



Horsham  
District  
Council



# Community Climate Fund

May 2022 – February 2023 Report

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**Horsham  
District  
Council**

Cover Image courtesy of Geoff Barnard, taken at Steyning Festival Parade.

## Introduction

The Community Climate Fund is a grant available to local voluntary and community groups that share our vision of becoming a carbon neutral District.

Horsham District Council aims to enable local community groups and organisations to act by reducing their carbon emissions and climate impact. The fund supports new projects that target increase climate resilience and simultaneously benefit the wider community.

Our **6 priority categories** that projects must align with are:

### ✓ **Carbon emissions**

Avoid carbon emissions and other climate warming gases.

### ✓ **Energy**

Reduce energy consumption and incorporate low carbon or renewable forms of energy.

### ✓ **Water**

Lower water consumption and reduce flooding risk.

### ✓ **Waste**

Minimise, reduce, reuse, and recycle waste.

### ✓ **Biodiversity**

Increase biodiversity and wildlife in the district.

### ✓ **Transport**

Reduce the need to travel and increase cycling, walking and use of public transport.

### **Other key considerations:**

Education, wellbeing, community inclusion, and potential for long term positive influence.

This report celebrates the Community Climate Fund's continued support for local endeavours to combating climate change between May 2022 and February 2023.

# Summary of Progress

## 2022 – 2023

Projects	
<b>Applications</b>	
Funding rounds	4
Applications received	23 (+10 vs. 21-22)
Applications awarded	16 (+8 vs. 21-22)
Applications forwarded to Nature Recovery Award	1
Application success rate	66.4%
<b>Project Status</b>	
Completed	7
Ongoing	14

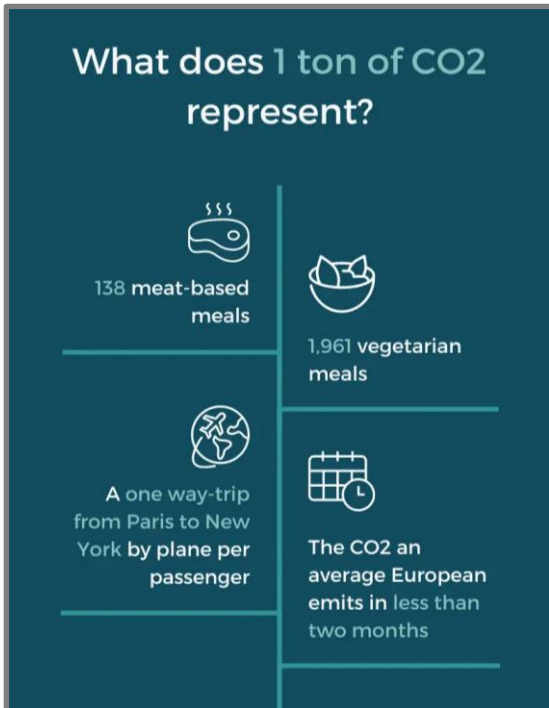
Communications	
Social media posts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube)	42
Features in Our District magazine	3
Successful targeted outreach	9
Webpage views	3,067

Finance	
Expenditure 2022-23	£59,270
Annual Budget	£40,000
Underspend 2020-22	£28,932

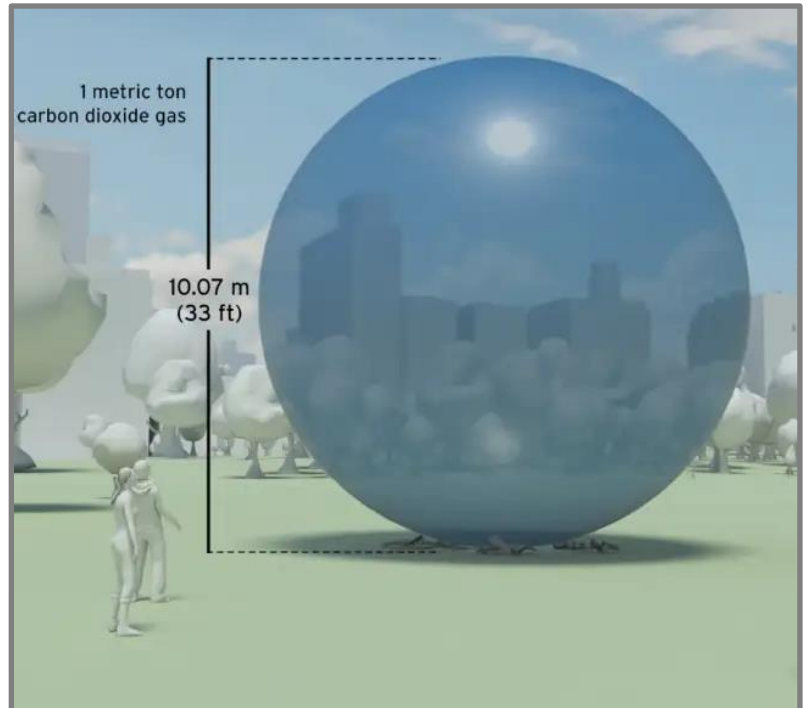
Climate Impact	
Applicants' estimated carbon savings (tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e per year)	31.8
Applicants' estimated water savings (litres per year)	27,000

# Visualising Climate Impacts

## Carbon savings

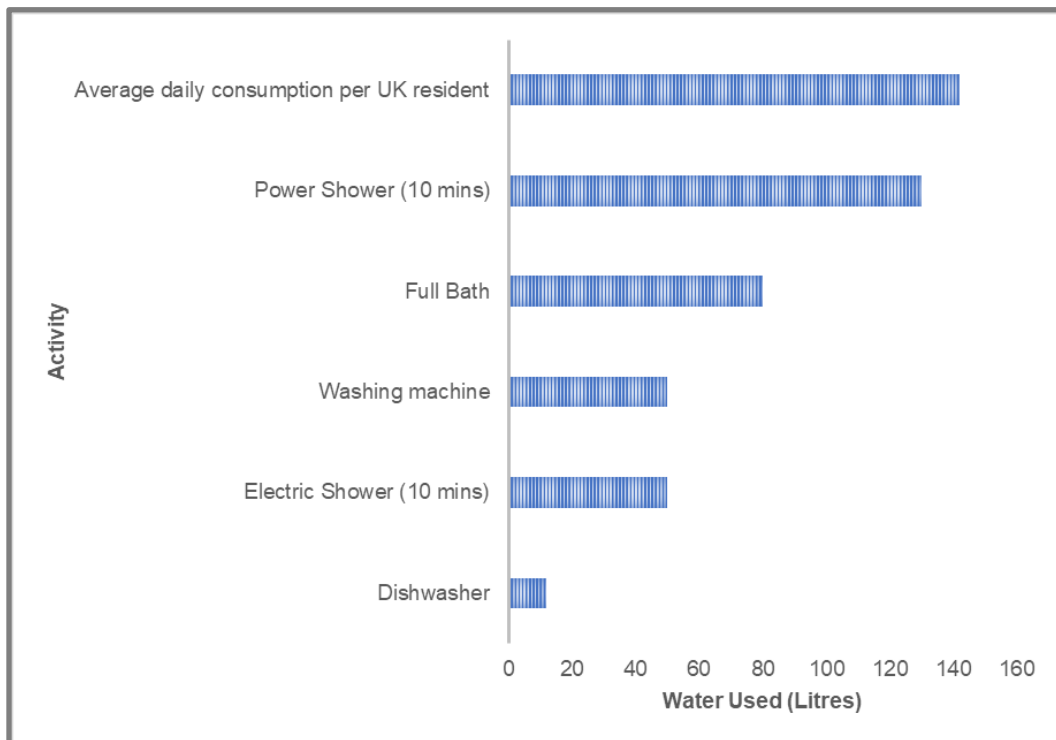


(Source: Tapio, 2021)



(Source: Carbon Visuals, 2015)

## Water savings



(Source: Water UK, 2020)

# Projects

## Since February 2022

### 1st Sullington & Storrington Scouts Queen Elizabeth II Community Garden

**Project cost:** £2,791

**Amount awarded:** £954.93

**Priority targets:** Water, waste, and biodiversity

1st Sullington & Storrington now have the funds to enhance their community garden for waste, water, and biodiversity benefits. They plan to introduce hot bin composting, rainwater harvesting and an insect hotel to support pollination.



### 2nd Horsham Scouts

#### Energy, Water and Waste Eco-Project: Part 2

**Project cost:** £1,381

**Amount awarded:** £1,000

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions, energy, and water

The second phase of their Energy, Water and Waste Eco-Project includes replacing 5 out-dated fluorescent lighting with LED fixtures and installing new automatic because the existing taps often get stuck. These transformations will bring a reduction in energy and water usage.

### 5th/10th Horsham Scouts

#### Solar PV and LED Lighting Installation

**Project cost:** £15,114

**Amount awarded:** £4,714

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

A successful bid in August 2022 facilitated a future solar PV installation for renewable electricity generation, as well as batteries for on-site storage. Moreover, funding allowed switching current lighting to LED lights. These changes support 5th/10th Horsham scouts' ambition to save **64 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** over 20 years and reduce lighting costs by 50%.

### Barns Green Primary School

#### Solar PV Installation

**Project cost:** £24,000

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

Barns Green Primary School have used the Community Climate Fund in combination with other grants to take their first major step towards net zero. Their project is the installation of a 40 solar PV panel array to generate 17,846 kWh of electricity generation per year. It represents a strong public display of climate action and links to environmental education featured in their curriculum. Using WSCC's estimates, they anticipate saving **7 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** per annum.



***"We are really excited that the grant will enable us to move closer to our aim of becoming carbon net zero. As well as the environmental benefits, our solar panels will enable us to save money on energy costs and therefore to spend more on educating our pupils. Thank you HDC; it's a win-win scenario!"***

- Dawn Martin (Governor of Barns Green School)

## Chanctonbury Leisure Centre LED Studio Replacement

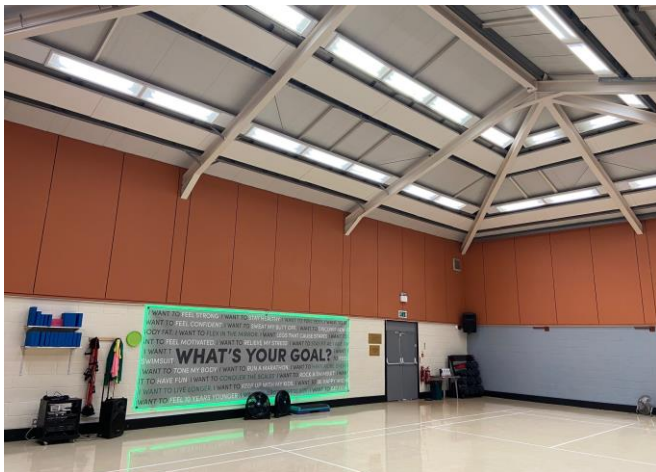
**Project cost:** £11,858

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

Chanctonbury Community Leisure Centre and its users have benefited from an LED lighting upgrades in the hall. The facility regularly hosts a multitude of clubs and individual users, including a Full Group Exercise programme with 50-60 participants, badminton, martial arts, a youth club, the Women's Institute Club and more.

In 2022, hire electrical professionals estimated annual savings of £6,583, which helps the charity keep utility and hire costs down for the community. Critically, energy consumption will fall by 15,000 kWh per annum, which equates to annual savings of **4.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>**.



## Comptons Tennis Club LED Floodlight Replacement

**Project cost:** £40,000

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

Exchanging metal halide light fittings with far more efficient and reliable LED floodlights will save carbon, energy, and capital over the long-term. Specifically, the Club expect the replacement of the lights will save nearly **2 tonnes of carbon** each year, which equates to driving nearly 7,000 miles in a car. In addition, the freed up electrical capacity supports plans with Lower Beeding Parish Council to create on-site electric vehicle charging points.



## Henfield Haven Community Solar in Henfield

**Project cost:** £27,028

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

The installation of 30 kWp PV solar panels represents a key step towards Henfield Hall's wider plan to become carbon neutral. The development emerged as part of Sustainable Henfield's 2030 project to target reducing carbon emission in public buildings. A successful transition to renewable electricity means saving **7.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** per annum. Furthermore, it is predicted the full payback on investment can occur within the first 5 years.

***"As a day centre serving the local community, and at a time with so much uncertainty regarding global issues, the benefits derived from this project will reduce the cost of the services we provide, enhancing its long-term viability and will act as an environmental beacon for other organisations and homeowners in the local community to invest in sustainable energy."***

**– Digby Stephenson (Henfield Haven CIO, Chairman of Trustees)**

## Henfield Leisure Centre Sports Hall Lighting Improvements

**Project cost:** £11,700

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

The leisure centre will upgrade their 30-year-old lighting with 15 LED lighting fittings. They predict



this will result in a **273%** energy reduction and **2.2 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** carbon avoidance. Other benefits will include extending product life cycles of lights to reduce volume of landfill waste and make financial savings that maximise returns for community centre users.

## Holy Trinity Rudgwick/Go Greener Rudgwick

Waste Reduction and Green Roof Shelter

**Project cost:** £3,134

**Amount awarded:** £2,500

**Priority targets:** Waste and biodiversity



This community group had the foresight to act on a local demand for extended recycling access. Following community engagement and a 12-month pilot study saving 400kg from landfill, they reached out to HDC for funds to expand the collection of items missed with kerbside collection.

They are in the process of expanding recycling storage facilities to cater for increased capacity and include a green roof to support biodiversity and absorb carbon. The recycling facilities based at the youth club can act as a hub for environmental education and spreading waste

reduction awareness through the community of Rudgwick.

*“This project is an excellent opportunity to showcase how one small change can have such a positive impact on biodiversity in different ways. [The Green Roof] attracts pollinators; reduces carbon emissions; filters pollutants from the air; retains moisture*

*- Fiona Sodha (Chair Rudgwick Youth Centre Management Committee)*



## Lower Barn Allotments Society

Rainwater Harvesting

**Project cost:** £4,050

**Amount awarded:** £2,400

**Priority targets:** Water

This local society applied resourcefulness, environmental awareness, and collaboration to design an effective water conservation project. They will use funds for the raw materials to complete community DIY to incorporate three water harvesting stations into the community allotment which is accessible to around 100 people. Using typical rainfall and consumption over the past two years, they estimate that water



consumption will reduce by **20%** and save **27,000L** per year.

## Pulborough Social Centre Entrance and Foyer LED Lighting

**Project cost:** £2,330

**Amount awarded:** £1,930

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

The proposal to invest in 8 new LED lighting fixtures was accepted during the February 2023 round. These upgrades will produce monetary savings for the community organisation and improves usability for users. Also, increasing energy efficiency by **73%** converts into **1 tonne of carbon** being avoided per year.

## Steyning Tennis Club New Energy Efficient LED Lights

**Project cost:** £24,050

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

Steyning Tennis Club will shortly replace 12 floodlights with LED capabilities to decrease carbon contributions by **61%**, increase the product life of lights by **4-5 times** and improve lighting quality for **224** users.

## Storrington & Sullington Parish Council

### Heat Pump Air Conditioner Replacement

**Project cost:** £10,980

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority target covered:** Carbon emissions and energy

This 2-phase project to replace 5 heat pump units to reduce energy consumption on heating by **30%**. The 800-kWh reduction per year will save **1.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** being emitted per annum.

## Storrington Community FC Replacement LED Lights

**Project cost:** £2,985

**Amount awarded:** £2,485

**Priority targets:** Carbon emissions and energy

A series of lighting upgrades including 18 circular polo fittings, 13 LED batten, 13 emergency bulkhead fittings, 1x 30w food light and PIR with new protective cage. These measures will give energy reductions for a community facility open to 250+ regular users.



## Sussex Green Living 3 Rs Roadshow

**Project cost:** £5,000

**Amount awarded:** £3,000

**Priority targets:** Waste

The highly visible environmental charity will be touring 7 parishes/neighbourhoods across the Horsham District. These funday-type events will encourage repair and refill, over replacement. Funding will support refill services, engagement games, waste awareness education, 1 new repair café and 2 new recycling drop off points.

## Upper Beeding Baptist Church The HUB Beeding Solar Panels

**Project cost:** £13,768

**Amount awarded:** £5,000

**Priority targets covered:** Carbon emissions and energy

Part funding for an 8kW solar PV array that will help this community building become a showcase example in how to reduce fossil fuel dependency.

**“...the project is helping to sensitise the community to the world’s need to reduce carbon emissions and steps that they themselves can take to do that.”**

**– Andy Sharpe (Board of Trustees)**



# Project Distribution

Since February 2022



# Improvements



*Sussex Green Living, inspirational milk churns*

## **New application form**

We recognise that applying for grant funding can be highly time consuming, therefore we have redesigned the online application form to make it as user friendly as possible. A key change has been making a draft version accessible online so applicants can gather the necessary documents in advance and complete the information at their own pace.

## **New carbon calculator tool**

A bespoke carbon calculator tool is now available via our website as an excel spreadsheet to help applicants estimate the carbon savings of their projects. Calculations use the UK Government's 2022 (BIES) greenhouse gas conversion factors to produce measurable impacts for energy, water, and transport aspects. The team are continuing to develop waste reduction measurables, as well as actively seeking to make calculations more precise.

## **Recipients' project success stories**

Since the Community Climate Fund has continued to evolve and influence more of the District, the need to showcase the positive impacts has become apparent. A brief introduction of projects, similar to the content of this report is available on the Community Climate Fund website. This is important in inspiring others to take climate action and in unifying efforts to become a carbon neutral District by 2050.

## **Expanding targeted outreach**

Prior to the opening of each round, the team has targeted groups for promotion. At various intervals, Scouts, Parish Councils, Churches, Schools, Sports Clubs, Village Halls, Sustainable Communities and Community Organisations have been distributed tailored e-flyers to encourage applications. Since

introducing this engagement, the number of applications has increased 37.5% versus the previous year.

## **Introducing site visits**

To form closer relations with our recipients and promote the fund, visits were made to Greening Steyning Repair Café, Rock Farm in Washington and Henfield Haven.

# **Next Steps**

## **Increasing applicant support**

- Personalised face-to-face help sessions
- Bi-weekly support Hub through application periods
- More precise calculation of priority targets e.g., waste calculation guidance
- Top tips for climate impact reductions

## **Networking**

- Working in partnership with Action Rural Sussex to together support community organisations with energy surveys and advice on next steps
- Learning and working in partnership with other Councils

## **Increasing promotion**

- Custom flyers for past applicants to spread promotion
- Site visits



George Colven  
Horsham District Council  
Sustainability Team  
May 2023

