



Terms of Reference for Sustainability Task Groupⁱ

(Membership of task groups to be agreed at each annual meeting of the Parish Council)

1. POWERS: ⁱⁱ

A) To Decide:	No	B) To Act:	Within terms of reference
C) To Spend:	No	D) Budget:	Nil. Expenditure to be authorised as required

2. MEMBERS:

- a. 3 councillors and up to 5 members of the parish.
- b. The group will appoint a councillor representative as Chairman.

3. QUORUM:

- a. 3 members, to include at least one member of the parish council.

4. MEETINGS TO TAKE PLACE IN PUBLIC: No

5. BACKGROUND:

- a. The Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Act 2006 gave parish and town councils specific powers in relation to local energy saving measures, which will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. Parish and town councils can promote and support community initiatives to reduce emissions.
- b. In 2010 Defra published "Adapting to Climate Change: A Guide for Local Councils"ⁱⁱⁱ
- c. In 2019 Northamptonshire County Council and Northampton Borough Council declared a climate emergency and committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030^{iv}.
- d. In March 2020 SNC launched their climate change challenge to help everybody living and working in the district understand how their actions contribute to climate change^v.
- e. The UK is committed to the delivery of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed by world leaders at the United Nations in 2015 and has set out how it intends to meet these goals.^{vi}
- f. On 12 June 2019 the Government laid the draft Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 to amend the Climate Change Act 2008 by introducing a target for at least a 100% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (compared to 1990 levels) in the UK by 2050.
- g. The 2021 United Nations' sixth report from the Independent Panel on Climate Change has declared "a code red for humanity".^{vii}

6. PURPOSE:

- a. To develop a sustainability strategy for Boddington and to advise the Parish Council on proposals for action.
- b. To publicise actions which parishioners can take to reduce climate change.

7. TERMS of REFERENCE

To develop a sustainability strategy for Boddington and to advise the Parish Council on proposals for local action on a regular basis.

The group will consider the following SDGs with a specific local focus:

- Goal 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- Goal 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

8. UNDERTAKINGS:

- a. All members will abide by the Parish Council Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and other Parish regulations and policies.
- b. Draft minutes of all meetings will be prepared promptly and in any event within two weeks following the meeting. Draft minutes will be sent to the Officers and Members of the full Council. Agreed Minutes will be published on the Parish website.
- c. The Task Group will meet as required, with a minimum of 3 days clear notice to group members and the Parish Clerk.
- d. The Task Group will attempt to be representative of all parishioners
- e. Proposed changes to the terms of reference will be considered by the Parish Council.

9. TASKS and DELIVERABLES REQUIRED:

Within 18 months, deliver a Sustainability strategy for Boddington for consideration by the Parish Council which includes:-

- Identifying the risks and opportunities arising from the goals set out above.
- Propose recommendations to mitigate the risks and actions to realise the opportunities.

10. ACCOUNTS:

- a. The accounts of the Task Group will form part of the Council's accounts.

Appendix 1 Sustainable Development goals

- Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation
- Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

ⁱ Councils may carry out the bulk of their detailed scrutiny work in informal time-limited task groups. These can carry out investigations into any issue, collecting evidence from a wide range of sources. They make recommendations, which are sent to the Council to be either accepted or rejected.

ⁱⁱ A 'working party' that meets in private (i.e. not open to the public) or have a published agenda & minutes must not have any delegated council functions, including spending powers. Any meeting (irrespective of its title) that exercises Council functions (approving things, spending money, allocating resources, responding to consultations on behalf of the Council, etc) must be held in public with proper notice, agenda, minutes, etc. It doesn't matter what you call such a meeting...the law doesn't discern the name of the meeting, only the function of the meeting. Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s.1 and Local Government Act 1972 s. 100 refer.

ⁱⁱⁱ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/218798/adapt-localcouncilguide.pdf [accessed 24 August 2021]

^{iv} <http://www.northamptonboroughcouncil.com/councillors/documents/g8981/Printed%20minutes%20Monday%2003-Jun-2019%2018.30%20Council.pdf?T=1> [accessed 24 August 2021]

^v <https://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/info/317/climate-change/452/climate-change-challenge> [accessed 24 August 2021]

^{vi} <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals--2> [accessed 24 August 2021]

^v <https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/>

^{vii} <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals--2> [accessed 24 August 2021]

^v <https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/>