

## St Mark's, Holbrook, Plan of Action – 2.3.25





1. Plan to walk the talk - Turning the words of our Recognition of Climate and Ecological Emergency Statement into action. Actions selected using tools recommended in the 'Declaration b) Making a Plan' section of the Toolkit.

1	Reduce our carbon footprintAgree SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound), keymilestones and initial steps.Net Zero Carbon by 2030 - CofE defines as the reduction as far as possible of all in- scope carbon emissions (from oil, gas and electricity we use in our buildings and petrol and diesel transport) and the removal of an equivalent amount of carbon from the atmosphere, for the remaining in-scope emissions by use of accredited offsetting schemes. Use The practical path to net zero carbon for churches checklist.Reduce emissions by 10% a year.Annually use the Energy Footprint Tool in online Parish Returns, to record our building energy use (gas and electricity) and travel miles, to calculate our carbon emissions. Use Climate Stewards to offset emissions we cannot avoid and be carbon neutral.Embed caring for God's creation into every aspect of our church life and achieve a Gold Eco Church Award.Review progress twice a year in March prior to APCM and in August prior to	н • •	elping church members make lifestyle changes Plan a climate-themed service. Continue encouraging households to care for God's creation, including using the <u>Creation Care</u> scheme. Promote our resources list for children and youth – for churches, parents and carers. Encourage home groups to study a creation care series.
•	Review progress twice a year in March prior to APCM and in August prior to September PCC.		
Moving your money		SI	witch to renewable energy
•	<ul> <li>Encourage Chichester Diocese to divest from fossil fuels.</li> <li>* St Mark's Eco Church Champion has joined the Parish Environment Support</li> <li>Network, is Horsham Deanery Eco Church Champion and in June 2024 was elected</li> <li>to the House of Laity in Diocesan Synod.</li> <li>Explore <u>Just Money Movement</u> and Eco Church resources and consider organising a talk at St Mark's in 2025.</li> </ul>	•	Churches: Citizens UK's - <u>Fair Energy Campaign</u> Green electricity and gas contracts have been renewed through Parish Buying. Households - Promote Sussex Green Living's free Home Energy Help Desk at Sussex Green Hub and Transition Horsham Energy Group <u>Events</u>



2. **Plan to have an Impact** - Ideas and deadlines for each of the four areas of Impact, to help our team and congregation to inspire change, both in their own circles and in wider society, sparking a ripple effect for change.

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<ul> <li>Upwards Influence your MP, council, denomination etc. </li> <li>Support campaigns to influence governments and businesses with <a href="https://christian.Aid">christian Aid</a>, Tearfund, Operation Noah, Green Christian and other campaigning organisations – when appropriate campaigns arise. </li> <li>Continue engaging with our new MP, John Milne.</li> <li>Chichester Diocese – support the journeys to Bronze Eco Diocese and divestment from fossil fuels in 2025. See *. <a href="https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/denominational-awards/eco-diocese">ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/denominational-awards/eco-diocese</a> and Operation Noah's Bright Now Church Divestment campaign.</li> <li>Work in partnership with North Horsham Parish Council organising Holbrook Community Litter Pick, alongside Holbrook Heart Café on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025.</li> <li>Continue engaging with Nigel Emery, Horsham District Council Chair, and others in the community, on climate resilience measures.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Outwards</li> <li>Help people influence their workplace, schools, community groups and encourage the church and home groups to pray regularly for them.</li> <li>Create a resources list for schools, pre-schools, teachers and governors, with links to Eco Church and A Rocha UK resources, 'Net zero carbon schools' webinar_ and Let's Go Zero in 2025.</li> <li>Promote Carbon Literacy training and information.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Alongside Influence those you work with - mission partners, suppliers, other churches etc. </li> <li>Continue upholding St Mark's <u>Fairtrade status</u> and renew on 11.9.25.</li> <li>Review St Mark's suppliers using Eco Church ethical buying resources in 2025.</li> <li>Commit to praying regularly as a church for people around the world who are impacted by the climate emergency, or who are caring for God's creation in inspiring ways – ongoing.</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Together</li> <li>Connect with local climate groups and see how you can work together.</li> <li>Continue working with Horsham Community Fridge</li> <li>Continue as a recycling drop off location for <u>Sussex Green Living</u></li> <li>Continue working together with and sharing information about other local groups through Horsham Eco Churches</li> <li>Keep St Mark's <u>OnePlanet Mindmap</u> updated.</li> </ul>