



Todmorden Town Council

From	Becca Toop, Community Support Officer
To	Climate Emergency Committee
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Date	27 th May 2026
Subject	Climate Committee Project Proposals

Objective

To select a project for the Climate Emergency Committee for 2026/27.

Project Options

1. **Biodiversity Education Area**

Vale Community Garden would be an ideal site for a biodiversity education area. This would educate people on how to protect and respect their local environment and make positive choices to impact the climate.

It would also encourage a Forest School to use Vale Community Garden, which would see it being used more and increase people's stewardship/care over our asset.

The education area could include:

Bug hotels

Pollinator Planting

Games that encourage biodiversity learning

Signposting with educational content

Costs: signs, bug hotel maker/facilitator, plants, recycled plastic seating

2. **Rainwater Harvesting**

At Vale Community Garden, to enable the Vale Community Gardening Group to be more self-sufficient with watering the garden, and to divert water that may otherwise contribute to flooding. This will also protect against droughts and hosepipe bans.

Costs: rainwater harvesting system

3. Reusable Cup Scheme

Purchase x amount of reusable cups to gift to participating cafés in the town. In turn, these cafés will promote the cups to their takeaway customers – free to borrow and return to any other participating café. This would reduce single-use items and waste going into landfill.

Costs: cup purchase

4. Reusable Tote Bags

To discourage single use shopping bags. Can be available from us or distributed to participating retailers in town.

Can use them to promote the Council and TTC assets (Vale Community Garden, Bandstand, Pavilion, Wheelspark etc).

Costs: printed tote bags

5. Climate Film Club

Free climate-related films, once a month, free to attend. Mix of documentaries and fiction, encouraging people to consider the climate impact. Events could be used to disseminate information about local climate groups' work, by relating it to the films shown.

Could have some at the Bandstand in the Summer, increasing use of a TTC asset.

Costs: licensing films, hiring venue

6. Climate Talks/Symposiums

Free to attend talks from local climate groups, promoting work that is going on locally to combat climate change and to increase people's engagement with local climate issues.

Costs: venue hire, speakers, travel costs for speakers.

Proposal:

That the committee select two of the proposed ideas (or propose an alternate idea) so that the Community Support Officer can compile more accurate information and budgets. These will then be brought back to the committee to make a final decision on the project that will be chosen for this year.

Reason for proposal:

While the 'My Tree Promise' scheme that the Climate Emergency Committee has run for the last three years has been successful and well-loved in Todmorden, there is an appetite for a new project.

There is also now a slightly smaller budget for projects, as the budget has been re-allocated to be able to provide a larger grants budget, so all proposed projects will be managed to fall within the new projects budget. The amount available for 2026/27 will be dependent on the budget that gets decided for the Volunteer Fair and other events, but the total budget (for events and projects) is £4000.