



A Greener Parish Council

Some of the ways in which the Parish Council is working in greener ways:

Encouraging greener transport:

- There has been partial success in getting WBC to widen The Street pavement (to encourage walking to St Mary's School and the station); improvement on further stretches is expected.
- The planning application for the Mortimer to Burghfield cycleway and footpath will be submitted in the next month. Once constructed, this will enable safe walking or cycling to Burghfield, in particular to Willink School.
- The Parish Council is working with WBC to bring EV charging points to places in Mortimer where home charging is difficult.

Using less energy:

- The Parish Council website is now hosted at a data centre which uses only green electricity.
- The Parish Council newsletter is now printed on recycled paper; this also saves trees.

Trees and ecological improvements:

- The Fairground is being actively managed to enhance the habitat for flora and fauna. Over the last 2 years 250 trees have been planted on the Fairground. These include the mini orchard planted in collaboration with Incredible Edible Mortimer and trees planted with children from St. John's and St. Mary's Schools and Englefield Estate. On a rotation basis a 7 metre strip is left unmown on each edge of the grazing area. This enables wildflowers and insect life to flourish. Near the ponds prunings and other arisings are left in heaps to form bug hotels and hibernacula for various animals and insects.
- The Planning Committee scrutinises every planning application with respect to tree and hedges on or near the site and uses local knowledge to comment to WBC where we think there may be an adverse effect.

The Parish Council is actively looking for other ways to work more greenly.