

Report to: Helmdon Parish Council

Tabled on: 27 March 2024

Report author: Danny Moody

Report title: Community Recycling Scheme

1. Apropos the allotment plot holders' request for the parish council to supply a skip (see allotment report) contact was made with a local skip hire company. After the conversation about a skip for the allotments, I floated the separate idea of a Community Recycling Scheme.
2. The parish council promotes recycling in Helmdon generally and appoints a Recycling Warden (Phillip Ward) to encourage and promote responsible recycling. Talks and presentations have been held over the years and informal collections of recyclable materials (beyond what can be put in the blue bins) has taken place.
3. The Community Recycling Scheme would be a partnership between the local skip hire company, the parish council, and the community. The local skip hire company would provide a skip free of charge over a weekend and the parish council would invite residents to bring along their recycling. To make it viable the material collection would need to have onward value; things like metals and electrical equipment.
4. We would need to have volunteers supervising things so that people don't take advantage and to ensure that only local householders use the facility.
5. If it could be made to work then it would be a win for residents because they get the stuff out of their homes but don't have to drive to Towcester, a win for the local skip hire company if the material collected is worth more than the cost of supplying the skip, and a win for the environment by getting the material recycled.
6. It could be a one-off or, If the first event goes well, it could become a regular thing, perhaps collecting a different category of recyclable material each time.
7. The idea has the approval of the council's Recycling Warden, and the local skip hire company is happy to be involved if the council wishes to pursue it.
8. The council is asked to consider the idea in principle and, if it is in favour, to appoint a councillor to work with the clerk to bring it to fruition.