

Climate Change

Wickham Market has seen a busy few months in relation to our progress on how our Parish will fight against Climate Change. We not long ago had COP27, hosted in Egypt. This means there have been 27 years of world leaders working on the issue. There is much literature out there to soak up on varying issues and unfortunately there is only so much that individuals can do as we appreciate that systemic change is needed for the majority of progress to be made. This however, does not negate our need as individuals to make change as if we all work together, we can make more of a drop in the ocean and maybe even cause a wave.

We started off with our Parish Council declaring a Climate Change Emergency, inline with Suffolk County Council and Central Government. We then formed a working group (which we are still welcoming members to), to work on a clear route for our Parish Council. We met for our first meeting on 7th November and it was fabulous, well attended and full of passion.

We have worked together with Rendlesham Parish Council who have done an absolutely amazing job over the last few years. We have adapted the Climate Action Strategy (CAS) that Rendlesham had made, specific to Wickham Market, and this was adopted at the full council meeting on 21st November (this can be found on the documents section of the Parish Council website). We decided that we would adopt a CAS and then gauge feedback from parishioners on that, and amend as applicable, rather than start from a blank space. This leads on to the next section of our work. Wickham Market Green Coronation Event.

We have been very busy behind the scenes working on the Wickham Market Green Coronation Event which will be held on Monday 8th May. We plan to hold this event on the Pightle with a Marquee in case of any adverse weather. The event will start at 11am and finish at 3pm. We are working on all of the finer details. The most important part of the event for us, will be showing our Climate Action Strategy and having feedback forms for you to complete and return to us, so we can work with the community on this. We are working hard on making sure there will be something for everyone to do and see, so please do all come along and support our free event! Once we have feedback and made any changes, we will start setting targets for our group to work on.

We have recently purchased a Thermal Camera so that we can do surveys around the village on houses to help us explore where our houses are losing valuable heat and therefore, money and energy. This was a scheme idea that we heard about from Suffolk Climate Change Partnership (SCCP). By the time that you read this, we should have been out and done a few nights of surveys and reported back on the outcomes! If you are interested in having your house surveyed, please contact me on gemma1985@googlemail.com. The surveys have to be done ideally 2 hours after sunset and homes heated. Once it heats up outside, we will put this on hold and start again once the weather turns again towards the end of the year.

We have also arranged a Rubbish Collection Walk on Saturday 29th April starting at 10am, meeting outside the village hall entrance. Please come along and help out!

If you would like to help with our fight against climate change, please do contact us on the above email address and you can join our meetings. It is open to all.

Thank you for your ongoing support.