



CLIMATE CHANGE

Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby Neighbourhood Forum notes:

1. Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity;
2. In order to reduce the chance of runaway Global Warming and limit the effects of Climate Breakdown, it is imperative that we as a species reduce our CO₂eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible;
3. Individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change its laws, taxation, infrastructure, etc., to make low carbon living easier and the new norm;
4. Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption;
5. The IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published last month, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause compared to a 1.5°C rise, and told us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities;

Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby Neighbourhood Forum believes that:

1. All governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and that this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. It is important for the residents of Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby and the UK that communities commit to carbon neutrality as quickly as possible;

2. Although communities have no direct power or control of national or local policies there are practical steps that communities can take. Communities can campaign for action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions both locally and nationally, influence the debate by example and seek to control their own emissions. Policies in the Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby Neighbourhood Plan require all development to be sustainable, seek to protect green space and seek improvements to broadband services to encourage the use of digital communication thereby reducing the need for direct interaction.

3. Proposed amendments to the Forum's constitution will, if passed, require it to pursue policies and objectives that reduce the Neighbourhood's greenhouse gas emissions to a verifiably sustainable level.

4. The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be humanity's number one priority.

5. Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, regeneration, economic savings and market opportunities (as well as improved well-being for people worldwide).

Teversal, Stanton Hill and Skegby Neighbourhood Forum:

1. Declares a 'Climate Emergency';
2. Will have as a priority the objective to make the Neighbourhood Area carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
3. Call on Westminster to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible;
4. Work with local and national governments and other bodies (both within the UK and internationally) to determine and implement best practice methods to limit Global Warming to less than 1.5°C;
5. Work with partners and other communities to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans;
6. Will view all activities in the Neighbourhood Area through the lens of climate change and implement this policy through measures such as:
 - a) its Neighbourhood Plan,
 - b) its decisions on and responses to activities and developments within the Neighbourhood Area,
 - c) through campaigns such as those for improvements to its existing housing stock, infrastructure and public transport,
 - d) opposition to any developments or changes that do not meet the test of being verifiably carbon neutral,
 - e) through the expansion of carbon sinks;