

Community Buildings Committee

Date: 9th November 2023

Number CB034

To receive a progress update regarding the Carbon Footprint assessment, to review the draft version of the Carbon Reduction Plan and to consider the targets set by 5D Net Zero

1. Introduction

Following the completion of the Carbon Footprint assessment and receiving the Carbon Reduction Plan, the Parish Council now needs to agree on the targets to reach Net Zero. 5D Net Zero have been assisting us in formulating the short- and long-term actions to implement to help us reach our targets and have proposed the following targets.

2. Setting targets by 5D Net Zero

5D Net Zero have suggested the following targets to be reached:

- Net Zero by 2050
- Carbon Neutral by 2040 (Scopes 1 & 2 Net Zero and offset the last of our scope 3)
- 70% reduction by 2030
- 35% reduction in 5 years (2027)

There are two reasons for this:

- Wanting our targets to be science-based
- Viability through our proposed actions

Science-based targets

To align with the global aim of keeping within the 1.5 degree increase in temperatures, organisations should:

- Aim for rapid, and significant emission reductions in the medium term, with halving emissions by 2030 being identified as a key aim for everyone.
- Reduce emissions by more than 90% before 2050.
- Balance any final emissions: once emissions have been cut by >90%, permanent carbon removal and storage is needed to counterbalance the final <10% of residual emissions that cannot be avoided.

A company is only considered to have reached net zero when it has achieved its longterm science-based target and neutralized any residual emissions.

3. The Parish Council Carbon Plan's impact

2027 Target

Working within a 5-year period is a useful management tool for our plan and aligns with Government recommendations. Therefore, 5D Net Zero have included a target for 2027 of 35%, which is a reduction of 13.38 tonnes of CO2e. If we are able to move to a renewable electricity provider and implement energy efficiencies in the Queen's Hall alone, we should be able to meet this reduction easily.

2030 Target

The reduction of 70% by 2030 might be too ambitious with the recent Government announcements. A 70% reduction on our baseline footprint would be a reduction of 26.76 tonnes of CO2e. 5D Net Zero based this on the trend in increase in personal electric cars, our reduction of scope 2 and the likelihood that we will need a new mower in the next seven years, which would most likely have higher fuel efficiencies.

However, perhaps our 2030 target should be 50% reduction, which is still a reduction of 19.11 tonnes of CO2e but a more comfortable target, considering the present political environment.

2040 Target

This is a completely optional target. Perhaps better to remove for now, and we can always add this as a target in future years.

2050 Target

This is aligned with the international target. This should be possible with the transition in the economy which will occur.

4. Recommendations

5D Net Zero recommends we aim to reach the following targets in alignment with our Baseline Carbon Reduction Plan:

- Net Zero by 2050
- 50% reduction by 2030
- 35% reduction in 5 years (2027)

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