



# Chelveston Village Hall

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## Environmental Protection Policy

### Introduction & Scope

Chelveston Village Hall Management Committee is committed to complying with all relevant environmental legislation and to reducing the environmental impact of the Hall's operations. This policy will apply to all aspects of its operations and to all events held in the Hall. The policy will cover waste management, energy use, water management and pollution control.

### Waste Management

Hirers will be encouraged to use permanent, glassware, crockery and cutlery, which will be made available by the Hall without additional charge. This will reduce the use of disposable items.

Full use will be made of the local authority's new waste recycling system when it is introduced and the hire agreement will explain how this works and that its proper use is a condition of hire. Dedicated bins will be provided for the three streams of waste – food waste, recyclable materials (glass, paper, plastics, metals) and residual waste. Hirers will be limited to one bag of residual waste unless they make an additional payment for a local authority commercial waste sack. After all major events, the bins will be inspected to ensure that the hirer has complied with the policy. Deductions will then be made from hire deposits to cover any remedial sorting of waste.

### Energy Use

The building is very old and poorly designed for energy efficiency. Nevertheless, best efforts have been and will be made to reduce energy usage. This will be monitored quarterly through the bills received. Energy efficient light bulbs have already been fitted throughout the building, where the existing fittings permit. All new and replacement fittings will be specialised low energy units. Motion sensor units have been fitted to all external safety lights and all night security lighting has been switched off.

The Hall is left completely unheated when not in use but frost heaters have been fitted in the toilets and kitchen to prevent pipes freezing. The thermostats on the Hall heaters have been set to "medium" so that they switch off when the local air temperature reaches 19-20 degrees.

All kitchen appliances (including the fridges and freezer) remain switched off unless they are specifically needed by a hirer.

Overall, these conservation measures have already halved energy use since they were introduced at the beginning of the year.

### Water Management and Pollution Control

A manual urinal flushing system is in place to minimise water usage and the flows on the basin taps in the toilets are the minimum needed for good hygiene.

All waste from sinks and toilets will be processed by the new, chemical free, on-site sewage treatment plant to be installed over the next 9 months. Clear instructions will be provided on how pollutants (fat, chemicals and non-biodegradable solids) must not be allowed to enter this system.

Adopted by the Management Committee 24<sup>th</sup> June 2010