

# *'Green Champions'*

## *Parish & Town Councils*

The UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world. A quarter of UK mammals and nearly half of the birds assessed are at risk of extinction. Populations of the UK's most important wildlife have plummeted by an average of 60% since 1970.



### **Nature needs our help**

We have a much greater appreciation of why nature and open green space plays such an important role for our enjoyment, health and general wellbeing.

We would like our local communities to join us in 2021 (when it is safe to do so), to actively engage in enhancing and protecting our natural surroundings so that they can thrive now and for future generations.

Last September, we started with our **tree planting scheme 2020-2021** for parish and town councils (other green funding projects will also be considered). Meanwhile, here are a couple of other ideas for you to contemplate.

1. **Nominate a 'Green Champion'** to engage our local community to go green and support our local environment to thrive.
2. **Energy saving options**
  - a) Transition to renewable power sources by installing smart thermostats, which allow you to set your thermostat remotely and create temperature schedules for various times in the day.
  - b) Replace gas boilers with a heat pumps.
  - c) Switch to LED light bulbs which consume [at least 75% less energy](#) than traditional lighting.
  - d) Install an EV charging point
  - e) Install solar panels
  - f) Learn to interact with your council members on video chat, since it can bring similar face-to-face benefits as an in-person meeting.

### 3. Gaining green credentials

- a) Promote Green events (please see attached **Environmental Awareness calendar 2021**).
- b) Volunteer Tree Walden's – newly planted trees may require watering during the summer months. Our summers are hot and dry therefore, are in danger of dying.
- c) Encourage an interest in local wildlife, especially with the younger generation (the next environmental caretakers).
- d) Set up a website for local residents to post local wildlife pictures & information.
- e) Litter monitors - to collect litter in key hotspot areas



- f) Leave as many areas as possible to go wild.
- g) Look for suitable areas for growing wild flowers.
- h) Put up bee & bird boxes.
- i) List local walkways and cycle routes.
- j) Purchase water butts to collect rainwater for watering tree saplings and hanging baskets. This is **essential for Uttlesford** because despite heavier than usual seasonal rainfall, we are on the verge of a regional water shortage.
- k) Purchase some table tennis tables and badminton sets for residents (young & old) to enjoy.

**SAVE THE PLANET & SAVE MONEY**

**UTTLESFORD**



**THE GREEN COMMUNITY WHO LOVE WHERE THEY LIVE**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT!**

Cllr Louise Pepper  
Uttlesford District Council  
Great Dunmow North Ward  
Environmental Green Issues & Equality



**HELPING NATURE TO THRIVE**