

Carbon Neutral Northleach

Carbon Offset Plan- Issue Two March 2021

The CNN action plan aims to plant 2000 trees (one for every resident), with a first phase target of 600 trees (one for every child).

This document aims to summarise the initiatives currently in place to offset the carbon footprint of the Parish.

Initiative	Detail/Progress	Care and maintenance*
Northleach Green Ring	There are five zones in the proposed green ring and in each zone tree planting locations have been suggested as part of the planning, which will be followed up with the landowners.	TBA
Northleach Trustees	At the site of the roadworks on the old A40. The land adjacent to this is owned by the Northleach Trustees and has been landscaped. The Trustees are committed to planting a wildflower meadow as the first phase. There was agreement in principle to add trees, probably as part of the second phase	Northleach Trustees
Old A40- Land adjacent to Northleach trustees and roadworks- owned privately	A plot of scrub land between the trustees land and the Old Prison is suggested as a tree planting area, ie. continuation of the Northleach Trustees initiative and to be followed up.	TBA
National Trust-Lodge Park	The Lodge Park Conservation and Management Plan - January 2016 committed to reinstate the planted and other implemented elements of Charles Bridgeman's c.1725-42 parkland design across the Park, including earlier features where appropriate, as envisaged by him and represented on his c.1729 plan, where these do not damage other key	National Trust

	significances. All the land to the west of the River Leach falls within the parish boundary. This plan includes significant tree planting.	
CNN Sub- Group	Pursuing individual planting opportunities in the parish and in discussion with landowners re opportunities (some this will overlap with the Green Ring).	TBA

The National Trust initiative is being self managed, therefore the notes below are concerned with the rest of the initiatives.

***Care and Maintenance**

Planting trees is only a part of effective carbon offsetting. There is ample evidence that failure to protect, care for and maintain young trees can render initiatives fruitless. Where initiatives will fall within the care of landowners not willing to maintain the trees, we may need to step in to ensure the first few years growth is supported. This is not unreasonable as in some cases the provision of land in itself is a major contribution. One option is to fund a person to conduct the checks and maintenance. Another is to train volunteers via CNN to look after trees, possibly in collaboration with the primary school, in order to engage pupils. Or of course a combination of the above.

Finances

Planting- Whilst there are numerous opportunities to obtain free trees, there will also be costs associated with tree protection. More work to be done here to identify costs and funding.

Planting Species

To be decided, but to follow advice and guidance of Cotswold District Council, Cotswold Conservation Board, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and others. Individual residents will be free to plant their preferred species.