

Betley & District Village Hall Committee Environmental/Green Housekeeping Policy

Mission Statement

Betley & District Village Hall Committee is committed to working with all sections of our community to help achieve the true potential of the area as a desirable place in which to live and work.

Aim of Our Environmental Policy

- 1) To bring about a wider understanding of how all activities within our facilities affect the environment.
- 2) To promote high standards of environmental management.
- 3) To minimise or eliminate as far as possible adverse impacts on the environment.

Objectives

Betley & District Village Hall Committee shall:

- 1) Maintain respect for natural resources by ensuring the most efficient use of materials and by using renewable, recycled and recyclable products wherever possible.
- 2) Ensure the use of environmentally friendly products and minimise or eliminate the use of environmentally exploitative products.
- 3) Minimise, where possible, the creation of waste, especially hazardous waste and wherever possible, recycle or reuse materials; dispose of all wastes through safe and responsible methods in compliance with the relevant environmental legislation; where safe, legal and practical to do so, dispose of own green waste on site by mulching or shredding.
- 4) Ensure the responsible use of energy throughout the organisation by conserving energy, improving energy efficiency, seeking to utilise safer energy sources and where practically possible giving preference to renewable over finite energy resources.

Activities to Achieve the Objectives

Betley & District Village Hall Committee will:

- 1) Appoint a member of the Committee to monitor and co-ordinate the environmental performance of the Committee.
- 2) Communicate the environmental policy by way of its website.
- 3) Communicate the environmental policy and provide appropriate guidance to all users of its facilities to ensure its effective implementation.
- 4) In co-operation with Newcastle Borough Council, provide on-site a comprehensive range of recycling bins and promote with all hall users optimum use of these facilities.
- 5) Identify opportunities to minimise its use of energy through enhanced lighting, heating and insulation materials.
- 6) Conduct periodic environmental reviews and self-evaluation of its compliance with the environmental policy.
- 7) Prepare, implement and monitor action plans to improve performance.
- 8) Report these findings to the Committee.
- 9) With regard to the purchase of goods and services, Betley & District Village Hall Committee shall:

- a) Support and encourage contractors, suppliers and other relevant partners to minimise their impact on the environment through the communication of the Committee's environmental policy and strategic purchasing and contract policies.
- b) Actively seek to influence others within its sphere of influence and operation to adopt environmental policies and good environmental management.
- c) Use and specify the use of used, reclaimed or recycled materials wherever appropriate and possible.
- d) Actively seek the purchase of materials locally and the appointment of local contractors whenever such materials and skills exist locally . *(Note: Since the organisation, as a charity expending public funds, is also required to secure good value for money, purchasing decisions will take account of both environmental and value for money factors. Tenders will make clear what requirements are mandatory and which are desirable but discretionary).*

Each member of the Committee will:

Encourage other members of the Committee to adopt and take responsibility for the implementation of the environmental policy, encourage volunteers and members of hiring organisations to adopt good practices so as to improve the environmental performance of their organisation and improve its impact upon the environment.

Approved 2nd February 2015