



14th July 2020





THAME
GROUP

Prepared by RSA Thame Group
as honorary consultants to Thame Town Council

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What's in the 2020 Green Living Plan?

Section 1 Background

Section 2 Major Themes – e.g.

Carbon dioxide and the atmosphere

Street level pollution and human health

Sustainable Energy and electric vehicles

Green spaces, routes and biodiversity

Section 3 Recommended Actions

Section 4 Composite Actions Summary

Why do we need a GLP?



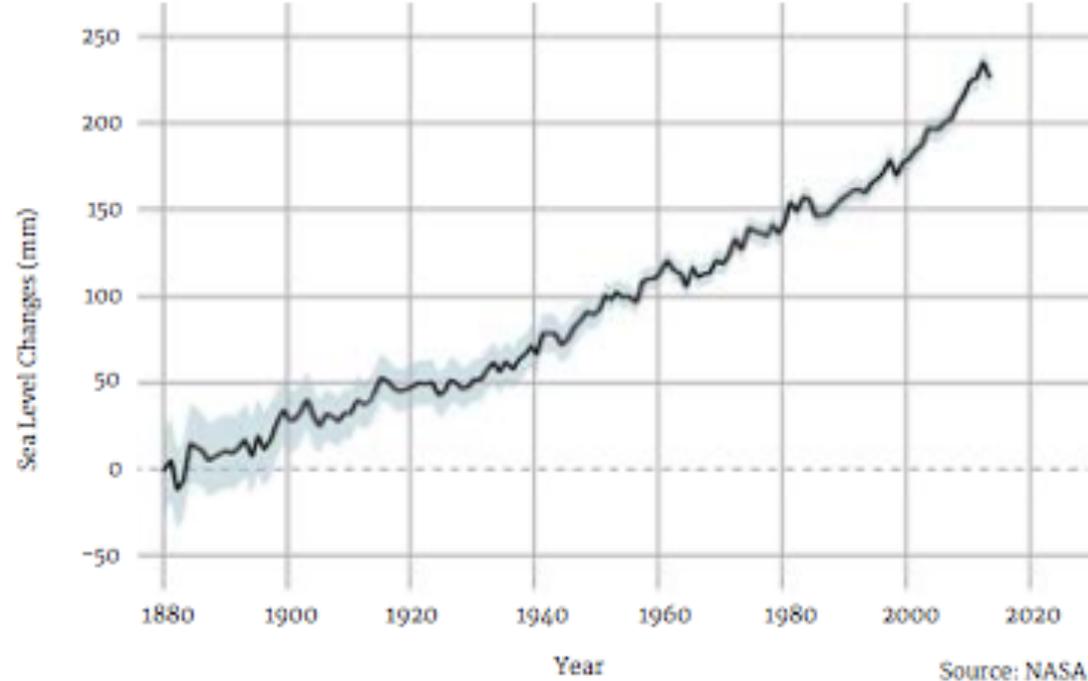
Cover the parts
Neighbourhood Plans
can't reach



Make Connections

Short-term v long-term
Between paths, routes and spaces
Renewable energy instead of fossil fuels for the atmosphere
Air quality for health and vitality

Average Global Sea Level Changes since mid19th century



"IT IS CLEAR THAT WE ARE IN A STATE OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY. WE NEED TO TRANSFORM OUR WHOLE SOCIETY OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DECADES. BECAUSE THE SCIENCE IS VERY CLEAR. TIME IS RUNNING OUT."

(Dr Emily Shuckborough³ – Director of Cambridge Zero, University of Cambridge - Autumn 2019)



GREEN

Open spaces,
biodiversity and
walking /cycling
routes.



BLUE

Water – our
streams and rivers
– and protection
from flooding.



GREY

Our air and
atmosphere and the
effect on air quality
and global warming.



RED

Alternative (non-
fossil fuel) energy
including electric
vehicles.



ORANGE

Waste avoidance,
waste
management and
recycling.

Our staged approach

Short timescale (within 1 year)



Individual actions
Individual/family scale actions can start straight away

Implement and monitor

← **STAGE 1** →
Understand and assess the options

← **STAGE 2** →
Consider and consult on the options

← **STAGE 3** →
Decide, plan, implement and monitor

Medium timescale (1-2 years)



Community actions
Community actions - local consultations to access different views and seek balanced proposals

Implement and monitor

Longer timescale (2-5 years)



Infrastructure actions
In addition to local consultation, these may require district and county approval and public funding

Implement and monitor

Section 3 example: The Recommended Actions



1.1 Information & Involvement

Improve information and education on the importance of biodiversity and nature conservation

OBJECTIVE: Seek greater understanding of our natural world and local biodiversity to our future wellbeing – and the benefits of taking action.

Action: Create more explanatory information panels in key sites in town centre and where biodiversity action is taking place.

Who and how long to do
Within 12 / 24 months

Action: Support the conservation and biodiversity work of local conservation bodies.

Who and how long to do
Within 12 months

Action: Explore funding possibilities with various bodies.

Who and how long to do
Within 12/18 months

Increase active involvement in conservation work

OBJECTIVE: Seek more community involvement and volunteers interested in improving local biodiversity

Action: Promote existing volunteer opportunities more widely (21CT, CBCV, RTCT, REG) and foster partnership working.

Who and how long to do
Ongoing

Action: Seek school and youth involvement with projects.

Who and how long to do
Involve heads, PTAs, governors

Action: Examine social engagement and consider innovative ways of developing this.

Who and how long to do
Ongoing



CLEAN AIR

- the biggest problem is the one we can't see?

Think back to the early days of lockdown...

Clean air

Safe walking and cycling

Birdsong

Stars at night



...Traffic and pollution are back again

Vehicle exhausts are major polluters

Goes up as CO₂

Goes down as NO₂ and particulates



A Tale of Two Towns...

Which Thame do we want in 2030?

Do we want streets dominated by traffic and pollution...

...or do we want clean air and space for leisure and people

We need to decide...
and start to act now.





Note that GLP doesn't include proposals for public transport – this is the subject of a separate work stream to be discussed after this meeting where we hope GLP principles will support the case...

But we shouldn't just put all our **energy** into vehicles ...



Time to move to **GREEN ENERGY** (4.6)



Switch to a Green Energy Supplier

In Q1 2020 renewables provided 45% of Britain's electricity

A Green Recovery: build back better

Energy Efficiency



Save Energy and Save Money

Reduce Fuel Poverty at HOME

Money saving schemes and grants (4.2)

**Energy Solutions Oxford (ESOX) for
energy efficiencies in BUSINESS (4.3)**

**Information at the Town Hall, Citizens
Advice and Thame Green Living website**

Our Community Energy scheme (4.1)



From renewables - typically solar, but also wind, hydro and ground source heat

Developed and owned locally

Financial returns for the roof-owner, the investors *AND* the local community

Income circulated locally

Let's talk about ...Transport (4.4)



This year's new registrations of EVs and Hybrids up from 1.7% in 2017 to 24% in 2020

2nd Hand EV is growing significantly

EVs remain 'upwardly compatible' with newer chargers

£400m investment nationally in street Charge Points and new Super Hubs

Thame Electric Vehicle Charging Points (4.4/4.5)



**In fuel alone, for over 10,000 miles driven,
an EV saves £380 over a diesel car and £609 for petrol cars**

Thame EV Car Club/Shared Transport (4.5)



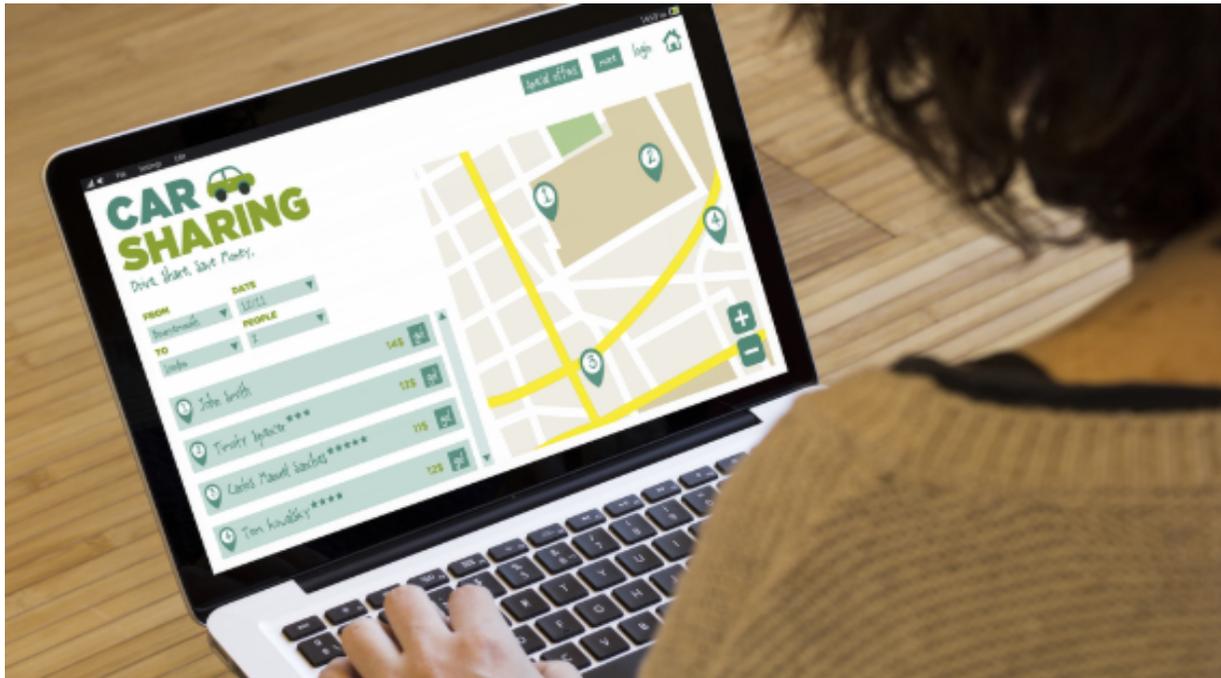
Access transport only when you need it

Peer to Peer club (Hyacar)

Operating under license from a National Operator (CoWheels)

An independent car club

Greener, no capital outlay, reduces parking requirements



Green routes, spaces and biodiversity













Why prioritise space
for people?

13:1 is the average
'Benefit Cost Ratio' for
walking and cycling
projects

(DfT, 2015)

High street walking, cycling
and public realm
improvements can increase
retail sales by up to 30%

(Lawlor, 2013)

EXAMPLE: RYCOTE MEADOW



- Community land for community benefit
- Opportunity to encourage biodiversity and CO2 capture through trees, shrubs, hedges, meadow flowers, etc.
- Make connections with paths and cycle routes

Access for the community



Why prioritise active travel?

Opportunity

24% of trips are under 1 mile
and 68% under 5 miles

DfT National Travel Survey, 2017

Ability

81% of people say they can
cycle, including;

- 3 in 4 people aged 65+
- 76% of disabled people

TfL Customer Research, 2017

Affordable

Average annual household expenditure on
transport (UK):



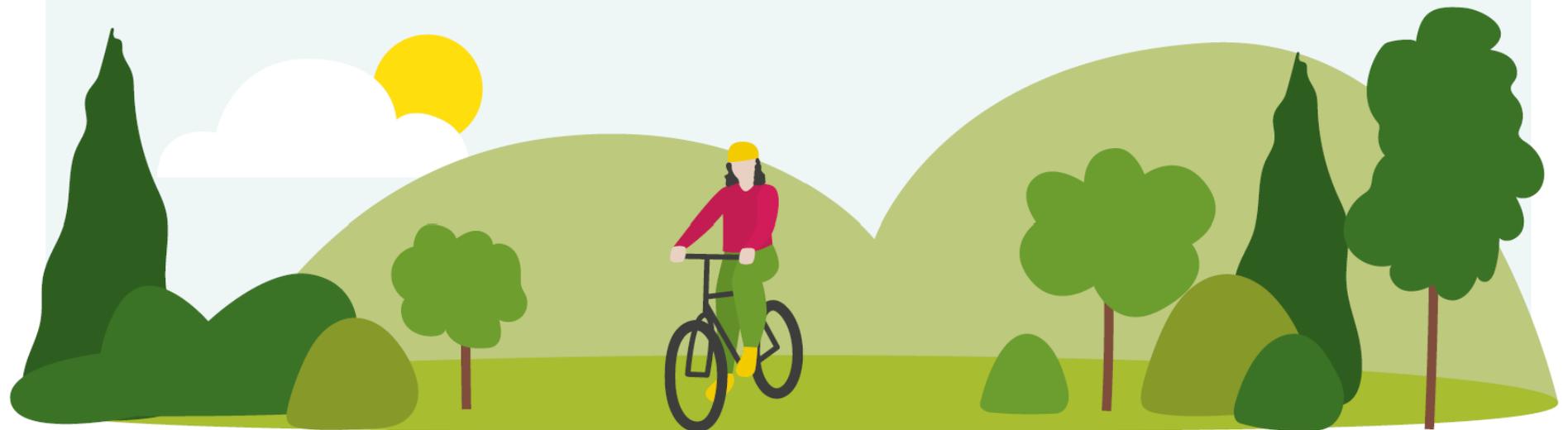
ONS, Family Spending, 2018

Impact on health

“The health benefits of exercise for older people are massive – it can help reduce the risk of dementia, type 2 diabetes, some types of cancer, depression, heart disease and more”
(BBC, 2020)

If every Londoner walked or cycled **20 minutes each day**, this would **save the NHS £1.7bn** in treatment costs over 25 years
(TfL/Department of Health, 2017)

Wider connections to Thame

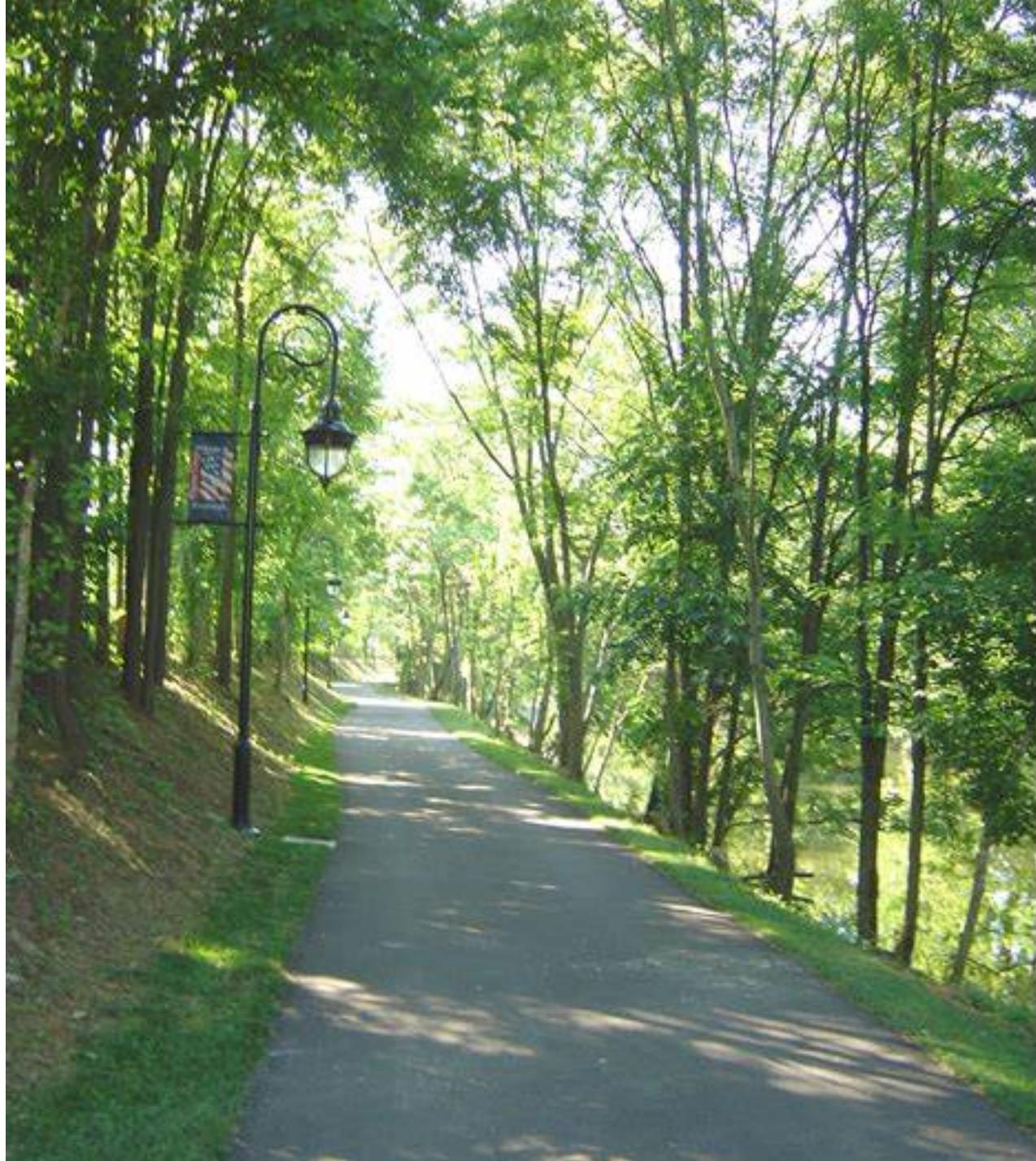


Appropriate routes vs. busy roads



HADDENHAM & THAME GREENWAY

- A shared off-road cycling and walking route between Thame and Haddenham
- Allow better vehicle flow on A418 by relocating cyclists
- Has major public support and would make a huge difference to the lives of many





Acting together now - for our future town



**THIS PLAN IS JUST THE START.
WITHOUT YOU IT WILL REMAIN
JUST A SET OF IDEAS, BY WORKING
TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE THE
CHANGES WE NEED. IF YOU LIKE
THE IDEAS SET OUT IN THE THIS
PLAN AND WOULD LIKE TO BE
INVOLVED THEN GET IN TOUCH.**



*Please get in touch through our
Thame Green Living web page:*

<https://www.thamegreenliving.org.uk>



Thank you to the
team – and
many others

Thank you for
your attention

We welcome
questions and
comments