

The Worshipful Company of Horners developed their Climate Action Commitment along with its Aims and Objectives during 2023 and The Master signed our Climate Action Plan on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023.

## **WORSHIPFUL COMPANY of HORNERS CLIMATE ACTION PLAN STATEMENT of PRINCIPLES**

The Worshipful Company of Horners, fully support the Livery Climate Action Group in its focus to reduce our carbon emissions where reasonably practical and our wider impact on the environment by promoting a responsible approach to sustaining the use of the earth's resources.

Consequently, the Horners Company commits itself to having an active Sustainability Action Plan to use its resources to work towards reducing the impact that we might have on the environment and use our communication channels alongside the British Plastics Federation to encourage others to contribute to the initiative.

We acknowledge that the Worshipful Company of Horners can manage our impact and reduce the effect our activities have on the environment by:

- Reducing our direct and indirect carbon emissions wherever possible by setting meaningful targets for reduction and regularly reviewing progress and sharing the best practice we have used to achieve our goals.
- When planning social events, the organiser should ensure that the Livery Halls we intend to use have in place a comprehensive sustainability plan.
- Using our procurement powers ensure that we are using catering companies that supply menu choices and have a food waste management policy.
- When planning Court and Committee meetings ensure that the facilities to be used have in place a comprehensive sustainability plan.
- For Committee meetings offer a formal meeting alongside a virtual meeting option to enable members to decide whether to travel or not.
- Horners members, if travelling to meetings or events, to be responsible for offsetting their own carbon emissions as they see fit.
- To ensure that sustainability is at the core of the brief for the five annual awards the Horners support.
- To, where practical, use electronic media for communication of meeting agendas and minutes.
- The Hornblower to be accessible to all members by electronic media via the Horners Website.
- To engage with the wider Plastic Industry in partnership with The British Plastics Federation with the overall aim of maximising the influence we may have via investment in our awards, lectures and education support within the area of sustainability and climate change.
- The Charity Trustees to review our investment policies with respect to Environmental, Social and Governance good practice and instruct our investment managers with respect to this.
- The Master and Treasurer review The Company investment policies with respect to Environmental, Social and Governance good practice and instruct our investment managers with respect to this.

- On an annual basis the Climate Action Committee will present to The Court how The Company is meeting its sustainability goals collating data from the organisers of the relevant activities.

The methodology used to determine what the impact of The Horners activities, as a non-hall owning Livery, Dr Robin Kent completed a study on the Carbon Impact of the Horners. This was undertaken by considering the carbon footprint of the organisation. A carbon footprint being the measure of the carbon impact of a manufacturing site, product, person or any entity. It is an inventory of all the carbon emissions that the entity is responsible for over any 12-month period, i.e., calendar year or company year.

This analysis of the Horners Carbon Footprint was calculated to be 96.07 ton CO<sub>2</sub>e /year. One option the Horners could have used was to offset this using certified carbon credits at an approximate cost of £2,018/year to make the Horners carbon neutral. However, it was proposed that a better use of funds was to support sustainable projects and raise awareness by these initiatives would have a better route to use.

Therefore, the initiatives we have in place are to achieve this are many including:

- The Ralph Anderson Lecture focusing on sustainability, subjects covered:  
 Advances in technology to fast-forward the circular economy – Professor Edward Kossier  
 Are Plastics Compatible with a Sustainable Planet? - Dr Marcus Gover,  
 Creating a Circular Plastics Economy with Engineered Enzymes - Professor John McGeehan.  
 Polymers are good for you; *the progress of polymer science & engineering – what do we value?* Professor Phil Coates
- Sponsoring the Global Research and Innovation in Plastics Sustainability Conference
- The Horners awards have sustainability as a core criterion, these being:  
 BPF Horners' David Williams Award for Sustainability  
 BPF Horners' Award for Plastics Innovation and Design  
 BPF Horners' Bottlemakers Award for Plastic Packaging
- The Design Innovation in Plastics (DiP) – Student Design Award, supported by the Horners, has the environment and sustainability as a key criterion.
- Commissioning Professor Averil Macdonald to develop a new Fantastic Plastic subject - Destroyer or saviour of our planet?

The Worshipful Company of Horners recognises the fact that it has an important role to play in the promotion of a sustainable future for plastics. Plastics are ever-present across the economy, from the obvious uses, such as packaging, to the lesser known, such as insulation, car tyres, and synthetic textiles. Plastics provide positive solutions to many problems and are particularly vital to the healthcare sector.

However, for all its benefits, plastic presents a wide range of environmental challenges and negative press and for these reasons the Horners are passionate about supporting the above initiatives to minimise the negative view of plastic and promoting its societal benefits.