

Environmental Policy

Bretton Parish Council

Bretton Parish Council wishes to ensure the full protection of the environment within our parish. We encourage members and employees to take responsibility for ensuring that the best environmental policy is used and adhered to at all times, and to liaise with members of the community whenever and wherever possible.

1 Trees & Woodland

Bretton is surrounded by woodland and shelter belt areas, which should be protected. Any proposed felling of woodland within the parish must be brought to the attention of Bretton Parish Council, to be reviewed.

Trees may be regarded as the lungs of our environment. They absorb Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), and exhale Oxygen. It is important that they be retained, in order to restrict the CO₂ in our environment, and ultimately, the atmosphere.

Woodlands should have Protection Orders, to prevent any intended felling, without good reason.

Areas have been felled in recent years for developments, and Bretton Parish Council believes we can no longer see this continue, including instances which may not fall directly within planning applications, and we urge that all alternative avenues to felling be fully considered. If any trees are in need of felling, we would like to see them replaced as soon as possible.

2 Open Spaces

Bretton is fortunate in that it has open spaces throughout. No new developments, for housing, business or any other purposes, should be constructed without prior consultation with Bretton Parish Council.

Green spaces, including verges, fields, parks and commons should not be used for regular vehicular parking and should be kept in good quality.

Bretton Parish Council will, wherever possible, consider the conservation and promotion of local biodiversity in all its activities, but particularly with regard to open spaces and woodland to help maintain wildlife corridors.

As Bretton is surrounded by countryside, we would encourage residents to be more aware of wildlife crossing roads.

3 Waste Management

Bretton Parish Council is actively working to reduce fly tipping and encourage residents to properly dispose of all waste correctly, including recycling where possible.

Bretton Parish Council operates a monthly Bulky Waste Collection service, held on the third Saturday of each month and attending six regular locations throughout the parish. This is in addition to City Council charged Bulky Waste collections and Fengate Recycling Centre. Any heavy items should be brought to the collection points, after which they will be safely disposed of.

For further details of times and schedules of Bulky Waste Collections, please log on to the Bretton Parish Council website and see notices in the Bretton Gazette.

Fly tipping is not allowed in Bretton. Anyone seen dumping rubbish within the parish will be reported to Peterborough City Council enforcement. This may result in a fine and/or prosecution.

Litter bins & dog waste bins are placed strategically throughout the parish and should be used at all times, as opposed to litter being dropped and affecting the quality of environment of the open spaces and woodlands.

If any drugs paraphernalia etc are seen, these need to be reported direct to the City Council for safe removal, as they are hazardous and should not be touched.

We encourage disposing of rubbish in correct bins including food waste in the specific bins provided by Peterborough City Council in order to reduce rubbish to landfill which costs extra financially and environmentally.

We will make any suggestions to the City Council waste management services on potential improvements to service.

4 Sustainable Transportation

We encourage use of cycling, walking and public transport where possible rather than use of the car for health and environmental benefits.

We will push for better maintenance and lighting of paths and cycleways to encourage more use.

We encourage cyclists to use designated cycleways including the Green Wheel which connects across the city.

Bus stops are provided along Bretton Way with regular bus services.

We will monitor the regular bus services provided and, when needed, lobby for improvements.

To help improve future environmental needs, the use of electric cars rather than diesel/petrol needs to be developed.

If a car needs to be used, we encourage car sharing.

5 Housing & Energy

We look to encourage that any new developments, rebuilds or change of use of buildings are built to a standard that reduces reliance on fossil fuels.

When scrutinising planning applications, we will question what type of energy use is being proposed, if possible encouraging green energy.

We will look at what insulation options are being proposed and suggest that solar panels are to be used. We will also suggest that electric vehicle charging points be added.

Currently Bretton is an open & green environment and this balance between natural and built environment needs to be maintained. Any additional developments need to take account of their location.

Where possible Bretton Parish Council intends to use green energy tariffs.

Bretton Parish Council will signpost the public organisations like Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) to raise awareness of energy efficient behaviours.