



Ware Town Council

A Resolution on the Climate Crisis

Noting the negative impacts of climate change caused by human activities are beginning to seriously affect the health and wellbeing of the people and environment of Ware, and that these negative impacts will only increase as the climate crisis worsens;

This Council believes that:

1. All governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to do all within their power to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and that local governments should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. It is important for the residents of Ware and the UK that towns such as ours commit to carbon neutrality as quickly as possible, and act to protect human health and biodiversity to the maximum extent their powers allow;
2. Towns such as ours have a limited ability to act to reduce carbon emissions, to preserve biodiversity, and to protect the health of their citizens but have an obligation to act to do so, and the actions we can take are generally quicker and simpler than those of large cities, and decarbonisation is easier to achieve;
3. The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be humanity's number one priority; and,
4. Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings and market opportunities (as well as improved well-being for people worldwide).

This Council resolves to:

1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency' which threatens the health and wellbeing of the people of Ware;
2. Make the Council's operations carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions, and to encourage and assist the citizens and businesses of Ware to do the same using the means available to us, including budgetary, ensuring that all Council activities are consistent with the goal of carbon neutrality;
3. Hold dialogue with East Herts Council and Herts County Council on decarbonisation of their operations by 2030, and to request our MP and national government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible;
4. Work with other local government bodies to determine and implement best practice methods locally to help limit Global Warming below a 1.5°C rise;
5. Ensure that all Council policies and practices within our control, including commercial operations and investments, are compatible with the goal of carbon neutrality;

6. Provide advice and assistance to residents in Ware so that they understand and can contribute towards the goal of carbon neutrality, providing appropriate options and choices where possible to encourage a modal shift away from carbon producing activities;

8. Report annually to the Town Meeting and to residents on progress towards this goal.