

The Church of ...

Commitment to the Environment

1. We affirm the Fifth Mark of Mission as a central part of our life and work.
 - The Fifth Mark of Mission is, 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth.'

2. We will seek to make environmental concerns an integral part of our life and work. As a general rule, we will seek to do things more environmentally, rather than do more environmental things.

3. Each year we will identify one aspect (or more) of our premises and activities, with a view to improving what we do in line with best environmental practice. Aspects which might be considered include:
 - Worship, including preaching and leading the intercessions
 - House groups, including Lent and Advent groups
 - Work with children and young people
 - Adult learning and training
 - Pastoral work
 - Involvement with the wider church
 - Involvement with charitable and campaigning organisations
 - Links with local schools
 - Involvement with the local community
 - Church meetings
 - Church administration
 - Church finance
 - Church buildings
 - Churchyards and funerals
 - The parish magazine
 - Transport
 - Energy use
 - Water use
 - Purchasing and waste
 - Recycling
 - Catering

4. Each year we will decide whether or not the time is right for us to:
 - Undertake an environmental audit of our premises and activities.
 - Make use of the Eco-Congregation resources, with a view to becoming an Eco-Congregation.
 - Make particular aspects of our life as a church Carbon Neutral.

5. We will liaise with our nearest Local Agenda 21 Officer and others, with a view to working in partnership with the local community in promoting environmental concerns.

6. We will identify a named individual to:
 - Monitor the implementation of this commitment.
 - Liaise with the Advisory Group on the Environment.
 - Present a report at the annual church meeting.

7. We will be prepared to answer questions on our environmental practice during the Archdeacon's Visitation (or any similar inspection).

8. We will:
 - Review and renew this commitment (revised as necessary) at the annual church meeting.
 - Display a copy of this commitment on our church noticeboard.
 - Register our commitment with the Diocesan Environment Officer.
 - Celebrate our commitment at our main Sunday service on an appropriate occasion.

This commitment was last renewed on ...