

# Dunshalt Community Association

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Dunshalt Community Association acknowledges the connection between the climate and environmental crises; the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages, and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to the natural world

Dunshalt Community Association recognises it's responsibility to reduce our carbon and environmental footprints and commits to being an environmentally responsible charity.

We aim to:

- To carry out our work in an efficient way that minimises or eliminates its adverse impact on our environment.
- To promote the importance and value of a quality environment, and to support local people in their enjoyment of it.

### **Energy Usage**

To ensure Dunshalt Community Association has a clear idea of what we have already achieved and what still needs to be done, an annual audit will be prepared and presented alongside the annual accounts that will include details of:

- Electricity usage
- Gas usage

We will:

- Encourage Dunshalt Village Hall users to switch off electrical equipment and unnecessary lights when not in use
- Use appropriate technology to manage and monitor the Dunshalt Village Hall heating system
- Encourage Dunshalt Village Hall users to close windows and external doors when heating is on
- Complete the phased replacement of fluorescent lighting with LED equivalents in Dunshalt Village Hall
- Introduce phased replacement of electrical equipment with products of maximum energy efficiency rating

### **Waste and Recycling**

Dunshalt Community Association will keep waste to a minimum by preventing, reusing, recycling or recovering waste. All Dunshalt Village Hall user groups will be encouraged to:

- Ensure waste is sorted, stored and disposed of appropriately
- Cease use of single-use plastics
- Recycle all recyclable waste generated at activities and events
- Use recyclable, compostable and/or recycled products in Dunshalt Village Hall where possible
- Minimise the amount of printing and minimise the amount of waste paper
- Utilise electronic communications where possible
- Minimise pollution and prevent where possible (including light, noise, solids, liquids and chemicals)

### **Nature and Wildlife**

Dunshalt Community Association is committed to increasing opportunities for nature to thrive on the assets it owns or manages.

Environmental growth will be achieved by:

- Protecting and enhancing the quality and extent of the natural environment
- Supporting the conservation of trees and hedgerows
- Contributing to the management of assets (including public rights of way, play areas, playing fields, community woodland, community garden, road verges and planted areas) in a manner that protects and increases biodiversity and improves visual amenity
- Introducing natural climate change solutions such as tree planting and rewilding

### **Awareness Raising**

Dunshalt Community Association will ensure that all individuals and user groups involved in the organisation are aware of their responsibilities in implementing this environmental policy.

This will be achieved by:

- Use of appropriate signage in Dunshalt Village Hall
- Inclusion of Environmental Policy within Dunshalt Village Hall Terms of Let
- Provide information on environmental issues to user groups and community groups as required

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Dunshalt Community Association on 2023, and will be reviewed at least every 2 years.