

The Sidmouth Plant-Based Treaty

Sidmouth Town Council is committed to an Environment Committee that seeks to transform Sidmouth and the Sid Valley area into a cleaner, greener, low carbon town. Through the Environment Policy STC's powers and influence will be used to protect and enhance the environment, and to make continual improvements in our own environmental performance. However, STC has limited authority to effect many of the pledges in the Plant-Based Treaty and therefore a pared-back, adapted version of the PBT is recommended for the Environment Committee to consider. This incorporates two of the three aims of the Plant-Based Treaty with many measures already being taken by the council along with a few to be further developed.

The Plant Based Treaty is a campaign group that aims to promote a shift to healthier, sustainable plant-based diets. Their website can be found here:

<https://plantbasedtreaty.org/>

Sidmouth Town Council RESOLVES to:

REDIRECT

- Include a section on the benefits of plant-based foods in our Environment Policy.
- Help promote public information campaigns, through Climate Awareness Partnership Sidmouth (CAPS), In My Back Yard (East Devon Food Cooperative), Well-being Health Action Team (WHAT) and the Sid Valley Food Bank to raise awareness about the climate and environmental advantages and health benefits of plant-based food, nutrition and cooking.
- Encourage reduced consumption of animal-based food through organisations' events, e.g. CAPS and local businesses. Encourage local businesses to offer one or more plant-based options to fulfil all dietary needs.
- Promote plant-based information and options through the Sustainable Tourism campaign and website.

RESTORE

- Support reforestation projects and continue work with Sidmouth Arboretum, such as the planting of 14,000 trees and restoration of the Knowle Parkland.
- Focus on a shift to nature-based solutions for mitigating and adapting to climate change, especially regarding STC's consultative role in reviewing planning applications, e.g. solar panels, heat pumps, insulation etc.
- Support initiatives to increase trees and wildflowers, increase green community projects and biodiversity, e.g. through Biodiversity Festival, Community Orchard, Friends of the Byes (FOTB), Sidmouth in Bloom and Sidmouth Town Council properties, e.g. Alma Fields and The Knowle.
- Support projects that provide access to healthy food for all, especially low-income communities (support projects like In My Back Yard, the Food Bank, WHAT cooking sessions, Youth Club cooking skills sessions).