

ST GUTHLAC'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

St Guthlac's PCC believes that care for the environment and the resources of the planet is our Christian imperative which drives our commitment to look after and preserve them. It recognises that the resources of this planet are finite and that everyone involved with the church; or who uses its buildings (St Guthlac's Church or Holbrook Memorial Hall) and grounds, has responsibility to take account of the impact they may have on the whole environment and how they can act to ensure that impact is as positive as possible. To achieve this, we:

- Commit to enhancing our natural environment and reducing our negative impact on it
- Base our environmental framework on the EcoChurch¹ model
- Strive continuously to improve our environmental performance
- Aim to educate and engage our congregations and community to reduce their environmental impact in their daily lives

We will ask everyone using the church, hall and grounds to take account of the following when planning and carrying out events:

- Responsible use of energy to avoid wastage
- Recycling of waste materials where possible
- Reducing / minimising waste of all types (e.g. food, paper)
- Responsible water usage and minimising the amount of water that is wasted
- Managing our grounds for the benefit of the environment and to provide a variety of habitats to encourage wildlife

To support this we will provide methods and opportunities for all users to reduce their environmental impacts including:

- Recycling facilities - an orange wheelie bin for recyclable waste (details of recyclable materials provided in the hall kitchen and on the bin)
- Energy efficiency methods, such as automatically switching on lights when people are in the room, for new electric fittings where appropriate
- Recycle failed equipment and replace with energy efficient equipment. For equipment that is usable we will consider the full impact on the environment when looking to replace it; this includes the impact of landfill as well as energy efficiency
- Encourage green travel by having cycle racks, using bus routes, walking to church and lift share
- Inform all users of the facilities of the ways they can share in the care of the environment and encourage them to support these aims. Also provide a copy of this statement to anyone hiring our facilities

We treasure and take pleasure in God's creation and will do all we can to respect and protect our environment. We have only one planet and must have a responsible attitude towards all of its resources for the sake of current and future generations.

St Guthlac's PCC
September 2025

¹ <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>