

**CRESSWELL PARISH COUNCIL STATEMENTS OF GUIDANCE AND POLICY**

**Adopted**

Version:	Date Reviewed:	Next Review Date:
<b>2.0</b>	<b>July 2023</b>	<b>July 2024</b>

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

Cresswell Parish Council is committed to protecting and nurturing our environment and reducing our carbon footprint where possible.

The village lies at the southern end of the beautiful 7 mile sweep of Druridge Bay. It is predominantly residential but has two large caravan parks which welcome thousands of visitors each year. In addition there is a recently restored Pele Tower and St Bartholomew’s Church ,dating back to 1836, which welcomes worshippers from the surrounding villages.

A large undulating village green stretches down from the entrance to Cresswell Towers Caravan Park to the beach road ( Southside) and has a number of benches for casual seating.

Key areas of focus are :

- 1. Traffic management
- 2. Parking
- 3. Road flooding
- 4. Housing Development
- 5. Beach care
- 6. Recycling
- 7. The Natural World

**1.Traffic Management.**

Speeding through the village , particularly down Cresswell Road and along Southside is a concern and we seek to discourage this .

Speed monitors have now been installed at strategic points in the village and in due course further speed monitoring will take place.

**2.Parking.**

There is limited parking within the village and with a significant influx of visitors each summer, this causes major problems along the beach road, both north and south, to the extent that emergency vehicles could not pass through.

We have already been successful in obtaining agreement with NCC for an extension to the boathouse car park and a pathway from the car park back into the village to encourage use of this parking area. However, to date of this policy review, funding is yet to be released

We will monitor the situation closely but would not wish to see any more of the dune area being tarmaced over.

The village green belongs to the parish and is for the pastoral use of the village.

As a general principle the village green is a no parking area and there are several no parking signs in place. However it is accepted that there is a requirement to be reasonable when appropriate access for service (repairs to stone walls), maintenance (drainage issues), other repair & public pastimes, requiring short term occupation of the terrain, is necessary.

### **3.Road Flooding**

There continues to be issues with road flooding both north and south on beach road (C110) and we will continue a dialogue with NCC to resolve the issue.

### **4. Housing Development.**

The Local Plan (NCC) identifies Cresswell as a small village.

As a general principle we will resist any efforts for any new housing developments within the village, however an overall evaluation of the needs and considerations of our residents will be paramount when making informed decisions.

All new planning applications within the village are carefully scrutinised, according to planning regulations, and an appropriate response sent to NCC.

### **5. Beach Care/Litter.**

Litter bins are provided at strategic points to encourage appropriate litter disposal .

Additional bins at the garden plots with regular collections have significantly reduced litter in his area.

Many villagers already undertake ad hoc litter picking on the beach. In addition regular beach litter picks began in 2018 but were halted by Covid. These will recommence as soon as is practical.

Quad Bikes regularly use the beaches and it is understood to cause damage as well as raising safety issues. As a council we are keen to discourage this and any incidents should be reported to the Police without delay by telephone on 101 or on their website.

## **6. Recycling.**

As a council we support recycling of household waste and glass and were disappointed not to be part of the NCC kerb recycling pilot.

## **7. The Natural World.**

In our neighbourhood plan draft we have identified 5 areas as local green spaces which will protect them from development. At time of this policy update a Tree Preservation Order has been submitted to NCC covering the woodland from the Pele Tower to the rear of the Park Dean holiday park (rear of the Retreat). Council awaits an update from NCC to confirm the TPO is successful.

We have discouraged NCC from overzealous use of weed killer along the road. Weedkiller is not now permitted around the boundaries of the village green.

A wildflower area has been established on the northern side of the village green and near to the entrance approach of the Pele Tower site.

A successful application for native trees through the Treescape fund has meant the planting of a dozen trees planted 2023.