

SAVE OUR SHROPSHIRE CIO

NET ZERO BY THREE ZERO

GRANT FUNDING OFFER

Who are we?

Save Our Shropshire was set up in July 2021, and is a charity dedicated to increasing people's understanding of Climate Change and thus taking action. SOS provides education to Householders, Parish/Town Councils and Local authorities to enable them to make lifestyle changes to achieve a net-zero carbon future in Shropshire and elsewhere. Save Our Shropshire is committed to bringing about behaviour change in peoples' lifestyles through education to reduce their carbon footprint.

By education we do not mean boring "chalk and talk", but specifically a process of converting people's thinking/behaviour from today's way of living to a future way of living that will be better for them in terms of their cost of living, health and general wellbeing, and in turn the planet on which we all live.

We have been running courses for councillors, organisations, and householders for two years.

We have been awarded Platinum status by the Carbon Literacy Project <https://carbonliteracy.com/> which puts us amongst the leading organisations in the country in this area.

What grants are we offering?

We want to help support small to medium-sized Parish councils across Shropshire by creating effective action on combatting climate change. We define small to medium size as those that have populations of less than 10,000 people in the 2021 census. See Appendix 1 for those that are excluded. To support this, we are offering grants of up to £ 2,000 for up to around 10 councils per year. This is funded by other grant providers, and our work on providing education/training courses.

What are the grants for?

We would like to encourage local parish/town councils to engage in action(s) locally which will inspire behaviour change and lead to a reduction of the local carbon footprint; in particular, developing activities that encourage people to change their lifestyles in order to reduce carbon emissions.

Examples of this could be:

- Encourage people to change their diet to become more plant-based. To support this a parish council could set up sessions in a local village hall or community centre and provide information about the benefits of changing to a plant-based diet and how what people eat affects their carbon footprint.

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These sessions could include demonstrations of recipes and foods that are plant-based and people would then be encouraged to share their ideas and recipes across their community.

- Setting up a repair café locally. The parish council could support the café through the acquisition of some tools, hire a hall or community venue and use the grant to fund this. This would encourage people to consider repairing items rather than buying new ones. We have a document on our website to support those who want to set up their own Repair Café (See <https://saveourshropshire.org/green-projects>)

What else does a Parish Council need to do?

We would like to see parish councils declare a commitment to tackling climate change and set up groups in their community to achieve this.

They should also establish climate champions – people who will lead activities locally to enable the challenges of climate change to be addressed.

They should book one of our courses for one or more of their councillors and Clerk – for instance, our Parish and Town Council course - which will give the attendees an understanding of how to structure an approach to tackling climate change.

They will also get a certificate from the Carbon Literacy Project (CLP) as being carbon literate, giving them the skills to make others aware of their carbon impact on their community. CLP has done a brilliant job researching material and creating toolkits that others can deliver.

We welcome those who want to be climate champions to attend our courses, and we are prepared to fund some to become trainers, by financing them through a Train the Trainer course. This will give them the skills to educate and train people locally.

See our role description of climate champions, which is on our website [[CHAMPION](#)]

How do I apply?

Put together your idea, describe the project scope and objectives, and determine some costings for the project, which we then consider financing.

We have created an application form online with which to apply [[GRANT FORM](#)] .

We will review the application and let you know our decision within 8 weeks of submission of the application.

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Evidence and impact of project completion

We would love to learn what you have done, the successes you have achieved as well as the challenges you have encountered. This will enable us to determine what works best in getting the message out to local communities and where we need to think about making changes or improvements.

We will look for a plan for your project which should include your objectives, timescales and costs and benefits that you expect to achieve. Benefits can be financially quantifiable or qualitative benefits that your community will achieve.

We will therefore ask for a report on the completion of a project and will use this to determine the impact of the project and a statement on what changes in behaviour have been achieved.

We may want to publish the results of the project and will ask your permission before we do so.

You will need evidence of actual spending against the original grant request, and we may ask for invoices and receipts so please ensure these are available.

If, for any reason, you do not or cannot spend the grant, we will ask for that money to be returned so that we can use it for other projects in the area.

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APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF PARISHES EXCLUDED ACCORDING TO 2021 CENSUS

TELFORD AND WREKIN

Name	Status	Population	Population	Population
		Census 29/04/2001	Census 27/03/2011	Census 21/03/2021
Wellington	Parish	20,320	21,352	22,881
Madeley	Parish	17,989	17,631	18,774
Hadley & Leegomery	Parish	12,826	14,466	16,188
Donnington and Muxton	Parish	12,040	13,440	13,950
Newport	Parish	10,850	11,387	12,922
St Georges and Priorslee	Parish	10,732	11,033	12,372
Lawley and Overdale	Parish	5,591	7,015	12,173
Great Dawley	Parish	11,342	11,709	12,134
Stirchley and Brookside	Parish	10,555	10,295	10,446

SHROPSHIRE

Name	Status	Population	Population	Population
		Census 29/04/2001	Census 27/03/2011	Census 21/03/2021
Shrewsbury	Parish	67,127	71,715	76,782
Oswestry	Parish	15,613	17,105	17,509
Market Drayton	Parish	10,406	11,773	12,594
Bridgnorth	Parish	11,742	12,079	11,857
Whitchurch Urban	Parish	8,815	9,871	10,141
Ludlow	Parish	9,548	10,266	10,039