

Winterbourne Parish Local Climate & Nature Action Plan 2025-2028

Working together to help people and nature across Winterbourne Parish



Winterbourne Parish Council Climate and Nature Committee



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Date reviewed at Council: December 2025

Introduction

Winterbourne Parish Council created a Local Nature Action Plan in 2022, aiming to enhance our local environment. In 2024, a Climate and Nature Committee was established, which recognises the urgency of the Climate and Nature Crisis, and the need make a difference locally. With support from volunteers and South Gloucestershire Council's Local Climate and Nature Action Plan Guidance, the committee have created this 3-year Local Climate and Nature Action Plan for the areas in Winterbourne Parish, including Frenchay, Hambrook, Moorend, Winterbourne, Winterbourne Down, Watley's End and the East of Harry Stoke.

The aim of the plan is to outline action to protect our local biodiversity and reduce the impact of climate change. The plan details actions to mitigate emissions which cause climate change, as well as helping our communities adapt to the changing climate and ultimately increasing future local resilience. With the help and support of individuals, families, businesses, organisations, landowners, South Gloucestershire Council and community groups, we can make our villages a place for wildlife to thrive and humans to flourish.

The Climate and Nature Committee includes:

Councillor Adrian Collins

Councillor Laura Fogg Rogers

Councillor Sharon Hancock

Councillor David Elridge

Louise Barnett (Climate and Nature Administrator)

Feedback and suggestions are welcome. To get involved or to learn more, contact the Climate and Nature Administrator on community@winterbournepc.co.uk

Aims and Objectives

Winterbourne Climate and Nature Committee have created this Local Climate and Nature Action Plan with the aim to **protect and enhance nature and our environment** through the following objectives:



To reduce carbon emissions and carbon footprint from our council buildings and processes



To increase connectivity through the creation and maintenance of wildlife corridors and habitats



To facilitate stronger collaborative working with stakeholders



To understand the current species and habitats across the village



To increase community engagement and communication to promote ways to reduce emissions and protect nature



To ensure climate and nature issues are incorporated into the parish council decision-making process



To highlight wellbeing and money-saving co-benefits from saving energy and reducing waste



To protect areas of Green Belt across the parish and to promote brownfield redevelopment over greenfield development

Partnerships and Stakeholders

PARTNERSHIPS & CONTACTS INVOLVED IN CREATING PLAN

Organisation	Role	Contact
Winterbourne Parish Council's Climate & Nature Committee	Lead, funding, committee structure	Louise Barnett (Climate & Nature Administrator) Phone: 01454 776922 Email: community@winterbournepc.gov.uk
Frome Valley Environmental Network	Volunteer network and skills bank: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Repair Café and Library of Things - Frome Valley Growing Project - Community Energy 	https://winterbourne-environmental.org
Frenchay Residents Association Frenchay Preservation Society	Frenchay Volunteer network and skills bank. Protection of Conservation Area	
South Gloucestershire Council	Guidance	nature@southglos.gov.uk
Volunteers for the Parish Council	Reviewing plan, research.	community@winterbournepc.gov.uk
Sports associations	Land management	

STAKEHOLDERS

Community groups and clubs	Local Schools/pre schools	Churches	Local organisations	Doctor surgeries	Local businesses
Local police	Environment organisations	Neighbouring Town & Parish Councils	Local Residents	South Glos Council Biodiversity Officers	Local landowners
Allotment holders	Housing developers	Local MPs	Parish Council land management contractors	Parish Council officers	Site users

Stakeholder Communications Plan

STAKEHOLDER	ACTION	MESSAGE CONTENT	DELIVERY METHOD	TIMELINE
Residents	Regular updates on climate and nature projects	Proposed projects, feedback requests, actions taken	Social media, Frome Valley Voice, Council website, noticeboards, meetings, events.	Min. monthly online updates.
Community Groups/committees	Involve and collaborate on projects	Update on projects that connect to their group, impact, involvement, collaboration potential.	Climate and nature committee meetings with rep in attendance when applicable. Email.	Before start of relevant projects.
Sports Clubs and Associations	Involve and collaborate on projects	Update on projects that connect to their group, impact, involvement, collaboration potential.	Climate and nature committee meetings with representative in attendance when applicable. Email.	Before start of relevant projects.
South Glos Council	Keep informed of action taken	Updates on nature projects	Contact nature@southglos.gov.uk	Every 6 months
Local businesses	Support businesses in making eco friendly changes	Examples of changes that could be made e.g. creating long grass margins, reducing single use plastic.	Email, leaflets in person or social media.	Annually/project specific contact.
Volunteers/potential volunteers	Keep informed of opportunities	Upcoming climate and nature projects	Email existing volunteers. Consider e-newsletter sign-up. Information at stall events.	As and when opportunities arise.
Local services & organisations	Keep informed of relevant projects	News on projects they can support, help with or inform on.	Email	Before new relevant projects begin.

Annual Online Monthly Communications

Each month of the year, a different theme relating to climate and nature projects shall be communicated with residents. Where possible, the themes shall tie into national campaigns, such as Plastic Free July, World Refill Day and No Mow May. The purpose of this is to share knowledge and raise awareness on climate and nature issues, lifestyle changes and individual action. The plan has been developed with support from Frampton Cotterell Parish Council, with the idea that the more people share similar information at once, the wider the reach.

Communications Topic	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Waste / Repair												
Saving Energy												
Wild Gardening												
Food growing and waste												
No Mow May												
Celebrating our community spaces												
Plastic free July												
Connecting with Nature												
Green travel												
Retrofit												
Eco Halloween/Bonfire												
Eco Christmas												
Local action/ opportunities												

Mapping Winterbourne Parish



Winterbourne
PARISH COUNCIL



By mapping local features, we can understand what assets we already have and what can be improved upon to help protect and enhance nature and our environment.

Current mapping features include:

- Parish Council owned/leased land
- South Gloucestershire Council owned land
- Community anchor organisations

Mapping Wishlist (not yet added to map):

- Wildlife gardens
- Trees with preservation orders
- All ponds/wetland zones
- Wildlife homes such as bird and bat boxes
- South Gloucestershire Council's land
- Native hedges
- Hazards for wildlife

Winterbourne Parish Council owned/leased land includes:

- The play area at the rear of the Greenfield Centre – Winterbourne
- Winterbourne Recreation Ground
- The Duck Pond – Hicks Common Road/ Flaxpits Lane, Winterbourne
- Jubilee Allotments Winterbourne Down
- The Dingle Winterbourne Down
- Newleaze Nature reserve Winterbourne
- Monks Pool Winterbourne
- Bradley Brook Winterbourne
- Frenchay Commons and Parklands
- Whiteshill Commons, Hambrook
- Tuckett Field & Tuckett Pond – Frenchay
- Quarry Barton – Hambrook
- Willow Rank – opposite the White Horse Hambrook
- Land by Huckford Quarry

COMMUNITY NATURE RESERVE



In 2024, Winterbourne Parish Council launched a Community Nature Reserve, which invited local residents to log their garden areas which support and enhance nature. Gardens are extremely important “stepping-stones” for wildlife, to help connect up habitat and support biodiversity. So far, we have had 19 local residents join our community nature reserve documenting a wide variety of wildlife friendly features in their gardens.

To sign up to the Community Nature Reserve follow this link:
<https://winterbourneparishcouncil.org.uk/c-n/community-nature-reserve>

TREE DISTRIBUTION

We support South Gloucestershire Council’s aim to achieve a 30% increase in biodiversity by 2030, including doubling tree cover. We are therefore always looking for sites to plant more trees. A tree survey conducted by South Gloucestershire Council in 2021 found tree cover to be:

- Winterbourne Ward = 15% canopy cover
- Winterbourne Parish = 17% canopy cover

CARBON FOOTPRINT

Centre of Sustainable Energy’s IMPACT carbon footprint estimator provides an approximate calculation of Winterbourne’s carbon footprint (CSE, 2021). Both territorial and consumption based footprints have been calculated. Territorial carbon footprint relates to all emissions occurring within the Winterbourne Parish only. Consumption based footprints relate to all emissions caused by Winterbourne residents, regardless of where geographically they occur. Figure 3 shows that the total approximate total territorial carbon footprint is 57,883 tons of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e*) for the parish. Industrial, housing and transport appear as the top contributors to the territorial village footprint.

The parish council aims to work in collaboration with residents, community groups, businesses and more to reduce the overall carbon footprint of the village and race towards zero carbon. As high levels of carbon negatively impact nature and our environment, this action plan aims to both reduce the villages' carbon footprint long term and mitigate the current impacts of CO2 on the environment.

Ongoing Parish Council Projects

Winterbourne Parish Council have worked on climate and nature projects for several years. A Local Nature Action Plan was created in 2022, working with volunteers to support and develop local projects. Many previous projects fall within some of the aims and objectives within this action plan to protect and enhance nature and the environment. Below are some of the council's previous and ongoing projects:

Reduce Carbon Footprint and promote waste reduction

- Solar panels have been installed on the Greenfield Centre which is a Parish Council owned building.
- Paperless Council agendas to reduce paper use.
- Began using reusable event products e.g bunting, tableware.
- Supported local projects such as the Winterbourne Repair Cafe

Increase connectivity through the creation of wildlife corridors and habitats

- Beckspool Restoration Plan
- Duck Pond Management Plan
- Wildflower planting at Tuckett Field
- Tree planting on Whiteshill Common
- Wildflower planting at Whiteshill Common
- Installing planters at Flaxpits Lane
- Supporting the Frome Valley Pollinator Pathway
- Posters to highlight the Digital Nature Trail
- Community Nature Reserve project
- Community Orchard planting in Frenchay
- Securing 22 acres of land enhanced as green space at Frenchay Parklands

Facilitate stronger collaborative working with stakeholders

- Working with Winterbourne Environmental Group, now called Frome Valley Environmental Network
- Working with Frome Valley Growing Project
- Working with Frenchay Residents Association
- Working with Frenchay Preservation Society
- Collaborations with Winterbourne Library
- Collaborations with local Churches
- Collaborations with sports associations
- Collaborations with local schools

To increase community engagement and communication.

- Started public Climate and Nature forums every quarter
- Appointed Climate and Nature Administrator to be the first point of contact for the public

Ensure climate and nature issues are incorporated into the Parish Council decision-making process.

- Created a Climate and Nature Council Committee and discussion group to make informed decisions on environmental issues.

To protect areas of greenbelt land across the Parish

- Contributed to the South Gloucestershire Growth Plan 2025 to ensure vital areas are highlighted as visually important or sites of conservation interest

Projects: 3 Year Plan 2025

The Parish Council is proud of the previous projects that have aimed to tackle climate and nature issues. Since the WPC LNAP was first established in November 2022, we have been very successful in securing funding through grants (organisations like WECA) and a considerable amount in supplies and trees from close partners like Forest of Avon trust, One Planet Matters and SGC to name but a few. Now that we are well established and better resourced the objective of the updated WPC Climate and Nature Action Plan is to continue to develop these beneficial relationships.

As such, the Climate and Nature Committee launched in 2024 to plan future projects to fulfill the aims and objectives within this action plan. The initial projects in this 3-year plan can be found in the table below. The following project plan is not exhaustive as additional opportunities may arise. The projects may be subject to slight modification when they are each investigated, costed and discussed at the Climate and Nature Committee of Winterbourne Parish Council. Projects will be impact assessed before moving forward to ensure the positive impacts outweigh the negative impacts.

PROJECT	DETAILS	TIMELINE	MONITORING
AIM: Reduce carbon emissions and our local carbon footprint from council buildings and processes			
Investigate air source heat pumps	To investigate the possibility of an air source heat pump as an energy source in Parish buildings.	Winter 2026	Monitor positives and negatives raised at research stage to investigate suitability.
Investigate a green energy supplier	Investigate costs and benefits for a renewable energy supplier	Winter 2026	Monitor positives and negatives raised at research stage to investigate suitability.

Support local community energy initiatives	Support community energy groups to set up renewable energy projects locally	Autumn 2025 onwards	Monitor engagement and events
Ensure consumables used by staff in Parish Council buildings are climate neutral and not damaging			Review purchases and look to improve
AIM: To promote ways to reduce emissions and protect nature to residents locally			
Promote local good and reduce food waste	Promote allotment and community growing. Promote produce share to reduce waste, consider harvest events and ways to reduce food waste.	2025-2028	Annually review methods and information for promoting local food and reducing food waste.
Promote local share and repair initiatives	Support Winterbourne Repair Cafe and the Share Bristol Library of Things so residents can fix their broken items and borrow more goods.	2025-2028	Annually review events and items repaired/borrowed

Promote low carbon transport to reduce emissions	Campaign to ensure frequent bus services on the Bristol and Badminton Road. Support active travel initiatives.	2025-2028	Annually review engagement.
AIM: Increase connectivity through the creation of wildlife corridors and habitats			
Tree and hedge Planting	Tree planting consultation to help decide next locations for planting more fruit. Tree replacement policy - to plant at least one tree for each tree cut down or felled.	2025-2028	Record number of trees. Work with SGC (Neil Gazzard) who is creating SGC 'Master Plan' Monitor health of trees and promote growth. Review tree cover using iTree.
Prevent spread of ash dieback and other diseases	Tree survey undertaken of all trees on Parish Council owned land. To contract an arboriculturist to action subsequent tasks from the survey report.	2025-2028	Chosen contractor to monitor trees annually for signs of ash dieback and other diseases.
Long grassland zones	Creation of long grassland zones for small mammals, insects and birds. Continue management of Whiteshill Common and Tuckett Field.	Summer 2021 onward.	Monitor diversity of the grassland through updating species lists and annual bioblitz data. Review long grass areas annually.

To follow suggestions made by Avon Wildlife Trust on report from October 2025 (attached at the end of this document)	Work with AWT and volunteers to deliver suggested actions to increase pollinators.	2025 onwards	
Wildlife engagement	Work with community Groups to run community sessions on the Community Nature Reserve and creating wildlife homes.	Ongoing	Monitor species spotted, such as on iNaturalist during bioblitz events and encourage residents to send in photos of species sightings.
AIM: Facilitate stronger collaborative working with stakeholders			
Work with landowners	Work with local landowners and farmers to encourage native tree planting and rewilding on parts of their land. Support from Frome Valley Environmental Network	Ongoing from Autumn 2025 -2028	Monitor number of landowners willing to plant trees. Monitor and record number of trees planted.
Collaborate on projects with community groups	Work with stakeholders to support local climate and nature projects.	Ongoing	Annually review collaborations with local groups and refresh joint objectives. Consider where

			partnerships could be made on future projects.
Build relationships and increase participation in projects	Communicate with schools, churches, charities, Youth Club and Scouts to open opportunities for involvement in climate and nature projects.	Ongoing	Record which organisations contacted for which project and monitor partnerships created.
Involve the community as volunteers	Sign up volunteers through social media, events and Frome Valley Voice.	Ongoing from Autumn 2025.	Monitor number of people signing up as volunteers.
AIM: Understand the current species and habitats across the village			
Species lists	Work with Avon Wildlife Trust to develop biodiversity and species lists of Parish Council land.	Continue to update. Ongoing from Autumn 2025	Species list to be regularly updated with species sightings.
Mapping	Map habitats and opportunities for climate & Nature within the Parish.	2025-2028	Map to be reviewed annually and updated where required.
Ecological reports	Follow advice from previous reports, including Ecological Appraisal of Tucketts Field	Ongoing	Ongoing updates to Parish Ecology report when new areas of interest sighted.
Monitor species using citizen science	To investigate and promote citizen science projects to monitor species. E.g. otter monitoring, river monitoring, pond dipping and bat surveys. To include monitoring as part of the		

	BioBlitz events.		
AIM: To increase community engagement and communication			
Frank Smith Nature Photography Competition	To continue to hold a competition for residents to photograph nature. Eco friendly prize for the winner/s	2025 onwards	Monitor number of people taking part/engage on social media.
Community Nature Reserve	To continue to promote the community nature reserve and encourage local engagement	2025 onwards	Monitor number of people taking part/engage on social media.
Tree care and tree planting days	Hold events to engage residents in caring for and planting trees and on Parish Council land.	2025 onwards	Monitor number of people taking part/engage on social media.
Climate and Nature engagement events	Hold events to encourage families to get involved in climate and nature activities e.g. sunflower seed planting, or nature treasure hunt.	Spring 2025	Monitor number of attendees and stall holders.
Hold a local BioBlitz	A BioBlitz is an event where as many people as possible record species across the village using the iNaturalist app.	Spring 2026	Monitor number of participants in recording on iNaturalist. Monitor species recorded and add to the village ecological report/species lists.
Hedgehog friendly parish	Become a hedgehog friendly parish and join the umbrella group		

To highlight wildlife hazards	To share information on parish council platforms about wildlife hazards, such as astro turf and pesticides	Spring 2026 onward ad hoc.	Note engagement on social media and feedback.
New information boards for Parish Council nature reserves	Signs and information are being updated with new management plan, species present, habitats created and history.	2025/6	Once installed, ask for feedback online from residents on the new boards.
AIM: Ensure climate and nature issues are incorporated into the Parish Council decision making process			
Hold public Climate & Nature meetings	To plan the dates for Climate and Nature Meetings and invite members of the public/stakeholders. To welcome questions, suggestions, and discussions.	Summer 2025 onwards	Monitor number of people attending meetings.
Social media communications plan	To follow the communications themes for social media outlined in this plan.	Winter 2025/6 onwards	Monitor engagement (comments, likes, shares, reach) on social media posts.
Climate & Nature webpages	To create and update webpage on the Parish Council website with news	Winter 2025 /26	Monitor comments on website and work with communications officer to review traffic to page.
Allotment agreements	To work with the council to update the allotment agreements to include practices to protect nature.	To be submitted before September 2022.	Review allotment agreements annually in August before agreements sent out.

AIM: To highlight wellbeing and money-saving co-benefits from saving energy and reducing waste

Share 2025 Climate & Nature Action Plan with community	To actively engage the community with the action plan, welcoming feedback and offers to help roll out our projects with stakeholders and volunteers.	Winter 25/6	Note feedback from community and consider modification to the plan. Review plan annually.
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AIM: To protect areas of Green Belt across the Parish

Continue engaging with South Gloucestershire Local Plan and Growth Plan	Continue working on the development proposal document and work with the planning committee on responses, with the aim to support more ecofriendly developments and protect green sites.	Winter 2021/22 onward.	Work with the planning committee to monitor incoming development proposals.
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Contact and Get Involved

If you have any suggestions, comments or would like to get involved in any of the projects proposed in this plan, contact Louise Barnett on community@winterbournepc.gov.uk or call 01454 776922.

Appendix

Photo credits from front page (top to bottom, left to right)

1. Sheelagh Mason
2. Callum Barraclough
3. Liz Windett
4. Verity Henson
5. Adrian Collins
6. Liza Clements
7. Callum Barraclough
8. Mitch Vardy

Avon Wildlife Trust Report

Site Name:	Winterbourne	Site Location:	ST 65445 81009
Report Date:	11/12/2025	W3W:	///thudding.soil.hems
Date of Visit(s):	07/10/2025	Case Number:	0033
Surveyor(s):	Ben Stainton, Nature Recovery Officer		

Site Description

Winterbourne is a large village in South Gloucestershire, just to the North of Bristol. Set within high-quality agricultural land, the village is predominantly low density housing, and features numerous green spaces of diverse character and uses. Several of these are already being managed with pollinators in mind across some of their area.

During the initial visit, we attended the following sites owned by the Parish Council:

- Whiteshill Common: the majority of this is managed as a cricket pitch and playing fields, however a high-quality meadow has been created to the South of Worrel's Lane alongside a small area of woodland.
- Monks Pool: relict fishponds forming an area of ponds and wet woodland between open glades and rides. Sward is fairly diverse but mown to short lawn.

- Bradley Brook: woodland along deeply incised stream channel – ground layer seems to be getting adequate light.
- Frome Valley Growing Project: vegetable patch, polytunnels, ephemeral pond, and ephemerally wet meadow. Soil enriched, meadow dominated by grasses.
- Playing Fields: amenity grass throughout.
- Duck Pond: strip of land adjacent, lawn with trees planted – little used.

Pointers and Ideas:

- Whiteshill Common:
 - Expand the meadow area, integrate mown paths
 - Opportunity to plant fruit trees on triangle
 - Potential to thin woodland, plant bulbs
- Monks Pool:
 - Introduce wider uncut margins to create more edge habitat
- Frome Valley Growing Project:
 - Protect planted hedgerow using Trico deer repellent and/or fencing
 - Establish cut and remove regime on meadow
 - Consider another harrowing or even topsoil removal on meadow
 - Potential for wetland creation discussed
- Playing Fields
 - Creation of a wildflower strip around the edge to cut in spring only
- Duck Pond:
 - Establish wildflower meadow on grass verge adjacent

Potential Sources of Funding and Resources:

- AWT staff and volunteers can assist with immediate practical tasks such as meadow establishment or scything
- AWT staff can produce management plans for sites around the village
- Capital grants may be available for items such as tools and equipment, soil testing and surveys, and materials such as fences, saplings, seed.

Next Steps:

Below is a list of Suggested Actions for AWT, subject to the Landowner Engagement Agreement. Please let us know if you would like our help with any of the actions listed. We can provide a management plan with schedule of works, help with funding applications, source and pay for contractors, and organise practical tasks to be completed by our volunteers. For works that require completion by end of winter 25/26, please register your interest as soon as possible so that it can be scheduled.