

**A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD  
ON MONDAY 8 MARCH 2021 AT 7.00 PM VIA ZOOM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Allen (Deputy Mayor), Biscoe (Mayor), Mrs Callen, Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons, Ellis, Ms Green, Mainwaring-Evans, Ms Southcombe (Chairman), Webb (Deputy Mayor-Elect), Wells and Wilkins.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Mrs Neale and Tamblyn.

**Also in attendance** Councillor Mrs Carlyon.

Richard Budge – Parks and Amenities Manager.

Kate Bell – Compliance Officer (until Minute 416).

4 members of the public – Ms L Ashton, Mr G Mundy, Mr P Caruana and Mr B Sharpe (until Minute 428).

**410 FORMER COUNCILLOR MISS FOZZARD**

The Chairman introduced a minute's silence in honour of former Councillor Miss Fozzard who had been a Chairman of the Parks Committee and Mayor of Truro City Council, and who had donated land on which the new nursery was being developed at Idless. The Mayor paid tribute to her intellectual rigour in leading the Parks Committee and City Council, and also when serving as a councillor of the former Carrick District Council. She had established a ten-year capital plan for the Parks Committee, which laid the foundation for a significant expansion of the Parks Department and the work which continued in this area. Arrangements for her funeral on Tuesday 9 March were noted.

**411 DISCLOSURES OR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Item 7 Hendra Playing Field (Dreadnought Field) Request for Use: Councillor Wells declared an interest as a member of the Hendra Community Group and did not vote on this item (Minute 418 refers).

**412 OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA - VERBAL QUESTIONS**

Item 9 Health and Safety – Parks Department.

Mr B Sharpe asked a number of questions: Was there an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) defibrillator at Boscawen Park? The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer confirmed an AED was available to park users during working hours at the Café in the Park 08:00 to dusk, it was not locked away (and did not require access via a code provided by telephone) for safety reasons. Mr Sharpe further asked, what happened if an AED was needed out-of-hours? The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer confirmed the AED was not available out of hours. The Chairman suggested that in this case 999 should be rung. Mr Sharpe then referred to a recent incident of cold-water immersion in the river close by; he noted on contacting the emergency services the operator asked where the nearest AED was. Further, Mr Sharpe asked was the AED registered? The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer confirmed the AED was not registered and asked Mr Sharpe when this incident had taken place. Mr Sharpe concluded by suggesting that the Committee consider two matters: firstly, he suggested AEDs were usually registered on-line; and secondly, what was the balance between 24-hour access or limited access. Mr Sharpe noted he was a member of the Harbours Forum and this body was also interested in this matter in relation to water safety.

The Chairman thanked Mr Sharpe for attending the meeting and agreed the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer would consider the matters raised and the Committee would discuss them at a future meeting.

**413 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 February 2021, having been before Council on 1 March 2021, were signed as a correct record.

**414 CHANGE IN ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

The Chairman announced that Items 9 (Health and Safety – Parks Department) and 10 (Public Conveniences) would be considered following Item 5 Minutes.

**415 HEALTH AND SAFETY – PARKS DEPARTMENT**

The Compliance Officer presented her regular update regarding the on-going coronavirus pandemic. She apologised for not providing a written report, noting such information would quickly be out-of-date. Following Central Government's announcement of a roadmap for the gradual easing of national Covid-19 restrictions, work was on-going, including the review and update of risks assessments, however, at this stage it was too early ascertain the detailed controls which might be required in the future. Community engagement was an area of focus and it was acknowledged, following the various restrictions over the past year, this work was particularly important. It was hoped there would be opportunities to work with various groups in the near future. Anti-social behaviour continued to be problem, particularly associated with drinking in public places, and several agencies were working on this matter. In particular, the Police were concerned about the enforcement of the existing Truro Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) and its publication and prevention thereof. They were concerned the reports they received were an accurate reflection of the current problem and all businesses and employees based in or working in the City Centre were encouraged to report such issues. The Mayor stated, due to the risks to users and staff, he agreed with the Compliance Officer that the correct action had been taken to date. In addition, he had written separately to the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner and requested, together with the Chief Constable, the current style of policing be reviewed, advocating a change in emphasis on prevention and deterrence. A response was awaited, and he was hopeful of a positive outcome. The report was noted.

**416 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

**(i) Update (standing item)**

The Compliance Officer's update report was considered by Members:

Public Conveniences – Closures

A member of staff was assaulted at work on 19 February and, as a direct result the toilets in the town centre were closed for safety reasons for staff and users. The assault related to the frequent and continuous problems of anti-social behaviour, street drinking/drug taking and intimidation, issues which only the Police had the powers to resolve. Various meetings had taken place so Old Bridge Street, Lower Lemon Street and The Leats Public Conveniences could be reopened on 8 March. Cornwall Council and the Covid Marshall provision was thanked for the partnership and assistance offered.

Nuisance Behaviour

Criminal behaviour continued to be a problem and was widely discussed through a number of groups affected including: Traders, Truro City Council, Cornwall Council, Bus Companies, and members of the Public. Many business owners and members of the public were understandably frustrated and raised this matter with City Council staff. She reiterated this was a Police matter urged everyone to report incidents to the Police (via 101 for non-emergencies) to ensure accurate statistics were being reported.

Current Toilet Provision

The current provision of open toilets on 8 March was Lower Lemon Street, Old Bridge Street Car Park, The Leats and The Parks (Boscawen, Hendra and Victoria Gardens). The toilets at Moorfield Car Park and The Green / Bus Station were closed. The toilets still closed are being visited to carry out cleaning and various checks so

they did not require a professional clean before they could be reopened. The situation would continue to be monitored and toilets would be reopened when possible.

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer noted work to refurbish the Lower Lemon Street Public Conveniences, including the removal of the old Wallgates and replacement of urinals was complete.

During a brief discussion, the Mayor repeated that he agreed the Compliance Officer had undertaken the right action. It appeared relevant organisations were working to address the issues raised in advance of the future re-opening of the City Centre. He re-iterated the importance of public conveniences to the City, acknowledging the importance of dealing with complex issues in challenging times.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons, and

**RECOMMENDED** that:

1. The Compliance Officer and Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer be thanked for taking a robust, sensible and careful stance in managing the public convenience facilities and Toilet Cleaning Team.
2. The report be noted.

**(ii) Public Conveniences Working Group – Refurbishment of Green Street Public Conveniences**

In her capacity as lead officer for the Working Group, the Compliance Officer acknowledged that a meeting of the Working Group was required. She undertook to make appropriate meeting arrangements involving the new members following this meeting. The report was noted.

The Chairman thanked the Compliance Officer for her reports and the Compliance Officer left the meeting at this point.

**417 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Appendix A

The Chairman's report was taken as read and noted by the Committee.

**418 HENDRA PLAYING FIELD (DREADNOUGHT FIELD) - REQUEST FOR USE**

An application from Hendra Community Group was considered for the use of Hendra Playing Field for a family picnic on Sunday 11 July 2021 12:00 – 15:00 for 50 – 100 people. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported an application form for the event had been submitted but appropriate compliance documentation was awaited.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Ellis, and

**RECOMMENDED** that permission be granted, subject to the usual terms and conditions, including appropriate compliance conditions.

(Councillor Wells declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Hendra Community Group and did not vote on this matter.)

**419 CARBON AUDIT OF TRURO CITY COUNCIL**

Appendix B

Councillor Mainwaring-Evans submitted a comprehensive report on a carbon audit he had recently undertaken for the Council (Minute 257 refers). The report covered:

- The current climate crisis and the Council's commitment.
- Reporting style.
- Summary of results
- Analysis of results.
- Potential next steps.

A Member suggested a) the report be used in the preparation of the business plan for the forthcoming new Council and form a subject area for one of the plan's themes; b) a working group be established by the successor Committee; and c) draft terms of reference for a working group be formulated by the Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillor Mainwaring-Evans and the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer. The suggestion was generally welcomed by the Committee.

During discussion of the report Councillor Mainwaring-Evans made several points and answered questions:

- Since the agenda had been published, he had confirmed the City Council had declared a climate emergency on 25 February 2019.
- In response to a Member, he highlighted the issue of water emissions (referred to in Chart 1 on page) and acknowledged it would be borderline impossible to eliminate all such emissions.
- Carbon off-setting was a separate area (requiring a second opinion) from carbon audit which concerned the generation of emissions.

The Committee noted work was already being undertaken in Truro on carbon reduction by other organisations. It was also suggested the City Council might have a leadership and advocacy role in this area in the future.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Mainwaring-Evans for his comprehensive report.

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by the Chairman, and

**RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL** that:

1. The 'Truro City Carbon Audit and Report 2019/20' be used in the preparation for the next Council Business Plan and form a subject area for one of the plan's themes.
2. The successor Parks and Amenities Committee consider the establishment of a carbon audit working group.
3. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the current Parks and Amenities Committee, together with Councillor Mainwaring-Evans and the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer, formulate draft terms of reference for the above working group to be considered for approval in principle at the next Parks and Amenities Committee meeting on 12 April 2021.
4. Membership of a working group to be drawn from the membership of Full Council or from outside the City Council.

**420 TENNIS COURTS, BOSCAWEN PARK**

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) recent statistics which showed that Boscawen Park was an extremely popular site, rated in the top 45 parks nationwide at number 31, based on the number of unique people that had made a court or coach booking in the past 12 months. This was a particular achievement for the facility which compared favourably with those in cities such as Bristol with larger populations. Further, this success reflected the recent investment in the improvement of facilities. Members commended the Clubspark on-line booking system. The report was noted.

**421 BOSCAWEN PARK**

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported a request from Truro Cricket Club to site a locked mobile storage container next to the existing scoreboard on the cricket ground adjacent to Boscawen Park. It was reported the Club currently had limited storage available. The request was directed to the Council, as the landowner. Following consideration of the request:

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by Councillor Ellis, and:

**RECOMMENDED** that, permission to site a mobile storage container next to the scoreboard at the cricket ground be granted to Truro Cricket Club, subject to any planning permission required by the Local Planning Authority, Cornwall Council.

**422 TREMORVAH PLAYING FIELD**

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported a request from CBRE Global Workplace Solutions (instructed by Cornwall Council) to install fencing to Lowena Hostel next to the playing field. He reported the request had been received following repeated incidents of park users climbing over the neighbouring hedge and causing damage at the premises; wooden fencing installed previously had not alleviated the problem. The fencing was described as similar to that currently at Bosvigo School, Chapel Hill. It would be 1.8 – 2m high and would be installed on the Council's rather than the hostel's side of the hedge to deter people climbing over the hedge. He anticipated undertaking a site meeting in the event of any permission being granted. A member queried liability for such a fence, in particular, that of the Council, should permission be granted. Following further consideration of the request:

It was proposed by Councillor Biscoe, seconded by the Chairman, and:

**RECOMMENDED** that, in principle, permission to install a fence on the boundary of Tremorvah Playing Field and Lowena Hostel, be granted to CBRE Global Workplace Solutions (on behalf of Cornwall Council) subject to the draft terms of an appropriate agreement, clearly specifying any liabilities for the fence, being considered by the Committee at a future meeting,

**423 BOSCAWEN PARK AND THE SWANPOOL**

Dredging of Swanpool – Update

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported this project formed part of the Truro Town Deal Board: Boscawen Park Project.

**424 IDLESS NURSERY**

Project Update

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported since the last meeting that:

- i. Work to install the septic tank and rainwater harvesting system was on-going.
- ii. The attenuation pump system would be connected to the mains supply on 12 March.
- iii. The results of water samples were still awaited from Aquasource.
- iv. Once the works at (i) and (ii) had been completed work could start on the installation of pipework to connect the nursery and staff accommodation.

The report was noted.

**425 PARKS, AMENITIES AND FACILITIES OFFICER'S REPORT**

Appendix C

Members received the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer report. Concern was expressed by a Councillor a longer-term solution was needed to enable the Leats to function normally in the City, especially as it was a unique feature. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer responded that the removal of sludge and keeping the pipe completely clear of obstruction was essential to enable water to flow. He also reminded the Committee about the history to the current water supply to the Leats. Further the relocation of the RAM and feeder pipe to the top of Victoria Gardens formed part of a longer-term Friend of Victoria Gardens plan to refurbish and improve facilities. The Chairman suggested this project be considered by the new Council in due course. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer thanked the Administrative Officer (Parks Team) for her work and effort during her employment by the Council and wished her good luck in her new post; this was echoed by the Mayor. The report was noted.

**426 PARKS MANAGER'S REPORT**

Members received the Parks Manager's report. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reminded the Committee a temporary skate park attendant had been an annual appointment for some years. The Parks Manager was thanked for his report in his absence and the report was noted.

**427 LETTERS OF APPRECIATION**

There were none reported.

**428 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported an email received from Truro Methodist Church Children and Family Worker. Permission was sought to hang large, light wooden egg shapes from some branches in both Boscawen Park and Victoria Gardens for about 10 days over the Easter period and the continuing national lockdown. It was also requested the egg shapes be decorated with scenes from the Bible story of Easter together with some commentary. Additional information had been requested and was awaited. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer suggested the egg shapes might be similar to those displayed at National Trust gardens, such as Lanhydrock in the past. The views of the Committee were requested, noting a decision on the request could not be made at this meeting. During discussion views expressed included: support for the creation of a focus of interest to families using the Park at Easter time, concern about the quality of the proposed decorations and potential non-Christian objections. Members generally expressed the view that the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer determine the request once sufficient information had been received, particularly in relation to public health risks.

**429 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by the Chairman, and

**RESOLVED** that in accordance with s1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item by reason of its confidential or special nature.

**430 NEW TENNIS PAVILION PROJECT**

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported on the recent tender exercise for the works to construct the new tennis pavilion. A copy of the report, discussion and Committee recommendation to the Finance and General Purposes Committee is set out in a separate confidential minute.

**431 PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The press and public were invited back into the meeting.

**432 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman confirmed the next Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday 12 April 2021 and it would be a virtual meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.03 pm.

-----CHAIRMAN

## CHAIR'S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2021

I am sure everyone has noticed the colour in the parks and flower beds lately, indeed all over the winter months, bringing much needed uplift to a very gloomy winter. We have thanked and thanked the parks staff for their hard work and creativity over this last year and I do hope they know how much we appreciate them. If you are ever passing any of them it would be good to make yourself known and have a SD chat. Anyone who has ventured to Boscawen Park will know how popular it is at the moment and how good the coffee and hot chocolate is, sold by Lloyd and his staff.



The unsung heroes are the Toilet Team members, who have kept the Green Street and Leats toilets open and useable for most of lockdown. Unfortunately, one of them was assaulted at Green Street so the toilets are not shut until we can be assured that our public partners - police, adult social care and Covid Marshall, can work with us to offer our staff some support. Kate Bell and Richard have to prioritise staff safety and I am sure we all fully support their actions. It is clearly important for the town that we have these facilities open once the town reopens but that requires everyone working together.



Chris Waddle and Dominic have been working hard to keep the woodland areas accessible. Although there is little that can be done about the muddy paths - they have kept the sloping areas safer by creating steps. Also, Chris has made a load of best boxes ready for spring.

Once lockdown is eased we are ready to work with the community in the green spaces. I think this will be of huge benefit to both the green spaces and the participants - nature therapy is so effective in relieving stress, anxiety and depression. Catherine Williams has been working hard on keeping the group in touch and hosting Zoom meetings.

We have had the lovely surprise of being invited to enter the Britain in Bloom competition again, having been Champion of Champions only three years ago. There is a change of emphasis this year with more attention being paid to green initiatives and wildlife - we are ready to accept that challenge. With that in mind, we have started planning our annual Green Truro event - which will be web based, plus, we hope, some actual events in our green spaces and a scaled down event on Lemon Quay. The 2020 webinar Right Tree Right place: Wild about Truro and Cornwall is now on line and Taren can supply a link to this.

I should like to thank Tom Mainwaring-Evans for the production of a carbon audit for the council. This will provide us with an excellent base-line to create a plan for the council, which can then be a part of a Climate and Ecological Emergency Plan for Truro, in partnership with other key players. I believe Tom's report is being circulated and he will be presenting at the meeting and be able to take questions.

The nursery at Idless is now on track for opening late summer/early autumn. This major project had been a significant challenge and headache for Richard. It is very sad that former Councillor, Mayor and Chair of Parks, Ms Connie Fozzard, who donated the land, was never able to see her dream fulfilled. However, Richard kept her informed as much as he was able and I am sure she found the updates very uplifting.

Finally, thanks to our management team, who have had to deal with significant challenges in the last few weeks. Kate can never relax and is constant monitoring the conditions for her team. Richard and Liam are having to deal with all the problems of lockdown, as well as plan for the coming season and all their routine work. Cheryl and Isabelle steer the mother ship and facilitate all our meetings so smoothly.



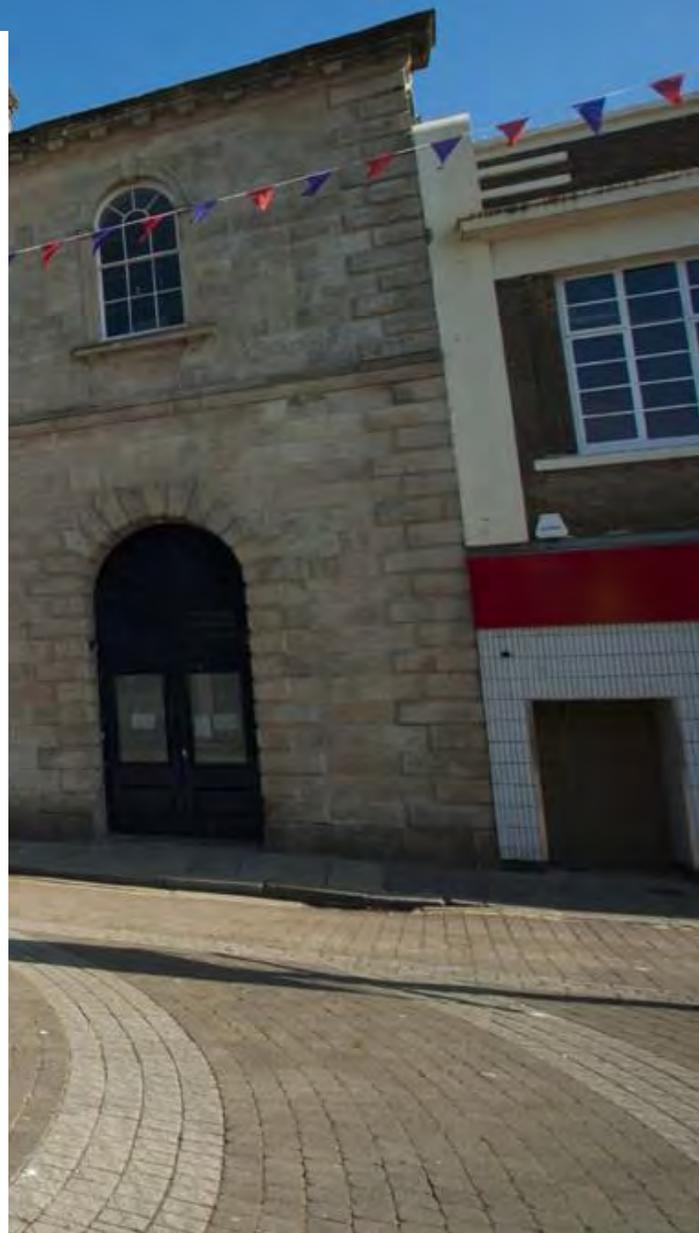
# Truro City Carbon Audit and Report

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2019/20

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Truro City Council  
Authored by: Cllr Thomas Mainwaring-Evans



Truro City Council

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 The Climate Crisis and our commitment

Climate change is an increasing issue of critical importance facing our society. Caused largely by the release of greenhouse gases from consuming fossil fuels like oil, coal, and gas. Climate change is affecting our entire world, extreme weather conditions such as, heavy rain, heat waves, floods and droughts are becoming more frequent occurrences affecting the UK. Other consequences of the rapidly changing climate include sea level rise, loss of biodiversity and ocean acidification.

In order to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (The agreed target set within the Paris Agreement) achieving carbon neutrality by mid-21st century is paramount.

- **Truro City Council:** In 2019 Truro City Council (TCC) declared a climate emergency with a commitment to be Net Zero by 2030.
- **Cornwall Council:** In January 2019 Cornwall Council (CC) declared a climate emergency with the aim of making Cornwall carbon neutral by 2030.
- **UK Government:** In June 2019, the UK became the first major economy to pass legislation committing to end its contribution to global warming by 2050.

## 1.2 Benefits from reducing our carbon footprint.

Reducing our carbon footprint can provide a variety of benefits, such as:

- **To protect our communities:** Climate change can negatively impact communities in a variety of ways, examples locally could be through increased flooding, food security, damage to buildings or transport as well as harm to human health.
- **To protect nature:** The Environment Agency (EA) stated in 2019 that climate change is already having 'dire consequences'. Nature is feeling the brunt of anthropogenic driven climate change, destroying their habitats and ecosystems.
- **To reduce costs:** Reducing consumption of fossil fuels often leads to a reduction in costs, efficiency improvements should have a direct correlation to reduced consumption and therefore reduced spending.

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## 1.3 Our position and commitment

Truro City Council recognises the crucial importance of addressing the climate emergency. We must all do our bit and take responsibility for our actions. Achieving carbon neutrality however should not be underestimated. We must act quickly, but more importantly is the need to act correctly, using suitable science and available evidence to inform our decision making. The choices we make today will impact our future and the future of other generations. We must now ensure these choices create positive impacts for the all the people of Truro now, and tomorrow.

We are an environmentally conscious and friendly Council who take pride in the variety and biodiversity of the green spaces we manage. Due to this we have taken the decision not to attempt to claim any carbon offsetting from our tree planting and management of green spaces. We will continue to manage our green spaces for the benefit of Turo's public and wildlife because it is the right thing to do, helping to enhance our local wildlife and improve our public's health and wellbeing.

## 1.4 How do we achieve carbon neutrality?

Carbon neutrality is achieved by firstly calculating your carbon footprint and then reducing it to zero through a combination of efficiency measures in-house and supporting external emission reduction projects.

This can be broken down into 5 clear steps:

1. **Define:** Decide what services or products to include within the carbon reporting.
2. **Measure:** Identify what data needs to be collected and calculate carbon emissions from it.
3. **Target:** Use the results from the carbon reporting to set a target and a plan to achieve this target.
4. **Reduce:** Deliver internal emission reductions.
5. **Communicate:** Ensure stakeholders are efficiently communicated with. Consider publishing the results and reduction plan.

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## 2. Reporting style

### 2.1 Local Government Association

The audit follows the guidelines of the LGA's Carbon Accounting Tool produced in accordance with the Carbon Disclosure Project. This tool enables us to benchmark our significant emission sources and to prioritise available actions we can take to reduce these emissions. Following a consistent approach with other Councils will enable us to accurately compare our emissions.

### 2.2 Green House Gas measurement

Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent or tCO<sup>2</sup>e is the combination of the 7 main GHGs (Carbon dioxide, Methane, Nitrous oxide, Hydrofluorocarbons, Perfluorocarbons, Sulfur hexafluoride and Nitrogen trifluoride). Allowing a simpler comparison between the emissions of other greenhouse gases relative to one unit of CO<sub>2</sub>.

### 2.3 What is in Scope?

GHG emissions can be sourced from 3 main areas, called Scopes:

#### Scope 1

All Direct Emissions from the activities of an organisation or under their control. Including fuel combustion on site such as gas boilers and fleet vehicles.

This report calculates GHG emissions from TCCs:

- Fleet
- Gas consumption
- Heating oil consumption

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## Scope 2

Indirect Emissions from electricity purchased and used by the organisation. Emissions are created during the production of the energy and eventually used by the organisation.

This report calculates GHG emissions from TCCs:

- Electricity consumption

## Scope 3

All Other Indirect Emissions from activities of the organisation, occurring from sources that they do not own or control. These have the potential to be the greatest share of the carbon footprint, covering emissions associated with business travel, procurement, waste and water.

This report calculates GHG emissions from TCCs:

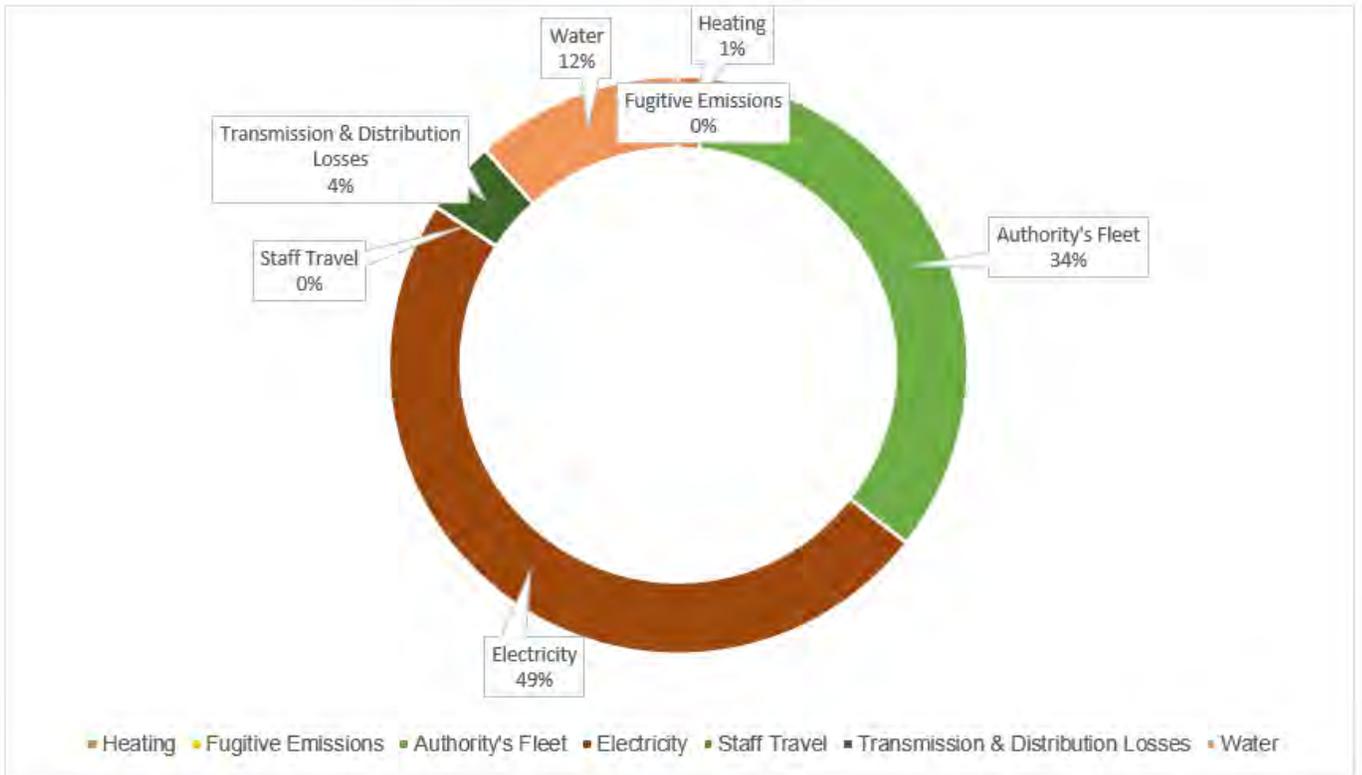
- Water consumption
- Transition and distribution losses
- Staff travel
- Flights
- Hotel stays.

# 3. Summary of Results

**Table 1:** Showing the amount and type of emissions for each scope and their overall percentage of the total emissions for Truro City Council in 2019-20.

Scope	Emissions Type	Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Percentage of Total Emissions
Scope 1	Heating	0.69	1.6%
	Fugitive Emissions	0.00	0.0%
	Authority's Fleet	14.93	34.0%
Scope 2	Electricity	21.39	48.7%
Scope 3	Staff Travel	0.00	0.0%
	Transmission & Distribution Losses	1.82	4.1%
	Water	5.11	11.6%
<b>Total Emissions</b>		<b>43.94</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Chart 1:** Visualising the percentage break down from each type of emission.



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## 4. Analysis of results

### 4.1 Emission sources

No data was captured for Fugitive Emissions or Staff Travel, this has led to their emissions not being quantified. The desire was to include emissions from waste management operations; however, this was not possible during the audit. Future audits should attempt to capture these emissions if possible. For the financial year 2019-20 no flights or hotel stays were recorded and therefore no emissions have been generated through these sources.

Electricity (49%) and Authority's Emissions (34%) equal a combined 36.32 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (83%) of the total emissions recorded within this audit. This would therefore indicate that attempts to reduce Truro City Council's carbon emissions should be targeted toward these two emission sources to maximise any results.

### 4.2 Truro City Council intensity matrix

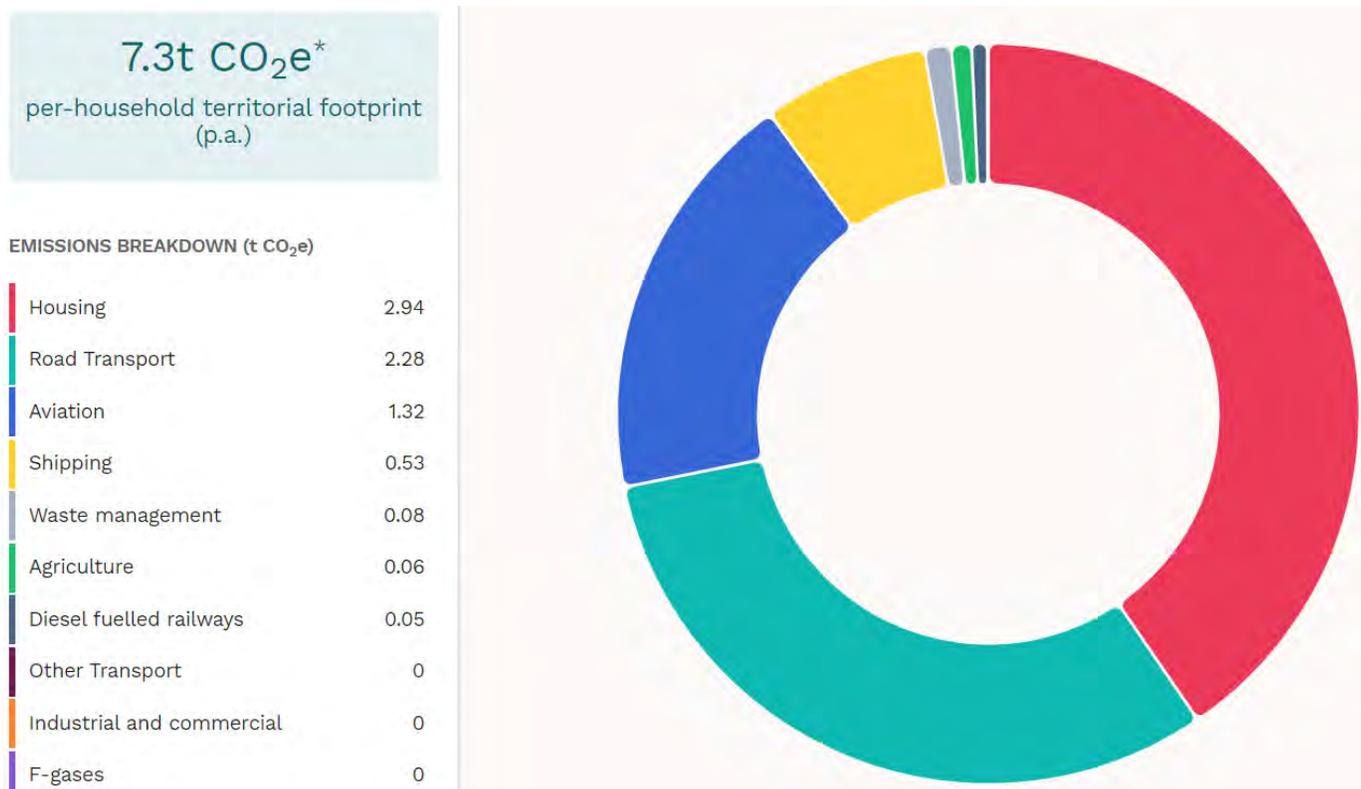
The assets and responsibilities of Truro City Council appear to have increased in the last 5 years. Changes in an organisation need to be taken in to account when comparing 1 year's carbon audit results to another for the same organisation. This can be achieved by using an intensity matrix. Examples of this could be:

- tCO<sub>2</sub>e per sq ft of building space
- tCO<sub>2</sub>e per £million turn over.
- tCO<sub>2</sub>e per staff member.

### 4.3 Carbon capturing tool for Truro

A new carbon capturing tool ‘Impact Community Carbon Calculator’ has just been created by the Centre for Sustainable Energy in partnership with Exeter University. This tool provides estimated data on the average tCO<sub>2</sub>e for a Truro household. When using the tool on the 26/02/2021 it stated that the average Truro household has a carbon footprint of 7.3 tonnes annually (please see table 2 for details). This tool provides Parish Councils the ability to get a break quickly and easily of total carbon emissions and their sources from within their parish.

**Chart 2:** Showing the breakdown of carbon emission sources for an average household in Truro.



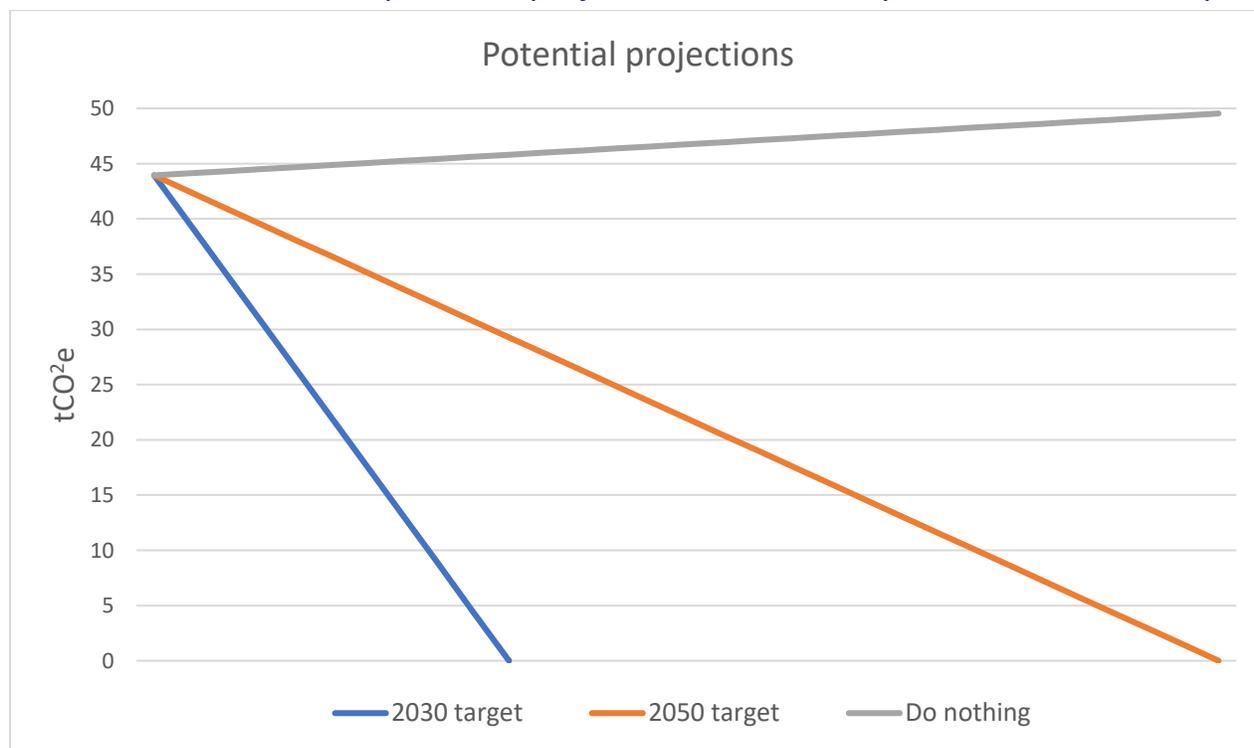
## 4.4 Potential future emissions

If Truro City Council is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 this would require an annual reduction of 4.39 tCO<sup>2</sup>e. To achieve this by 2050 would require an annual reduction of 1.46 tCO<sup>2</sup>e. If we do not act and there are no unforeseen significant changes, then in line with Cornwall Councils (1) predictions our emissions could rise by 5.64 tCO<sup>2</sup>e by 2050.

**Table 2:** Shows the total predicted emissions emitted from Truro City Council before it reaches its target.

Target dates	2030	2050	2050 (Do nothing)
Total emissions emitted (tCO <sup>2</sup> e)	241.81	680.78	1448.94

**Chart 3:** Shows 3 different potential projections of Truro City Councils carbon output



1. <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/climate-emergency/the-carbon-neutral-challenge/>

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## 5. Potential next steps

For the Council to achieve the aspiration of being net zero by 2030 would be difficult and require serious calculated and well-resourced action driven by engaged council staff, Councilors and residents. To help bring about active engagement and keep momentum on achieving this ambition it could be beneficial to create a working group aimed at reducing the City Councils Carbon emissions.

There are various pledges the Council can agree to take which help to keep momentum on reducing the carbon footprint and to show this commitment to residents, partners and others. An example of this is the Climate Neutral Now Pledge <sup>(2)</sup>, this pledge requires an organisation to follow 3 main steps:

1. Measure the company/organization's climate footprint.
2. Reduce its greenhouse gas emissions as much as is possible.
3. Compensate the emissions that are unavoidable by using United Nations Certified Emissions Reductions <sup>(3)</sup> (CERs).

### 5.1 Opportunities to reduce the City Councils Carbon footprint

- Property retrofitting:

Having an energy efficiency survey undertaken on the properties under Truro City Councils ownership could show properties which are currently inefficient. The Council can then target and well evidenced actions to improve these inefficacy's having benefits through reducing the Councils carbon emissions and saving on costs.

Improving buildings energy efficacy's is a current 'green initiative' being promoted by National Government, this could mean there is available funding for this.

2. <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/climate-neutral-now/i-am-a-company/organization/climate-neutral-now-pledge>

3. <https://offset.climateneutralnow.org/AllProjects>

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- Renewable energies:

With the number of properties and land Truro City Council has there is potential to install renewable energy generating equipment, using this energy ourselves or feeding back to the grid. Helston Parish Council for example have installed solar panels on some of their properties. Cornwall Council have various funding options to help begin carbon reduction projects, some specifically aimed at parish councils.

- Electric vehicles:

Beginning the transition from diesel and petrol-powered vehicles to electric would help to reduce the City Councils Carbon emissions as well as improve air quality locally. The increasing price of fuel and committed transition from fossil fuel powered vehicles to an electric fleet globally indicates this move will be inevitable, the question appears to be more when.

- Rainwater harvesting:

The plant nursery facilities of the City Council are a great asset, these facilities are currently expanding and could potentially grow further still. Having good rainwater harvesting at the nurseries could help to lower the amount of water used at these facilities, dropping the associated carbon emissions and cost.

- Support from other groups

Cornwall has numerous organisations and establishments which are actively engaging with groups, people and Parish Councils with the aim of improving their environmental credentials and lowering the carbon emissions of these groups. Groups such as Tevi and Exeter University might be able to support Truro City Councils carbon reduction ambitions.

4. [https://www.falmouthpacket.co.uk/news/18877993.bid-put-solar-panels-helston-guildhall-roof-approved/?fbclid=IwAR0x5y6R66HraN8m\\_4pnPhyAzJABYRNQhtz2Tul8oNAYYHLSelpoDkNpUXI](https://www.falmouthpacket.co.uk/news/18877993.bid-put-solar-panels-helston-guildhall-roof-approved/?fbclid=IwAR0x5y6R66HraN8m_4pnPhyAzJABYRNQhtz2Tul8oNAYYHLSelpoDkNpUXI)

5. <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/cornwall-town-parish-fund>

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## 5.2 Future reporting

Now we have a baseline for emissions it is important to continue annually reporting on our carbon emissions and then using these reports to identify and act on actions which can reduce them.

Emissions reported in future audits are likely to fluctuate, a report next year for example could show a decline in tCO<sub>2</sub>e due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the change of working conditions most had forced upon them. It may however show an increase if we are able to calculate waste management-based emission sources. These changes need to be identified and recorded.

Proportionately capturing changes related to the growth or decline of an organisation is the main reason an intensity matrix needs to be used. If the TCC were to take over responsibility of several more buildings from Cornwall Council for example then our total electricity consumption is likely to rise, this cause in change should be reflected.

## 5.3 Acknowledgments

I want to thank the staff at Truro City Council for their input which was fundamentally important in completing the carbon audit of TCC's assets. I also want to thank Cllr Ms. Southcombe and Cllr Webb for the support and on-going progressive dialog they readily provided.

These results of the audit were informally cross checked by a member of Cornwall Councils Carbon Neutral team and the Environmental Manager at Corserv. I thank them both for their support in helping to deliver this audit.

## **Parks, Amenities & Facilities Officer's Report:**

### **Weed Control**

In early February we received a quotation from Alun Jones of Complete Weed Control for weed spraying around Truro street pavements. This was accepted and work is due to start in April. It will come under the budget for the new financial year.

### **Parks Machinery and Equipment and Vehicle Plant Renewals Fund**

Two Ford Courier vehicles will be delivered to the Council on 15 May. The Ford Ranger 4X4 will be delivered by the end of June. The Ford Transit Connect has no delivery date at present but is expected to be delivered around 15 May.

I am currently going through parks schedule of machinery & equipment to get it up to date. This has been completed for the Maintenance Team. Victoria Gardens will be completed this week before moving on to Boscawen Park shortly.

### **Tree Planting at Cornubia Green**

The previous date has been cancelled & new date pencilled in for Tuesday 6 April in line with Easter holidays. Hopefully, the families who have expressed an interest will be able to participate in the planting.

### **Outdoor Sport**

Following Central Government's announcement about outdoor sport due to take place from 29 March, I expect the tennis courts, skatepark & football pitches to be back open & ready for use.

### **Maintenance Team**

Starting this week & continuing for the next couple of weeks the Team are installing a solid roadway at Nancemere Allotment Site to allow use of the facilities at the top half by allotment holders being able to drive up with materials for their plots. On 6 April they will commence work dredging the Leats at Victoria Gardens & the Environment Agency have been contacted to clean the pipe running down the river from Carvedras. This will enable us to get the Leats fully functioning in the Town Centre. These works were originally planned for Easter last year but were cancelled due to the pandemic.

Also pencilled in, Motor & General Engineering are going to weld up the final instalment of railings at Victoria Gardens which have been delayed by the pandemic.

### **Former Parks Committee Chairman – Miss Fozzard**

Tomorrow, 9 March, I am attending the funeral of former Councillor, Mayor & Chairman of Parks Committee Miss Fozzard & will represent the Parks Committee & Parks Department staff.

### **Isabelle Risner**

Sadly, we are losing Isabelle Risner, Administrative Assistant in the Parks & Administration Team who has been offered a full-time job with another organisation & we wish her all the best for the future. Talks have commenced within the Parks Team on how to best design the job description for her replacement.

### **RECOMMENDED:**

That the report be noted.

Richard Budge  
Parks, Amenities & Facilities Officer  
8 March 2021

**Parks Manager's Report:**

The following is a roundup of work currently being undertaken by the Parks staff.

**Boscawen Park**

The Park has had minimal maintenance over the last twelve months. The clearance of winter debris and general thinning out of shrubs is being done on a grander scale this year. We should be back into a manageable state by mid-March.

The Park is suffering from increased foot traffic, which combined with the rain has create a lot of mud. This is causing bare patches of grass, which will be seeded as soon as temperatures improve.

A new wildlife garden has been created on the entrance to the main car park. We will continue to plant this as we go further into the spring. The bed will also provide propagation material for future projects.

Seeds have been collected and dried to help with pollinator friendly areas.

Large perennial areas are being mulched with recycled waste from the depot dump.

**Nursery**

Preparation work for the delivery of plug plants in the next few weeks. Seeds have already been sown and are being planted into cell packs, which is the second phase of their production.

Pots and growing areas have been cleaned and sterilized ready for production.

During the last year the nursery has produced up to 5000 plants, which are being used on Wild Truro and other beds. The whole of Pydar Street and Union Place were planted during the summer with inhouse produced plants.

**Victoria Gardens**

The Sexton now works until 10.00am in the cemetery and then relocates to Victoria Gardens for the rest of the day. This is of course if there are no immediate, necessary Sexton duties.

This is working well and over the last fortnight lots of shrub areas have been cleared and cut back. The extensive pruning opens up the areas for light and air also, rejuvenating the plants.

The Head Gardener has also overseen the replanting of one of the rose beds. This has involved the removal of the old soil, incorporation of organic matter and planting of the sourced bare root roses.

There are now further plans to rejuvenate other areas of the gardens.

The Skate Park remains closed until further government advice.

The Council is in the process of hiring a Skate Park Attendant, with the hope of having someone in the position for 1 April.

**Town**

Pruning and cleaning through of perennial beds.

Mulching of all perennial beds and trees.

Replanting/ replacement of perennial plants in our sustainable beds.

Removal of basket poles, which have degraded. These are now going through a health and safety check.

More sustainable Wild Truro beds being created.

**Liam Shoesmith**  
**Parks Manager**

**3 March 2021**