

Environmental Policy for Etal Village Hall

Etal Village Hall committee is committed to protecting and actively promoting the improvement of the local environment.

Etal Village Hall committee will ensure that environmental priorities are integrated into the decisions it takes on all its services and will seek to:

- 1) Make the most efficient use of energy. It will endeavor to use the minimum quantities of energy possible in accordance with the safe and efficient operation of its heating, lighting, and machinery. It will from time to time review its energy sources, energy using appliances and energy efficiency with a view to causing the least environmental impact. It will monitor consumption and eliminate excessive or unnecessary use. It will communicate to hirers and volunteers how energy may be conserved, e.g., closing doors.
- 2) Where possible, eliminate all forms of pollution by using biodegradable chemicals and minimising the use of solvents. Users will be encouraged to avoid creating noise and light pollution, especially at night.
- 3) Use the minimum quantities of water possible in accordance with its activities. It will reduce leakage and eliminate excessive or unnecessary use, e.g., through avoiding unnecessary flushing of urinals when the hall is not in use. It will communicate to users the need to conserve water e.g., turning taps off after use.
- 4) Avoid waste and encourage the appropriate conservation, re-use, and recycling of resources. It will re-use and recycle materials as far as possible and, if this is impractical, disposal by a means which will have the least impact on the environment and conforms to statutory requirements. It will encourage users to minimise waste, including the provision of separate disposal facilities for recycling glass, plastic, tins, and cardboard/paper.
- 5) It will ensure that the potential environmental impact of any building projects will be assessed and minimised. This will include, where possible, methods of construction which make the best use of resources; designs which result in low maintenance and high energy efficiency and the use of building materials from sustainable sources such as timber. It will encourage volunteers and hirers to use and operate the building correctly to conserve energy and minimise waste.
- 6) It will seek, where possible, to purchase from local or regional suppliers, to maximise input to the local community and minimise carbon emissions from transport.
- 7) Protect the health and well-being of all volunteers and visitors and improve and safeguard the quality of Etal Village Hall by completing monthly maintenance checks.
- 8) Monitor, review and where possible improve performance each year with positive action on any areas of non-compliance.

Adopted by Etal Village Hall trustees October 2025

Reviewed: - January 2026