

# **Zion URC Northallerton's Initial Plan in Response to the Climate and Environmental Emergency**

Zion URC has a mixture of old buildings; some over 200 years old, two of which are grade 2 listed. As such, we recognise and accept that we must “do what we can and off-set the rest”.

We also acknowledge that the behavioural change of ourselves can be as challenging as changing the fabric of the buildings for a variety of very valid reasons, including the ageing and rurally gathered nature of our congregation.

Our initial plan in response to the crisis:

- Aim for net zero carbon emissions by 2022 as measured by using the Climate Stewards church carbon calculator.
- Engage Green Journey to help assess our current energy use and ways to reduce that in the future.
- Monitor the carbon footprint of each of our buildings on a yearly basis to see what can be improved.
- Ensure that energy efficiency and environmental impact are key elements of plans to refurbish the church and hall buildings.
- Encourage and enable our congregation to consider and make changes to our own lifestyles
- Agree to offset those emissions we cannot reduce any further through Climate Stewards or other mitigation schemes.