

Brenchley & Matfield
Neighbourhood Plan

Position Statement

March 2018

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE
FROM VENUE



Jane Buckley &
Paul Spedding

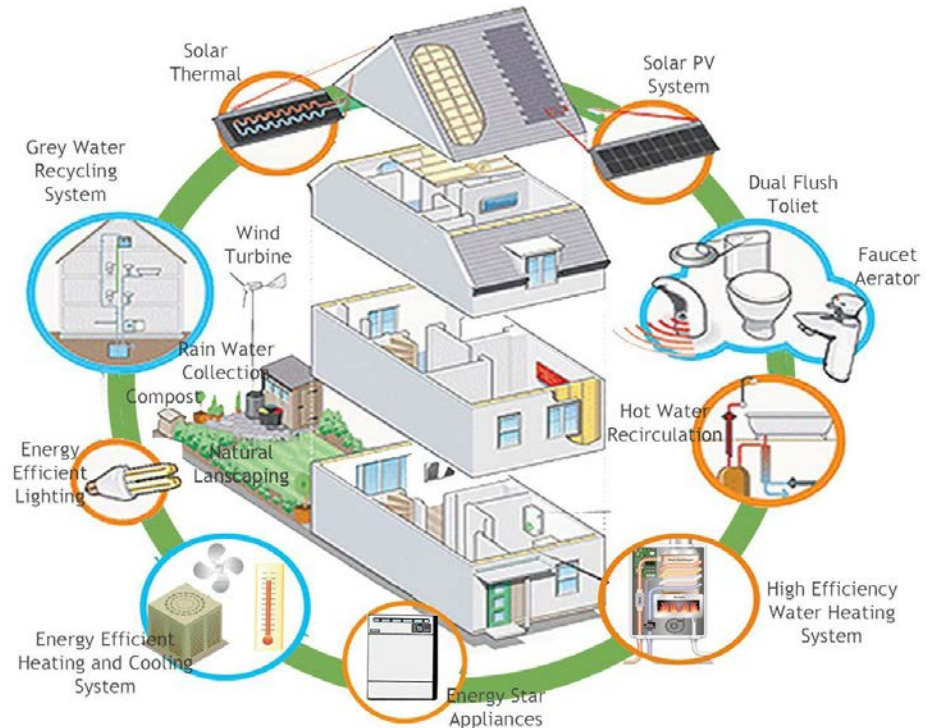
Brenchley & Matfield is 'GREEN'

- 'GREEN' was a key characteristic from the Visioning event. But what does 'GREEN' mean?
- It can mean rural open spaces. It should also mean:
 - Environmentally friendly buildings and energy sources
 - Less traffic, more walking/cycling
 - More recycling
- The Parish Plan identified ways to GREEN the parish further but little action has been taken!
- Sustainable GREEN policies should be embedded in the Neighbourhood Plan



Sustainable new housing – aiming for zero bills

- Low/no carbon energy sources – solar panels, thermal water heating. High insulation standards
- Grants and advice on efficiency measures for existing houses: insulation, double glazing, solar panels etc
- Use of local materials – e.g. wall cladding
- High speed charging points for e-vehicles
- Low water use - grey water use for gardening / toilets



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Environmentally friendly public buildings

- New buildings aim: carbon neutral
- Retrofit solar panels
- Improve insulation where possible
- Recharging for electric cars
- Source 'Green' power supplies

[C](#) News > [Chester & Cheshire News](#) > [Ashton Hayes](#)


Ashton Hayes celebrates 10 years of Carbon Neutral Project

Since then the village has reduced its carbon footprint by 40%

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12:00, 19 JAN 2016

NEWS

School gets new set of PV panels from Ashton Hayes CEC

 Saturday, June 11, 2016 at 7:24PM



Over the Spring Bank holiday, Ashton Hayes Community Energy Company (AHCEC) successfully arranged for the installation of a second bank of solar photovoltaic panels on the primary school roof. The new panels will generate over 14kw of green energy for around 25 years. The school will benefit from a long-term free electricity supply, saving on running costs, while our not-for-profit AHCEC will benefit from Feed-In-Tariff (FiT) income and reduce our carbon emissions. The cash generated from FiTs will be reinvested in future community energy schemes.

Reducing waste: Improve our recycling rate

- Better council information on what can and can't be recycled – do you put food waste in your brown bin?
- Introduce glass collection to reduce land fill
- Encourage composting
- More frequent amenity vehicle for garden waste (non-landfill waste)
- Regular litter collecting and signage



Reduce car use, improve air quality

- Safe footpaths in key places – especially to schools. Join Matfield & Brenchley
- Cycle paths?
- Lobby for short-haul, more regular local transport meeting local needs - station and schools
- Encourage car sharing schemes
- Traffic calming measures - activate local Speedwatch programme?
- Heavy goods vehicles limitations – restricted times?



Local initiatives to reduce pollution

- Farmers market for locally sourced vegetables/jams/chutneys to minimise transport
- Fair trade outlet in a village building
- Collection point for internet deliveries
- Tools sharing
- Tree planting
- Encourage allotment use
- Start young! School food growing?



Local 'green' power for local needs?

- Solar farm for the parish?
- Biomass power based on local coppicing?
- Combined Heat and Power generation based on rubbish?
- A windmill on Windmill Hill?

In 2 years, renewables will be cheaper than fossil fuels



Not only is renewable power benefiting the environment, but in a few years it will become a better economic option.

Image: REUTERS/Christian Hartmann

Make Brenchley & Matfield greener!

- Low/zero new developments with grey water recycling
- Improve efficiency of existing public buildings
- Increase local recycling rate
- Make walking safe! More footpaths, less car and HGV traffic
- Improve air quality:
 - Traffic calming
 - Local, short-haul public transport to reduce car use
 - Selective new planting along roads
- Low/zero carbon power for the parish?