

Environmental Policy

LAUNCELLS PARISH COUNCIL

Adopted: 6th November 2023

Minute Ref: 11.23/246

Next Review: November 2025

Mission Statement

Launcells Parish Council recognises that it has a responsibility to the environment beyond legal and regulatory requirements. We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral part of our business strategy and operating methods, with regular review points. We will encourage customers, suppliers and other stakeholders to do the same.

Responsibility

Julie Gray, Clerk/RFO is responsible for ensuring that the environmental policy is implemented. However, all employees have a responsibility in their area to ensure that the aims and objectives of the policy are met.

Policy Aims

We endeavour to:

- Comply with and seek to exceed all relevant regulatory requirements.
- Continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- Continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- Increase employee awareness and training.

Paper

- We will minimise the use of paper in the office.
- We will reduce packaging as much as possible.
- We will seek to buy recycled and recyclable paper products.
- We will reuse and recycle all paper where possible.

Energy and Water

- We will seek to reduce the amount of energy used as much as possible.
- Lights and electrical equipment will be switched off when not in use.

- Heating will be adjusted with energy consumption in mind.
- The energy consumption and efficiency of new products will be taken into account when purchasing.

Office Supplies

- We will evaluate if the need can be met in another way.
- We will evaluate if renting/sharing is an option before purchasing equipment.
- We will evaluate the environmental impact of any new products we intend to purchase.
- We will favour more environmentally friendly and efficient products wherever possible.
- We will reuse and recycle everything we are able to.

IT

- We will remove e-mail footers and embedded jpg's from internal and reply e-mails with trails
- We will seek, after appropriate security and data removal processes, to have IT equipment re-used rather than direct disposal or recycling

Transportation

- We will reduce the need to travel, restricting to necessity trips only.
- We will promote the use of travel alternatives such as e-mail or video/phone conferencing.
- We will make additional efforts to accommodate the needs of those walking, using public transport or bicycles.
- We will favour 'green' vehicles and maintain them rigorously to ensure ongoing efficiency.

Maintenance and Cleaning

- Cleaning materials used will be as environmentally friendly as possible.
- Materials used in office refurbishment will be as environmentally friendly as possible.
- We will only use licensed and appropriate organisations to dispose of waste.

Monitoring and Improvement

- We will comply with and seek to exceed all relevant regulatory requirements.
- We will continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- We will continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- We will incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.
- We will increase employee awareness through training.
- We will review this policy and any related business issues at our monthly management meetings.

Culture

- We will involve staff in the implementation of this policy, for greater commitment and improved performance.
- We will update this policy at least once annually in consultation with staff and other stakeholders where necessary.
- We will provide staff with relevant environmental training.
- We will work with suppliers, contractors and sub-contractors to improve their environmental performance.
- We will use local labour and materials where available to reduce CO2 and help the community.

Signed: J Gray

Position: Clerk / RFO

Date: 7th November 2023