



VINTAGE SPORTS-CAR CLUB - ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Overview:

Until genuinely synthetic fuels become commercially available, the Club acknowledges that its pursuits involve the burning of fossil fuels, but is committed to compensating for, and minimising, their environmental impact. The use of vintage and historic cars is discretionary, in common with many recreational activities, such as attending sporting competitions, visiting sites of historic interest, and enjoying cultural events; like these, it gives pleasure to many, contributes to the economy and helps add to the diversity of the nation's personality. In our particular case, we are also helping preserve important national heritage assets. Car ownership is changing, with the growth in electrification and the shift towards autonomous driving, by respecting our environmental obligations and making a contribution to minimising our footprint, we can remain relevant at these times and avoid exacerbating the problem.

Our cars:

The cars used within our Club were made many years ago, and any environmental damage caused by their manufacture is now virtually non-existent. In many ways they are the epitome of sustainability, as they have been kept in constant use and avoided being scrapped, with the risk of further damage to the environment. There is an impact from the production of spare parts, however these serve to prolong the vehicle's life, and delay its destruction, which would be considerably more damaging. We support many small businesses in the restoration, engineering and component supply industries who do much to keep viable cars on the road, in good working order. Our Club Secretary, who runs a car owned by the Club, has chosen to go electric or hybrid on its renewal. Finally, most of our historic cars are used sparingly, covering very few miles in an average year.

Adherence to minimum standards:

Our governing body, Motorsport UK, has recently set up a Sustainability Affiliation Scheme to promote best practice in this area. We intend to submit a member of staff to go through its process so the Club can meet its minimum standards at all future events.

Carbon emissions recovery:

As a result of a five-way due diligence exercise, our Club has chosen to recover otherwise unavoidable emissions with Tree-V, through an initiative with the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs <https://trees.fbhvc.co.uk/>. Emissions will be recovered: a) through internationally and nationally accredited schemes; b) to the greatest extent and effectiveness as possible; and c) in a manner that does not jeopardise long term financial viability. Emissions will be recovered in a balanced approach, that is both immediately internationally offset and long-term captured in the UK. Long-term capture, too, is balanced equally between tree planting and peatland restoration. On current pricing, our Club is able to recover 400% of the emissions we create at our events. This amounts to around 280 tonnes of CO₂ recovered per annum, on an annual emissions total of around 70 tonnes.

Single use plastics:

The Club is committed to reducing its reliance on single use plastic. It has ceased offering water bottles to staff and visitors at its HQ, and has moved away from providing plastic membership cards in favour of recyclable cardboard. It will in future liaise with circuit owners to support caterers who share this belief, and use recyclable materials to serve their products rather than plastic. The numbers used on our racing cars are currently made of plastic with paper backing. We intend introducing a more sustainable solution from the start of the 2023 season.

Office accommodation:

We will seek to run our office as efficiently as possible, given its age and construction. A new boiler has just been installed, inadequate windows replaced, and repairs made to a defective roof. Staff are allowed to work from home where reasonable to minimise unnecessary travel. Re-cycling points have been installed.

Paper consumption:

We have recently stopped automatically supplying monthly Newsletters in printed form, the default method now being electronic. We are also encouraging all members to enter events and pay for subscriptions electronically. Signing-on, scrutineering, timings and result notification at events used to consume large amounts of paper, these have now all been converted to an electronic format.

Suppliers/sub contractors:

We will scrutinise all existing and future suppliers to ensure they operate to the latest standards of environmental probity.

Conclusion:

We accept that the use of old cars, especially involving motor sport, has an impact on the environment. We therefore take our responsibilities to minimise, and where possible, repair this damage, very seriously. Taken over the lives of our vehicles we can be proud of their limited effect on global warming, and we will continue to run the Club and its events with appropriate awareness of our responsibilities to our environment.

For more information, see [Carbon Emissions Initiative](#).

For all inquiries please e-mail: library@vscc.co.uk with the subject header Carbon Emissions Initiative.

PAUL TUNNICLIFFE – PRESIDENT