Action Plan  
To **receive** and **consider** the report of the Deputy Clerk and the draft plan (Pages 14 to 18 attached).

**E6 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Monday 1 July 2024  
Monday 7 October 2024  
Monday 13 January 2025  
Monday 24 March 2025

To: Environment Committee

From: Town Clerk

Date: 8 April 2024

Title: **Nature Recovery Action Plan**

## **Background**

Cllr M Davis and the Clerk attended a very informative and exciting Nature Recovery event held at the Yorkshire Air Museum in Elvington. The event was delivered by The Friends of the Lower Derwent Valley Conservation Group and the Carstairs Countryside Trust with Natural England.

We were encouraged by the work the Town Council already does; allotments, Bondgate Woodland, planting hedges and trees, supporting the Selby & District Beekeepers with the apiary in the cemetery, planting wildflowers, the Community Pond, and taking part in No-Mow May.

And excited at what more we could do, not only with our own land and premises, but also working with the community; encouraging wildlife into their gardens by re-wilding of gardens – or a small patch/corner, having a pond or even a trough.

The initiative discussed at the event, “Nature Recovery ... We Can” is a way to bring together local action without complicated organisations. It is a “badge”, given authority by Town and Parish Councils, under which anyone who does anything to help unite and feel part of an enormous jigsaw for Nature Recovery – however small a contribution, is rewarded with a “badge” to display. It might just be the “last piece” which completes the picture for the future of wild plants and animals.

North Yorkshire Council are preparing A Local Nature Recovery Strategy for North Yorkshire and York, as required by law under the Environment Act 2021. The strategy is funded by DEFRA. [Local Nature Recovery Strategy | North Yorkshire Council](#)

## **Development of the Plan**

The Clerk has provided an initial draft for the committee to consider which identifies a range of projects, actions and benefits.

Once the plan is under way, it will be important to monitor the progress of individual projects and publicise successes locally. This will not only

keep the community informed but potentially encourage more people to join in.

### **Launch of the Nature Recovery Plan**

Earth Day, held every year on April 22, is an annual celebration that honours the achievements of the environmental movement and raises awareness of the need to protect Earth's natural resources for future generations. This feels the ideal date to launch the draft Nature Recovery Action Plan and receive feedback from the community.

The Clerk suggests having the Community Engagement on the weekly market.



# Selby Town Council Nature Recovery Action Plan 2024- 2030

Selby Town Council has recognised the importance of taking steps to address the ecological crisis our world is facing. This Nature Recovery Action Plan has been drawn up in order for us to take the necessary steps to stop the decline of biodiversity and to assist the council in achieving their aim of reaching Net Zero by 2030.



## Communication Plan

Stakeholder	Objectives (Actions)	Message Content	Delivery Method	Timeline
Local Business 1	Sponsorship for x 5 (?) trees each year for 5 years	Sales pitch – explanation of what, why, where. Explain they could generate great publicity for their business	Letter / presentation if they request one  Yearly update  Publicity when trees planted – local press Website / social media	Year 1 by end of May 25  Within 1 month of trees planted each year (via email)  Contact local press at least 1 month in advance
Local business 2	Sponsorship of nest boxes, bug hotels etc	Sales pitch – explanation of what, why, where. Explain they could generate great publicity for their business	Letter / presentation if they request one  Yearly update  Publicity when boxes etc installed	Year 1 by end of May 25  Yearly update  Contact local press at least 1 month in advance
Community Playgroup	Nature Improvement in pre-school grounds (Bug hotel?)	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project	Letter / presentation for staff	Year 1 by end of May 25
Local primary schools	Nature improvement in school grounds	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project	Letter / presentation for staff	Year 1 by end of May 25

Residents	<p>General support for project</p> <p>Gain access to volunteer labour</p> <p>Promote “Badge”</p>	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project, explain the importance of this work	<p>Community engagement stall at markets / events</p> <p>“Stall” / display at Annual Town Meeting</p> <p>Invite local conservation group (s) to take a “stall” at the Annual Town Meeting</p> <p>Information to go on website</p> <p>Progress reports</p> <p>Updates on newsletter</p> <p>Regular updates on social media</p> <p>Information on noticeboards</p>	<p>Year 1 by end of December 24</p> <p>May 2024</p> <p>Year 1 by end of December 2024</p> <p>Quarterly updates via Environment Committee</p> <p>Year 1 by end of November 2024</p> <p>Once a fortnight update or as and when activity is taking place</p> <p>Year 1 end of December 2024</p>
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## Funding

Source	Amount	Frequency	Specific Project or General
PC Budget	TBC at budget setting	Annually - December	General project costs
CIL	TBC at F & S committee meeting	Annually - May	
S106	TBC at F & S committee	Annually - May	
Sponsorship – Local Business 1	£250 per tree	Annually	Trees
Sponsorship – Local Business 2	£ ? Cost to be sought bird box £ ? Cost to be sought bug hotel	Annually Annually	Which site ? Which site ?

### Proposed 6 Year Programme

It is proposed that the first year will be concentrating on communicating the councils intentions to the community, identifying projects and securing funding as per the previous table. The work programme will be developed from the information gathered and funding secured during this time.

During this first year a Nature Recovery page will be set up on the councils website which will set out the councils aims and objectives, provide information and updates.

Year 2 onwards we will be focusing on delivering the councils plan through the workplan and will continue to provide updates to the community and sponsors. Projects identified at a future date will be considered and funding approved before adding to the work programme.

The programme will be a guide. Resources will change over time and projects may need to extend into future years or be brought forward.

## Work Programme Years 2 to 6 (Examples)

Project Name	Site	Description	Timeline
Tree Planting	Cemetery	<i>Plant x trees in the Peace Garden Replace x tree(s)</i>	Year 3 Year 2
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Plant 5 Fruit trees</i>	Year 2
	Community Land	<i>Plant 1 new cherry tree Plant 1 new weeping willow</i>	
	Residents	<i>Encourage to plant a tree (s) in their gardens – suggest tree species suitable for small, medium or large gardens on website / social media</i>	
Nesting Birds	Cemetery Chapels	<i>Install nest boxes on both chapels</i>	
	Community Centre	<i>Install nest box on centre</i>	
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Install nest boxes</i>	
	Residents	<i>Post on facebook to see who has any nesting birds on their properties – will help identify existing species  Provide guidance on how to build nesting boxes on website and social media</i>	

## Project Ideas

Project	Actions	Benefits
Tree Planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify gaps for trees on Town Council owned land</li> <li>• Set up a sponsor a tree programme</li> <li>• Purchase trees to go on school properties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low to high costs</li> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Reduce air pollution</li> <li>• Sequester carbon</li> <li>• Reduce noise pollution</li> <li>• Increased nesting habitat</li> <li>• Can be a source of free food for people</li> <li>• Mental health benefits</li> <li>• Increased flood resilience</li> <li>• Increased climate change resilience</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Nesting birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install nest boxes on all Town Council properties where suitable</li> <li>• Purchase nest boxes to go on school properties</li> <li>• Add links to website on how to make nest boxes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low cost</li> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Mental health benefits</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>• Great engagement for families with nature</li> </ul>
Grassland management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change some of the amenity mown grass to longer grass, only cut once a year – identify areas</li> <li>• Plant up areas with wildflowers and cut and collect once a year</li> <li>• Plant flowering lawns where grass needs to remain short for amenity use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium cost or reduced cost through reduced mowing</li> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Carbon sequestration</li> <li>• New habitat for insects</li> <li>• Food source for insects and birds</li> <li>• Shelter and food source for mammals</li> <li>• Mental health benefits</li> <li>• Increased climate change resilience</li> <li>• Increased flood resilience</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>

Reduce use of pesticides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only use pesticide where absolutely necessary, such as on bound surfaces like tarmac paths</li> <li>• Encourage residents to stop all use of pesticides in their gardens – offer suggestions on the website of natural pest control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low cost</li> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Log piles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install log piles on all Public Open Space</li> <li>• Encourage residents to install them on their land / gardens</li> <li>• Utilise any ash trees that are to be removed or any trees / branches that have been felled</li> <li>• Make Stag Horn Beetle pyramids - <a href="#">How to build a log pyramid for stag beetles - PTES</a></li> <li>• Compost green waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low cost</li> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• New habitat for insects</li> <li>• Food source for insects and birds</li> <li>• Shelter and food source for mammals and amphibians</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Litter Picking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the Selby Womblers group with litter pickers, bags</li> <li>• Include on social media / website the dangers of litter to wildlife</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low cost</li> <li>• Improved habitat conditions for wildlife</li> <li>• Less wildlife deaths from litter</li> <li>• Improved mental health</li> <li>• Safer public open space</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Pollinator planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant pollinator friendly plants</li> <li>• Use native UK species</li> <li>• Use native pollinator plants in hanging baskets and planters</li> <li>• Encourage residents to plant native pollinator plants in their gardens through the website and social media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>• Great public engagement</li> </ul>
Hedgehog recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share the link to Hedgehog Highways on line via social media and website <a href="http://www.hedgehogstreet.org">www.hedgehogstreet.org</a></li> <li>• Put key information on website</li> <li>• Install hedgehog homes on suitable Town Council land</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Help prevent a species from going extinct</li> <li>• Great community engagement</li> <li>• Low Cost</li> </ul>



To: Selby Town Council  
From: Deputy Clerk  
Date: 8 April 2024  
Title: **Climate Action Plan**

### **Introduction**

Selby Town Council have formed an Environment Committee which will undertake the following role and functions:

- To agree and review strategies for achieving the Council's ambition of working towards achieving Net Zero by 2030
- To review the Biodiversity Policy
- To agree and review a Nature Recovery Plan
- To look at the Town Council's own practices in relation to Climate Change
- To promote environmental awareness within the community and work with the local community in partnerships to achieve environmental change
- To provide information through the Town Council's website, social media and newsletter

### **Action**

Selby Town Council require a Climate Action Plan. The Action plan will be the Councils roadmap to lowering carbon emissions and becoming more sustainable. This plan will be reviewed quarterly at the Environment Committee Meetings.

The Deputy Clerk has provided a draft layout for the committee to consider and a Carbon Footprint Report for Selby Parish.

The Deputy Clerk has suggested that the Action Plan includes:

- Selby Town Councils Vision and Commitments
- Actions for Selby Town Council – Short, Medium and Long Term
- Actions for supporting the Community – Short, Medium and Long Term

### **Outcome**

To provide the Deputy Clerk with the content required to write the Climate Action Plan. This will then be presented to Full Council with a resolution to adopt the plan and publish it on the Selby Town Council website.



# **SELBY TOWN COUNCIL**

## **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**



## **Contents**

Introduction

Selby - Parish Carbon Footprint

Vision and Commitments

Actions for Selby Town Council – Short / Medium / Long Term

Actions to support change in the community – Short / Medium / Long Term

## **Appendix**

Action Plan – Selby Town Council

Action Plan – Supporting the Community

## **Introduction**

Climate change is happening and this is due to human activities. Along with warming, many other changes are occurring such as melting polar ice, rising sea levels and more frequent floods, droughts and heatwaves.

In 2015, the 196 parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change adopted the Paris Agreement. Its overarching goal is to hold “the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels”

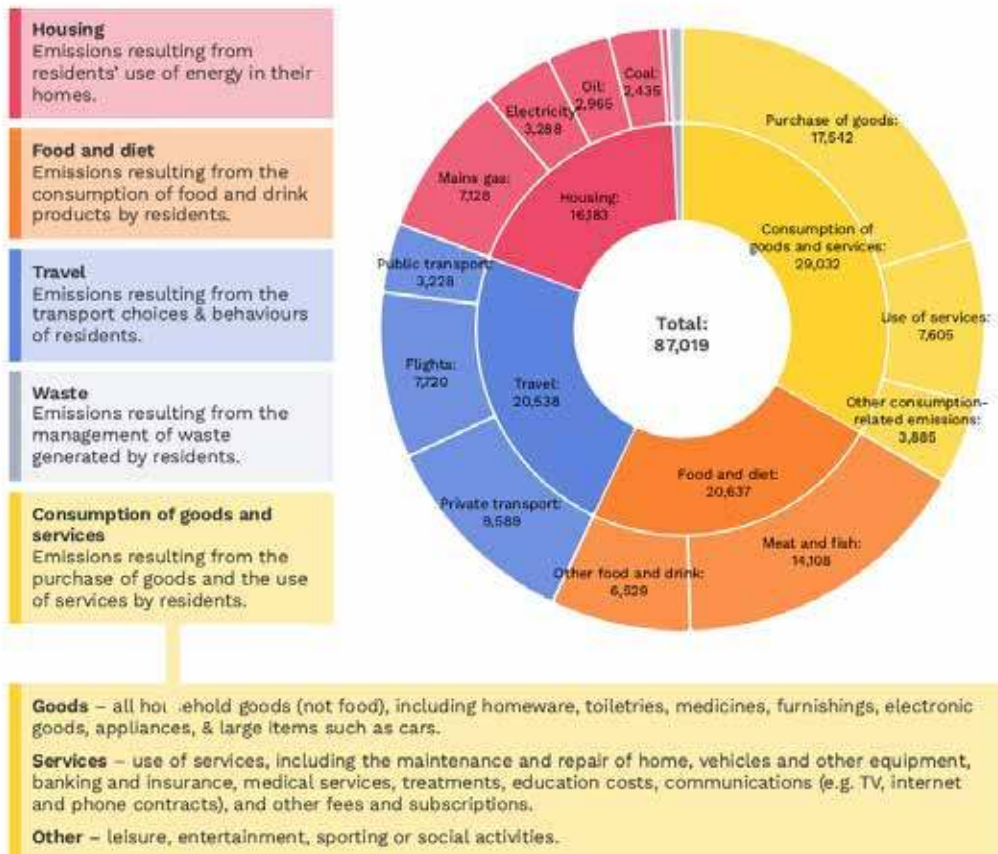
In 2019 there was a drive for all councils across the country to declare climate emergency.

In September 2023 Selby Town Council passed a motion to declare that we will ‘work towards achieving net zero by 2030’. And as a result of this motion the Environment Committee was formed in April 2024.



## Selby Parish Carbon Footprint

This figure shows the annual carbon emissions (measured in tonnes CO<sub>e</sub>) emitted as a result of the different activities that residents within Selby parish’s boundary engage in –from heating to eating.



SOURCE: Centre for Sustainable Energy

## Vision and Commitments

## **Actions for Selby Town Council**

Short Term

Medium Term

Long Term

## **Actions to support change in the community**

Short Term

Medium Term

Long Term