Eco Group Report: 2025-26

This group seeks to encourage those in the church to be active caretakers of the earth and of all creatures, seeking to live gently with an ever decreasing impact on our planet, based on biblical principles of loving God and our neighbour.

Activities over the year have included:

- a guest speaker during Christian Aid week in 2025, supported by a church breakfast
- simple bread and soup lunch at Harvest, with an eco themed quiz
- maintaining and developing the wild flower and pollinator areas in the church grounds; some flower plugs were donated by a non-church member, and a Land Management Plan agreed
- updating information available on the HBC website
- support for a repair cafe in the village, based at HBC
- using the newsletter for regular Eco Prayers, Eco Tips and information about local events that may be of interest
- switched to purchasing plastic-free paper cups that can be recycled through the traditional paper recycling facilities
- intercessory prayers in services regularly including care for God's creation

We have had one sermon addressing climate justice this year, given by our local Christian Aid representative at the start of the year.

Over the coming year the group plans to focus on raising awareness of issues related to social and environmental justice. We will look for opportunities to encourage ways to demonstrate love for our neighbours, global as well as local, impacted by the climate crisis.

HBC is signed up to the Eco Church scheme which provides a helpful framework, encouraging congregations to consider all aspects of discipleship.

Those of us in the Eco Group are very happy to talk with church members about these issues, and we would love to hear your stories, suggestions, questions or feedback, and we welcome new members. Our email address is: ecochurch.group@histonbaptist.org.uk