



Pennard Community Council

Climate Emergency Action Plan

2020

Adopted 13th November 2019

Contents

Introduction	Page 2
Aims	Page 3
Biodiversity, Food and Growing	Page 4
Energy	Page 6
Engagement and Cooperation	Page 7
Housing and Buildings	Page 8
Transport	Page 9
Youth	Page 10
Summary	Page 11
Annexe 1 - Minutes of the Climate Emergency Working Group of Pennard Community Council	Page 13
Annexe 2 - Pennard Climate Emergency Carbon Pledge Card	Page 17

Introduction

On 13th May 2019, Pennard Community Council unanimously resolved to:

1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency'
2. Launch an inclusive consultation to develop an action plan over the next 6 months to:
 - a. make Pennard net-zero carbon as soon as possible;
 - b. increase local resilience to climate impacts;
 - c. maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as health, agriculture, transport and the economy;
3. Raise awareness throughout Pennard by forming a working party from within the community.
4. Call on Swansea County Council to join us in declaring a Climate Emergency working toward a carbon-neutral future.
5. Call on Wales and UK Government to provide the support and resources to make this possible.
6. Work with other local areas, particularly the community councils and other partners in the Gower Biosphere;
7. Report within six months with the actions the community council can take to address this emergency, for example increasing the energy efficiency of the Community Hall.
8. Discuss with Renew Wales how they might support this process.¹

In relation to points 4 & 6, Pennard Community Council contacted every community council in the Swansea county area and Swansea County Council urging them to join us in declaring a "Climate Emergency". Pennard Community Council.

In order to pursue the other points, Pennard Community Council decided on 11 July 2019 to convene a meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group and to involve interested members of the public.²

The first meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group was convened on July 23rd 2019 at which it was decided to split into five groups in order to better concentrate efforts.³

¹ Pennard Community Council Minute 2019/6b
<http://www.pennardcc.org.uk/sites/default/files/minutes/Final%20Minutes%20of%20Full%20Council%20Meeting%20held%2013%20May%202019.pdf>

² Pennard Community Council Minute 2019/65b

³ Climate Emergency Working Group of Pennard Community Council Minute 2019/22 (Annexe 1)

Aims

Pennard Community Council aims to become net-zero carbon as an organisation by 2022 and assist the Community (residents, organisations and businesses) to become more environmentally aware and take positive action to a net-zero carbon future.

Pennard Community Council aims to assist Pennard Community (residents, organisations and businesses) to become net-zero carbon by 2030.

Pennard Community Council aims to work with Welsh Government, Swansea Council and other relevant partners to increase local resilience to climate impacts.

Pennard Community Council aims to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as health, agriculture, transport and the economy.

Pennard Community Council aims to maximise engagement with all stakeholders within the community and further afield.

Engagement and Cooperation

By its nature, the climate emergency is a challenge that can only be solved with substantial collaboration. Pennard Community Council aims to maximise engagement with constituents. The Community Council will therefore:

1. Continue to hold Climate Emergency Working Group meetings to work on action plans for 2021 and beyond.
2. Encourage expansion of the sub-groups so that as many people as possible are involved.
3. Hold at least 3 public meetings in 2020 to involve as many of the public as closely as possible with the creation and implementation of projects.
4. Utilise relevant social media platforms, such as VocalEyes, to keep in touch with the issues that the community see as the highest priority.
5. Distribute at least 3 community newsletters including Climate Emergency Group meeting updates.
6. To support households in Pennard to measure their carbon footprint.
7. To get 30% of households to sign up to the Carbon Pledge. (Annexe 2).
8. Make our Climate Emergency Action Plan available to the public by:
 - a. Having a copy prominently displayed on the Community Council website and sharing on official social media such as Facebook and Twitter.
 - b. Having hard copies available at Pennard Library and at all local businesses that agree to stock them.

Pennard Ward has proactive local businesses and a strong Community. In order to tackle the climate emergency effectively, we need to cooperate with all local organisations to the best of our ability. We will therefore:

9. Communicate directly with the Community in order to establish the best collaborative way to work together.
10. Support local businesses, organisations and residents when they make contributions by promoting their efforts and achievements on official social media.
11. Involve local businesses, organisations and residents when a local need is highlighted that may be best served them.

In addition to collaboration with people locally, the nature of the emergency clearly requires cooperation on a wider level. We recognise that other communities as well as higher tiers of government will be taking their own steps and that, by working closely with them, we will be able to address issues more effectively together. We will therefore:

12. Circulate a copy of this report to other government bodies as soon as it is ratified and ask them to build frameworks with us to work together.
 - a. We will contact all elected representatives of our community.

- b. Research what other organisations are doing to tackle the climate emergency and actively engage when it is appropriate to do so.

Biodiversity, Food and Growing

As the Pennard Community Council area is home to substantial non-residential land, both private and community council owned, Pennard Community Council identifies significant scope for maintaining and improving biodiversity in our area.

Council administered land such as Pennard Playing Field and Pennard Burial Ground are obvious locations for the Council to undertake action, however they both present their own unique challenges. Pennard Playing Field has been a Queen Elizabeth II protected field since January 2013 and, as such, Pennard Community Council are restricted in what we can do there.⁴ Pennard Burial Ground has different but understandably sensitive needs which mean that care must be taken in any action.

Land not administered by Pennard Community Council presents different challenges in that the Community Council has no direct control. However, there is still scope to assist and encourage others as well as seeking transfer orders for land administered by Swansea County Council where we believe that we can add value. We will therefore:

1. Work with local residents, landowners, commoners and Swansea County Council to:
 - a. Raise awareness of what biodiversity means across the Pennard Community Council area.
 - b. Identify areas of potential improvement of biodiversity across the Pennard Community Council area.
 - c. Identify local fruit/nut trees and edible plants/fungi across the Pennard Community Council area.
2. Collaborate with other organisations such as Swansea Council Biodiversity Team and Swansea University in order to plan and coordinate our approach.
3. Identify suitable land for tree planting and work with external organisations for land purchase and planting. Identify best species for fruit/nut foraging and carbon capture.
4. Assess current biodiversity of hedgerows in Pennard Playing Field and Burial Ground. Reassess on an annual basis to establish change in biodiversity. Encourage Pennard Primary to assess school hedgerows.
5. Increase wildflowers in the area by:
 - a. Identifying suitable locations on Community Council grounds and planting them.
 - b. Encouraging and working with local residents and organisations to plant appropriately in gardens and other suitable locations to create wildlife corridors.
6. Encourage the use of natural pest controls e.g. nematodes.
7. Encourage the use of animal boxes such as bat boxes, hedgehog dens, bird boxes and insect hotels by:

⁴ Fields in Trust <http://www.fieldsintrust.org/FieldSite/Pennard-Playing-Field>

- a. Identifying suitable locations on Community Council grounds and installing them.
 - b. Encouraging and working with local residents and organisations to install them in gardens and other suitable locations.
 - c. Organise community workshops to create animal/insect homes, ideally using recycled and repurposed materials.
8. Establish best species of bee and identify best location for community Hives.
9. Establish local demand for allotments/growing spaces and identify suitable locations within the community.
10. Encourage food growing among residents and set up a seasonal community produce share.
11. Raise awareness of the impact of food miles and encourage the purchase of locally-produced food where possible.
12. Engage with residents about the impact of meat and dairy.
13. Encourage residents to reduce meat and dairy from their diets.
14. To work with local businesses and encourage each food outlet to provide varied plant based options on their menus.

Energy

In common with all other areas, Pennard consumes energy in the forms of electricity, gas, oil and petrol/diesel.

Priorities.

- 1) To move Pennard Community Council Energy suppliers to 100% renewables as soon as possible.
- 2) To encourage households to move to a renewable electricity provider as soon as possible.
- 3) Pennard Community Council to publicly support local renewable generation such as wind, tidal and solar power.
- 4) Pennard Community Council to investigate with the view to installation of solar panels for all community buildings.
- 5) Encourage households to generate renewable power through solar panels, ground source heat pumps and solar thermal heating. The Community Council will lead by example.
- 6) For households to consider how to reduce the energy usage of their homes through improved insulation, reducing thermostat temperatures and improving double glazing.
- 7) Investigate potential community energy projects.

Housing and Buildings

Whilst Pennard Community Council have limited leverage in the planning process, we are statutory consultees and have previously worked hard to ensure that residents are aware of major changes. Pennard Community Council have also fed back to the City and County of Swansea on other applications as and when relevant issues arise. In addition to this, it has previously been noted that having a more comprehensive development plan for Pennard would potentially mean that decisions by the Community Council, if based on the said Development Plan, could carry more authority. Pennard Community Council will therefore:

1. Hold public meetings and consultations about any major development proposed in the ward.
2. Begin work on Pennard Ward Development Plan with a target for completion in 2022/23 and include within the plan such things as:
 - a. Required standards for building materials.
 - b. Required standards for new buildings eg. provision for renewable energy source e.g. solar and parking designed for making electric vehicles easy to charge.
 - c. Include adequate provision for active travel.
 - d. Include sufficient green infrastructure.
 - e. Investigate the potential for retention of funds pending a performance inspection after year 1 of new builds.

Pennard Community Council is also responsible for a limited number of buildings within our ward. Like any other buildings, those administered by the Community Council have an effect on the environment. From the start of the 2020/21 financial year, we will therefore:

3. Always consider the most environmentally friendly methods when looking to build, rebuild or maintain Community Council owned buildings.
4. Always consider the most environmentally friendly products when renewing relevant contracts.
5. Improve our facilities for recycling waste in Community Council buildings.
6. Assess whether Community Council buildings can be made more energy efficient.

Transport

The Pennard Community Council area presents several unique challenges in moving toward a more sustainable future as well as those which would need to be implemented across the board.

One such challenge within our community is a relative lack of means for people to move around and between communities without the use of a car due to limited public transport and a lack of safe footpaths between key conurbations.

It is recognised by the Community Council that issues with cost, reliability and transferability on local buses has a negative impact on people choosing to use public transport. We will therefore:

1. Reinvigorate our campaign for a more affordable and more cohesive public transport system and collaborate with other communities.
2. Investigate the viability of a local minibus or e-minibus including in collaboration with other communities and existing services.

The Community Council wish to encourage more cycling and understand that a lack of places to park bicycles have a negative impact on people choosing to make journeys in this way. We will therefore:

3. Work with local businesses and the local authority to increase the availability of bicycle parking (including at least 1 in Kittle, 1 in Pennard (golf club/pub area) and 1 in Southgate) by working with local businesses. All new businesses that will attract customers should be encouraged to provide bicycle parking.

As well as working with people to make journeys without cars, Pennard Community Council recognize that car journeys themselves must become more sustainable. We will therefore work with the community to:

4. Trial a lift share scheme on a suitable car share app.
5. Investigate the viability of local car charging points for electric cars.
6. Investigate and monitor the viability and demand for an e-car share scheme.
7. Continue work on establishing a footpath between Pennard and Kittle.
 - a. Start with the section between Green Lane and Pennard.
 - b. Investigate other options and campaign for legislative changes to assist us in our aims.
8. Discourage parking on pavements, particularly drop-down pavements, with a view to reducing it by:
 - a. Creating a Community Awareness Campaign.
 - b. Investigate which partner agencies we could work with for this campaign.
 - c. Investigating available avenues for legislation/policy change.

9. Campaign to improve access to Pennard Park for wheelchair users and investigate other areas of the community in which access could be improved.
10. Raise awareness of the impact of air travel and encourage individuals to reduce their air travel.

Youth

Creating a more sustainable future for our planet is as much about future generations as it is about stewardship of our planet. In this regard, it is more important than ever to engage with upcoming generations and be responsive to their input. Pennard Community Council will therefore:

1. Work to create a Youth Council with an Eco Committee to feed into our ongoing work in this and other areas.
2. Engage with local schools and Pennard Youth Club to raise awareness of the Climate and Ecological Emergency and our declaration.
3. Encourage actions young people can take to reduce their carbon footprint.

Money and Data

Where we invest our money can have an impact on our climate. Banks that manage money for us often invest heavily in fossil fuels which negatively affect our planet. Pennard Community Council will therefore:

- 1) Investigate and if agreed, switch Council finances to providers recommended by the Campaign Against Climate Change.
- 2) Make people aware of the climate impacts of investing in traditional banking sectors and what the alternatives are.

Data is one of our largest users of energy with the internet currently estimated to have the same CO₂ footprint as global air travel. Global Communications Technologies are growing at an ever increasing rate and, according to some predictions, will be responsible for more carbon emissions than any country other than China, India or the United States by 2025.⁵ Pennard Community Council will therefore:

- 3) Increase local awareness of the environmental costs of data streaming.

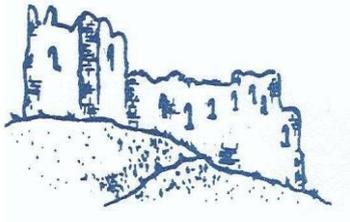
⁵ Internet Health Report (2018) <https://internethealthreport.org/2018/the-internet-uses-more-electricity-than/>

BUDGET 2020-2021

In order to launch this initiative and work towards these aims the following budget was derived from the cost analysis carried out in November 2019, based on the initial requirement of this plan in year 1. A revision will be carried out each year in time to set the Budget.

Pledge cards x 2000	£100
Meeting Flyers	£150
Newsletters	£300
Bound Copies of Plan	£100
Animal and insect boxes	£500
Hives	£1000
Food share advertising and set up	£200
Pennard Ward Development Plan	£300
3 Bike Racks	£500
Youth Eco Group meeting Budget	£300
Total estimate	£3500

Annexe 1



CYNGOR CYMUNED PENNARD PENNARD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Clerk – Mrs Janet Crocker

2 Anderson Lane Southgate Swansea

SA3 2BX

Tel. 01792 293924 Mobile: 07825 225567

email: pennardcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

www.pennardcc.org.uk

Meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group of Pennard Community Council.

19:00 July 23rd 2019 – Southgate County Club

In attendance: Arthur Rogers, Susan Rodaway, Angela Brunt, Andy Rees, Sally Rogers, Jeffrey Rogers, Anwen Rodaway, Elsbeth Rodaway, Bramwell Blyth, Mark Smith, Jane Smith, Jean Marnell, Jenny Baker, Sue Hale, Dee McCullough, Jenn Barnes.

Apologies for absence: Jamie Francis, Darren Hickery, Rowan Rees, Phil Brophy.

2019/1 It was agreed to look at a variety of apps, including the Homes and Community measurement provided by Energy Saving Trust to calculate a baseline carbon footprint and reduce it.

2019/2 It was agreed to pursue funding and to utilise the Funding Wales search function.

2019/3 It was agreed that our focus should be on individuals as well as the community.

2019/4 It was agreed to rotate future meetings around venues within the ward.

2019/5 It was agreed that there would be no “name and shame” aspect to any venture in order to keep it a positive campaign.

2019/6 It was suggested that we look at “Friends of Malvern Hills” and potentially look at working towards a model where residents take responsibility for specific areas and work with others to protect and increase biodiversity.

2019/7 It was suggested that individuals rewild parts of their own gardens and also that individuals may consider planting more trees in their own gardens.

2019/8 The City and County of Swansea had been contacted about wildflower areas. A part of the burial ground was suggested as a potential location and everyone was urged to think of other potential locations.

2019/9 It was suggested that we pursue community gardening and/or a community orchard. It was noted that PCC were already working with the school for a Community Garden.

2019/10 Issues around the lack of accessibility without a car were discussed. These issues included the lack of access for mobility scooters, the green path.

2019/11 It was suggested that we look into car-sharing schemes including but not limited to car-sharing apps. The possibility of an e-car share was also raised with the suggestion of solar panels on community buildings to charge cars. The potential for minibuses/e-minibuses was also raised.

2019/12 It was suggested that we look into a rent a roof scheme for solar and that solar farms were also looked into.

2019/13 Bus issues were raised including the high prices of tickets and lack of transferability between companies.

2019/14 It was suggested that people are encouraged to improve home efficiency including home insulation.

2019/15 It was suggested that a pledge of ten things to do were circulated.

2019/16 It was proposed that the school be approached to encourage the use of “snakes” to get children to school.

2019/17 It was suggested that new outreach methods were looked at to involve those not engaged in social media including leafleting.

2019/18 It was agreed to talk to Pennard Primary School about working with them as a Forest School.

2019/19 It was noted that Pennard Primary School is a Surfers Against Sewage Community School and it was agreed that we would work with them.

2019/20 It was suggested that beginners classes for growing would take place.

2019/21 It was agreed that the working group think of an acronym with a vowel in it to use in place of the name “Climate Emergency Working Group”.

2019/22 It was agreed that those who had attended or sent apologies for this initial meeting would form the steering group and five subgroups would report to the steering group of the working group and that those subgroups would be:

- 1) **Transport**
- 2) **Biodiversity**
- 3) **Energy**
- 4) **Food and Growing**
- 5) **Youth**

2019/23 It was agreed that though the steering group was set, councillors were free to join, or members of the public free to be co-opted to the subgroups. The subgroups will be led by:

- 1) Transport - Jean Marnell, Jenny Baker, Arthur Rogers, Jenn Barnes
- 2) Biodiversity - Sue Hale, Jeffrey Rogers, Sally Rogers, Angela Brunt, Andy Rees
- 3) Energy - Dee McCullough, Jenny Baker, Susan Rodaway, Angela Brunt
- 4) Food and Growing- Jane Smith, Susan Rodaway, Angela Brunt, Jenn Barnes
- 5) Youth - Susan Rodaway, Arthur Rogers, Anwen Rodaway, Elsbeth Rodaway, Bramwell Blyth

2019/24 The next meeting was set for Monday, September 2nd at 19:00

Annexe 2

Pennard Climate Emergency Carbon Pledge Card

I already reduce my carbon emissions by:

I pledge to further reduce my carbon emissions by:

Flying

Offsetting my flights/flying less each year/quit flying altogether

Driving

I will reduce the amount I drive by

Car sharing

Using the bus/train/coach

Cycling

Walking

Once a week/ more than once a week/everyday

Reduce annual mileage by 10%/20%/30%

Food

I will reduce the carbon footprint from my food by

Eating locally sourced produce

Eat less meat

Eat a more plant based diet

Grow more food

Biodiversity

Re-wild an area of my garden

Create a compost heap

Add animal habitats - bug hotels, hedgehog houses, bat boxes etc

Power

Moving to a renewable energy provider

Investing in renewable generation (e.g. ground source heat pump)

Investing in community energy generation

Spending and investing

I will buy less

I will buy second hand

I will re-use where I can

I will move my bank/pension/mortgage/savings to an ethical provider

Signed:

Date

Review date – 1 year from now.

This Climate Emergency Carbon Pledge Card has been created by the Pennard Community Council Climate Emergency working group to help community members reduce their carbon emissions. The pledge card can be posted in people's windows or shared on social media sites to raise awareness and demonstrate commitment if they wish.