

Bourtons Community Hall - Environmental Policy

The Trustees are committed to protecting and actively promoting the improvement of the local environment. The Trustees will ensure that environmental priorities are integrated into the decisions taken on all their services and will seek to:

- 1) Make the most efficient use of energy. They will endeavour to use the minimum quantities of energy possible in accordance with the safe and efficient operation of the heating, lighting, plant and machinery. They will, from time to time, review their energy sources, energy using appliances and energy efficiency with a view to causing the least environmental impact. They will monitor consumption and eliminate excessive or unnecessary use. They will communicate to hirers, staff and volunteers the means by which energy may be conserved, e.g. closing doors.
- 2) Encourage those using the hall to walk, cycle and use public or communal transport as alternatives to the private car. It will seek to provide safe cycle storage and information about public transport on appropriate publicity materials.
- 3) Minimise and where possible eliminate all forms of pollution, using biodegradable chemicals where possible, and minimising use of solvents and lead-based paints. Users will be encouraged to avoid creating noise pollution, especially at night.
- 4) Use the minimum quantities of water possible in accordance with their activities and ensure that the water used is both supplied and disposed of, in the purest condition possible, meeting statutory requirements. They will reduce leakage and eliminate excessive or unnecessary use, e.g. through avoiding unnecessary flushing of urinals when the hall is not in use. They will communicate to users, staff and volunteers the need to conserve water e.g. turning taps off after use.
- 5) Avoid waste and encourage the appropriate conservation, re-use and recycling of resources. They will re-use and recycle materials as far as possible and, if this is impractical, disposal by a means which will have the least impact on the environment and conforms to statutory requirements. It will encourage users, staff and volunteers to minimise waste, including the provision of separate disposal facilities for recycling glass, tins and paper.
- 6) Ensure that the potential environmental impact of any future building developments/improvements will be assessed and minimised. This will include, where possible, methods of construction which make best use of resources; designs which result in low maintenance and high energy efficiency and the use of building materials from sustainable sources such as timber. It will encourage hirers, staff and volunteers to use and operate the building correctly to conserve energy and minimise waste.
- 7) Promote a sense of responsibility and understanding for the environment and participation in environmental issues, by raising user, staff and volunteer's awareness, by information provision and open consultation with the local community.
- 8) To purchase, where possible, from local or regional suppliers, in order to maximise input to the local community and minimise carbon emissions from transport.
- 9) Protect the health and well-being of all staff, volunteers and visitors and improve and safeguard the quality of Bourtons Community Hall.
- 10) Monitor, review and where possible improve performance each year with positive action on any areas of non-compliance.