



DRAFT ESTATE MANAGEMENT PLAN

MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL:

Reduce paper use:

- Office staff to use Cloud based storage to share documents and Cllrs may have access too.
- Cllrs receive electronic versions of documents.
- Plans/financial papers for meetings are downloaded and shown on screen rather than printing off.

Recycling:

Paper

Recycled using the Memorial Hall paper and cardboard recycling facility which is collected fortnightly by MBC.

Plastics/glass/cans etc

Collected in the office and recycled appropriately.

Other

Where possible any other recycling is taken to EcoHub (if relevant) or other suitable recycling banks.

Plastic Flowers at Cemetery

Placed in the cemetery waste bin.

Energy

Consider an Energy Consumption Strategy:

Electricity

Paid within the MPC rent to Marden Memorial Hall therefore we can only recommend changes to more sustainable companies (Note: Marden Memorial Hall has some solar panels which pays money back to the hall quarterly).

Gas

There is no gas within the office premises.

Heating

Electric wall heaters in the office set to no more than 20 degrees to keep heating costs down.

Lighting

Lights are LED but ensure they are turned off when unnecessary to have on.

Petrol/Diesel

Consider how to reduce petrol/diesel consumption and promote 'no idling' with the Parish Van and other equipment.

Purchasing

- Consider having a Purchasing Policy
- Be mindful of the carbon emissions of suppliers and products before purchasing.
- Try to lessen the purchase of plastic products especially at events and undertake an Event Carbon Emission plan.

Equipment

Mowers, strimmers etc – check the carbon emissions of suppliers and products before purchasing new equipment.

Travel

Walking/Cycling

Encourage walking/cycling to the office and meetings by Councillors and, if possible, staff.

Working from Home

Consider some days staff work from home to lower their carbon footprint as have centrally accessible source of all documents. n.b. *A member of staff needs to be in the office when Parish Office open to residents.*

Training/Conferences

Clerks/Councillors to try to attend virtual/online sessions where possible.

PARISH BUILDINGS (Changing Rooms/Southons Field Pavilion/Public Conveniences):**ACTION:**

- To reduce carbon emissions

Energy - ElectricityPlaying Field Changing Rooms

When reviewing contract consider green/sustainable energy. Minimum payment as only used for CCTV camera software. If changing rooms rebuilt/refurbished fit with solar panels;

Public Conveniences

When reviewing contract consider green/sustainable energy. Minimum payment – only use is lighting and hand dryers. Consider solar panels being installed on the roof (MBC own building) with the permission of MBC. *(To be added to ISP if permission received).*

Southons Field

No electricity. If a pavilion is installed (on ISP), consider solar panels on roof.

Energy – Gas

There is no gas in any of the buildings owned by MPC

Waste Water/Water Supply

Water supply and waste water contracts in place

MAINTENANCE OF MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL OWNED LAND**ACTION:**

- Enhancing green corridors and wildlife connectivity between sites.
- Reduce fuel use and carbon emissions by reducing areas maintained as short grass.
- Increase number and range of plants for pollinating insects eg in beds at the Cemetery.
- Ecological Monitoring – could be undertaken by Marden Wildlife.

Composting:

- Cemetery grass/hedge cuttings are left for composting. Another compost area to be created with corrugated sheets and another compost bin.
- Grass/hedge cuttings from Playing Field and Southons Field are either placed around the boundary for wildlife or taken to the Cemetery for composting *n.b. short grass has little or no value to biodiversity.*

Strimming/Mowing:Maintenance Strategy for Open Spaces

- Plans have been drafted incorporating a map and sustainable strategy of how to undertake mowing, strimming and hedgecutting at Southons Field, Playing Field (including Napoleon Drive), Marden Cemetery and Rookery Path (a metre is strimmed back from path to allow easy access – the rest is left until summer to cut back).
- Reducing moisture loss from ground during increasingly hot, dry summers by maintaining more areas of longer grass and other vegetation cover.

TREE AND HEDGECUTTING WORK

Also Refer to Tree Management Policy

Tree/Hedges Plan

Formulate a plan/strategy for trees and hedges (incorporate in Tree Management Policy) to increase the number of trees and hedging stock not only on Parish Council owned land but in the wider Parish eg increase stock on edge of The Parsonage/Windsor Meadow.

Control of Tree & Hedgecutting Work

- Only undertaken, unless urgent work is required, out of bird nesting season. Try to retain rather than remove trees unless dead.
- Any trees/branches cut down to be placed around boundary of Southons Field, Marden Cemetery and Marden Playing Field for wildlife.
- Ensure trees are replaced with similar species or indigenous species in the Low Weald.

Tree Protection Orders

Identify veteran/significant trees and consider TPOs being placed on them in Southons Field, Marden Cemetery and Marden Playing Field and possible the parish as a whole. *N.b. The Tree Warden could identify approx. 10 of the most significant trees with photos to submit to MBC. Check out MBC's TPO criteria*