



## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

### 1. Policy Statement

This policy statement affirms that Melbourne Parish Council is committed to the preservation of the environment.

Melbourne Parish Council recognises that it has many roles including;

- consumer of goods and services
- opinion leader
- public watchdog
- provider of services
- landowner
- employer

Many of the decisions and actions of the Council affect the environment either directly or indirectly. In recognition of this, the Council will seek to promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and to minimise environmental pollution in all of its own activities and through its influence over others.

The Council will strive to

- Raise the awareness of key decision makers
- Ensure that the implications of health, social, environmental and economic well being of the community are considered within policies
- Share good practice with partners the community
- Undertake training and education and to share that knowledge
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The policy must have the support of staff, partners and the community to be success.

### 2. Aims

In all its activities the Council will aim to;

- Minimise the consumption of all resources used in its operations, particularly in respect of the administration of its activities.
- Seek, wherever possible, to use only contractors and suppliers who have

their own environmental policy, one which is continually reviewed, updated and measured against recognised, contemporary best practice examples.

### **3. Procedure**

Melbourne Parish Council will strive to;

- a) Meet all relevant environmental legislation and regulations
- b) Regularly update and improve standards in light of increased understanding and knowledge.
- c) Recycle and reuse waste materials where possible.
- d) Dispose of all necessary waste through safe and responsible methods.
- e) Encourage the responsible use of energy, by seeking to improve energy efficiency, to utilise safer energy sources and giving preference to renewable over finite energy resources wherever possible.
- f) Respect and protect natural resources by practising conservation and good management.
- g) Encourage contractors and suppliers to minimise their impact on the environment.
- h) Encourage its Members and employees to take responsibility for ensuring that the best environmental policy is used and adhered to at all times.
- i) Purchase products and services which are energy environmentally benign and sustainable where these are available competitively in terms of quality and price.
- j) Minimise, where possible, the creation of waste, and wherever possible, recycle or reuse materials, dispose of all waste through safe and responsible methods in compliance with the relevant environmental legislation.
- k) To encourage the use of public transport and to minimise car journeys wherever reasonable practicable.
- l) The Council will aim to minimise the environmental impact in the use of land, treatment of the land and any building projects upon the land. It will seek to conserve and improve both the natural and built environment as appropriate, and to carry out environmental improvements to all areas within its ownership and control. Such improvements, once achieved, will be monitored and promoted for maximum public enjoyment.

### **4. Tenders**

Since the Council, as a public body, is also required to secure good value for money, purchasing decisions will take account of both environmental and value for money factors. Tenders will make clear what requirements are mandatory and which are desirable but discretionary.

## **5. General**

Each member and employee of the council will

- Take responsibility for the implementation of the Environmental Policy
- Encourage volunteers and members of other organisations to adopt good practises so as improve their performance and minimise their impact on the environment.

Adopted: September 2019

Review: Two years