

Exmouth Town Council declared a Climate Emergency on the 10th June 2019 as follows:

RESOLVED that “Exmouth Town Council acknowledges and welcomes the Environmental and Climate Emergency declaration by Parliament in May. Accordingly, it will give the highest priority to using all its influence to work with others, for instance Devon County Council, on its developing carbon reduction plan, to reduce damaging carbon emissions and other environmental threats. Where it can, it will work to reduce its own carbon footprint.

The Council recognises the vital urgency of this work and will press the case for the speediest possible reductions in carbon dioxide emissions.

Exmouth Town Council does not have the powers, the professional staff, the money or the equipment to carry out monitoring, measuring etc work, and it recognises that its major impact will be persuading and advocating for change, working with local organisations and residents on action in town. A Task and Finish Forum (TAFF) should be set up to coordinate information and action, involving the public (especially young people) and an action plan dovetailing with the Devon plans.”

At a subsequent meeting in December 2019, the TAFF reported back to Full Council and it was resolved:

1. That Exmouth Town Council creates a Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party, which will incorporate the current Plastic Reduction Working Party (terms of reference and membership to be determined separately). Recognising the importance of the Plastics Reduction Working Party so far, meetings of the new Working Party would include a dedicated part of the agenda for plastics issues;
2. That an external auditor is appointed to calculate the Town Council’s carbon footprint and conduct a review of Exmouth Town Council’s procurement policy and business processes with a view to identifying improvements;
3. That Exmouth Town Council endorses and prioritises the ten action points received from Transition Exmouth’s Our Exmouth, Our Planet meeting;
4. That Exmouth Town Council allocates an initial budget of £2,500 to Climate Change initiatives which will be delivered via partnership with Transition Exmouth;
5. That coordination with, and lobbying of, other bodies, including Government, County and District Councils and others, as appropriate, be formally recognised as a legitimate and effective way of the Council conducting business in this vital, urgent area.