

## UPDATE FOR PCAP MEETING 21 APRIL 2022

From the Chair's note of January 2022 and **still relevant**– “As this document is updated there is a very real fuel price crisis as globally demand rises in the Far East and supply struggles to catch up. Gas and electric prices have risen by 20% and could rise by 50% by Spring of 2022. Fuel poverty is a real concern as are the empty shelves in supermarkets due to a lack of HGV drivers and Covid disruptions to the supply chains.

Brexit will impact how farming will move forward without the Common Agricultural Policy from Europe. Local landscapes will change as Ash trees are removed to control ash dieback and leaf miners attack Chestnut Trees. The number of issues and their impact cannot be underestimated.

I have added a bit on Climate Change below in the Plan

CW 20/04/22

	Farming Community	Support opportunities to raise awareness of the government and local schemes and incentives available to them to enhance areas of land for wildlife and reverse the decline in species and habitats.	State of Nature Report 2013 by the Wildlife Trusts contains information on the declining species. Farmers now more aware of the issues of flooding in the Vale. 2020 Southern Streams Farm Group set up - Grafton, Shalbourne, Ham, Bedwyn areas, focussing on water quality. 2021 NWD AONB responsible for Farming in Protected Landscapes for the area (FIPL) 2019-04 Measure and report on the impact of Fly Tipping post the closure of Everleigh HRC. Hare Coursing
S2.02	Education & Involvement	Support mental health for young people and access to online learning for home learning during lockdowns  Provide opportunities for well-being activities.	2019 Mental Health Awareness training at Pewsey Vale School 2020 Funds for Mental health triage at Pewsey Vale School 2021 Fun days delivered in Pewsey x 2 by PCAP and partners
S2.03	Sustainable Travel	Support initiatives to promote more sustainable transport.	PVRUG and Great Bedwyn Rail groups working on improving rail connections with GWR and Network Rail PCAP supporting the Rural Bus Improvement Project with Wiltshire Council PTU
S2.04	Energy Conservation	Raise awareness and understanding of climate change and support opportunities for promoting energy efficiently and local renewable energy generation.*	2022-01 Pewsey Community Land Trust looking at funding for a community energy (solar) project. Pewsey PC investigating electric charging points Community First working on Fuel Poverty with grants available
S2.05	Waste Management	Support measures to improve recycling and waste management in the Pewsey Community Area.	2022-01 Projects on hold

S2.06	Preservation of our landscape  Verges	Communicate impacts from the AONB plans and work with the AONB where required.  Good Verge Guide	2021 - Cost cutting means that verges are now only cut once or twice a year. Best practice is not followed by Wiltshire Council (The Good Verge Guide by Plantlife).  Regular attendance at the NWD AONB forums.  2022-01 Not sure of progress re adoption of Good Verge Guide by parishes in the Pewsey Vale
	Climate Change*	<p>*37% of local (parish and town) councils have declared a climate emergency, with a further 8% declaring a biodiversity emergency. Local councils recognise the importance of climate change, but many feel disempowered to act. In October 2021, NALC published its Climate Change Survey Report. The results indicated that 25% of local councils believed they were too small to make a difference, and a further 20% stated they lacked the resources and power to act.</p> <p>However, a recent report from New Local highlights the importance of local action in the face of national and international inaction, emphasising the need to conceive of climate change as a series of local problems rather than one single global issue. By taking on small actions, communities that work together can bring about significant change overall.</p>	2022-01 Promote Climate Change Survey Report  Follow up on COP26

