



**Trentham
MonkeyForest**

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY



A MESSAGE FROM THE PARK DIRECTOR - MATT LOVATT

“Protecting our forest today means the monkeys of Trentham will still have trees to leap through tomorrow”



“At Trentham Monkey Forest, we believe that protecting nature is at the heart of everything we do. Our forest is not only home to our incredible Barbary macaques, but also a thriving ecosystem that depends on careful stewardship. Sustainability is a promise to future generations, both human and monkey, that this will remain a place where wildlife and people can coexist.

As Park Director, I am proud to share our commitment to reducing our impact, nurturing biodiversity, and ensuring the forest continues to flourish for years to come.

Protecting our forest today means the monkeys of Trentham will still have trees to leap through tomorrow and memories can continue to be made.”

INTRODUCTION TO OUR SUSTAINABILITY POLICY



Trentham Monkey Forest is dedicated to preserving the natural environment, promoting biodiversity and ensuring the welfare of the animals in our care. We understand the impact that human activities can have on our planet, and alongside our Research and Conservation policies; we are committed to incorporating sustainable practices across all areas of our operation.

This policy reflects our responsibility towards operating our facility, as well as protecting the natural world and the species we support; while encouraging our visitors to adopt environmentally conscious behaviours. We aim to “BE” the behaviour change we want to see in our visitors.

We strive to minimise our environmental footprint across all operating areas, including the following key zones; energy/carbon, food and waste stream, water management, procurement and travel. Each point will be discussed and targets set.

ENERGY AND CARBON USE



As a medium sized tourist destination; energy usage actually only accounts for half of our site. The forest where the monkeys live- accounts for very little energy consumption; with only a few speakers dotted around for use during our feeding talks.

Our largest use of energy comes in the café/shop building, office and storage barn where the vehicles and tools are used. To try to limit energy consumption; during our closed season- everything that is not in use is switched off. Lights are on timers or sensors and staff only come together in the break room for an hour a day. As a team; we behave seasonally with our energy usage.

To further work towards lowering our carbon footprint; we will explore more renewable energy sources and have recently had over 122 solar panels installed to work towards this.

Short term goals: Install and benefit from newly fitted solar panels.
Long term goals: Look into the possibility of more panels, and potential (Planning approval permitting) wind turbines on the meadow to utilise wind energy.

Expected review: 2-5yrs.

WATER CONSERVATION



Water conservation is vital because fresh water is a limited resource essential for both people and wildlife.

By using it wisely, we help protect natural habitats, support healthy ecosystems, and reduce the energy and emissions linked to water use.

Our customer toilets do not use large industrial cisterns; but rather water efficient 6l tanks. This reduces the volume of water being used and discarded as grey water. Taps are on a sensor and timer- meaning visitors cannot overuse water in handwashing facilities.

WASTE REDUCTION



Following new legislation in 2025- we are working with our waste operatives to ensure our waste streams are compliant.

We aim to reduce, reuse and recycle as much as possible, and; working with our waste company- have sent no waste to landfill in the last 5 years. We use recyclable and compostable disposable items in the café where possible - and encourage our visitors to recycle using our waste stations dotted around the patio area.

Short term goals: trial new 3 recycling station system- General, mixed and food waste

Review in November 2025 to calculate effectiveness.

Long term goals: Move to a more local waste collection company so our waste isn't travelling and adding to our carbon footprint. Review in November 2025- to move company in 2026- current contract permitting.

FOOD SUPPLIERS & WASTE



The companies we work with to supply food for both our cafe and animals are local companies, who we've worked with for many years, and have good relationships with. We know and understand their sustainability policies as we all strive to work towards the same goal.

Short term goals: ensure company is sourcing sustainable products.
Review date November 25

Long term goals: grown more of our own animal food on a larger scale- including maize and fruit trees. OR source supplies of these items from local farms- reducing miles travelled.

Growing supplies can take up to 10 years- sourcing local supplies to be reviewed 2025/26.

PROCUREMENT



Running an attraction of this type; the resources and supplies required come from far and wide. While we try to only work with local suppliers; sometimes this is not possible.

We only work with reputable suppliers, companies and businesses- who each have their own sustainability and environmental policies.

Short term goals: Only select products that are recycled or recyclable for our shop. Can be achieved in 2-5years.

Long term goals: over the next 5-15 years; we aim to only work with businesses or suppliers whose products come from the UK. Of course; this many not always be possible for food items that can only be grown overseas making this one of our biggest challenges.

TRAVEL



Travel to our site has always been a challenge; a challenge that most attractions like ourselves face by being “out of the way” and not perhaps close to lots of transport links.

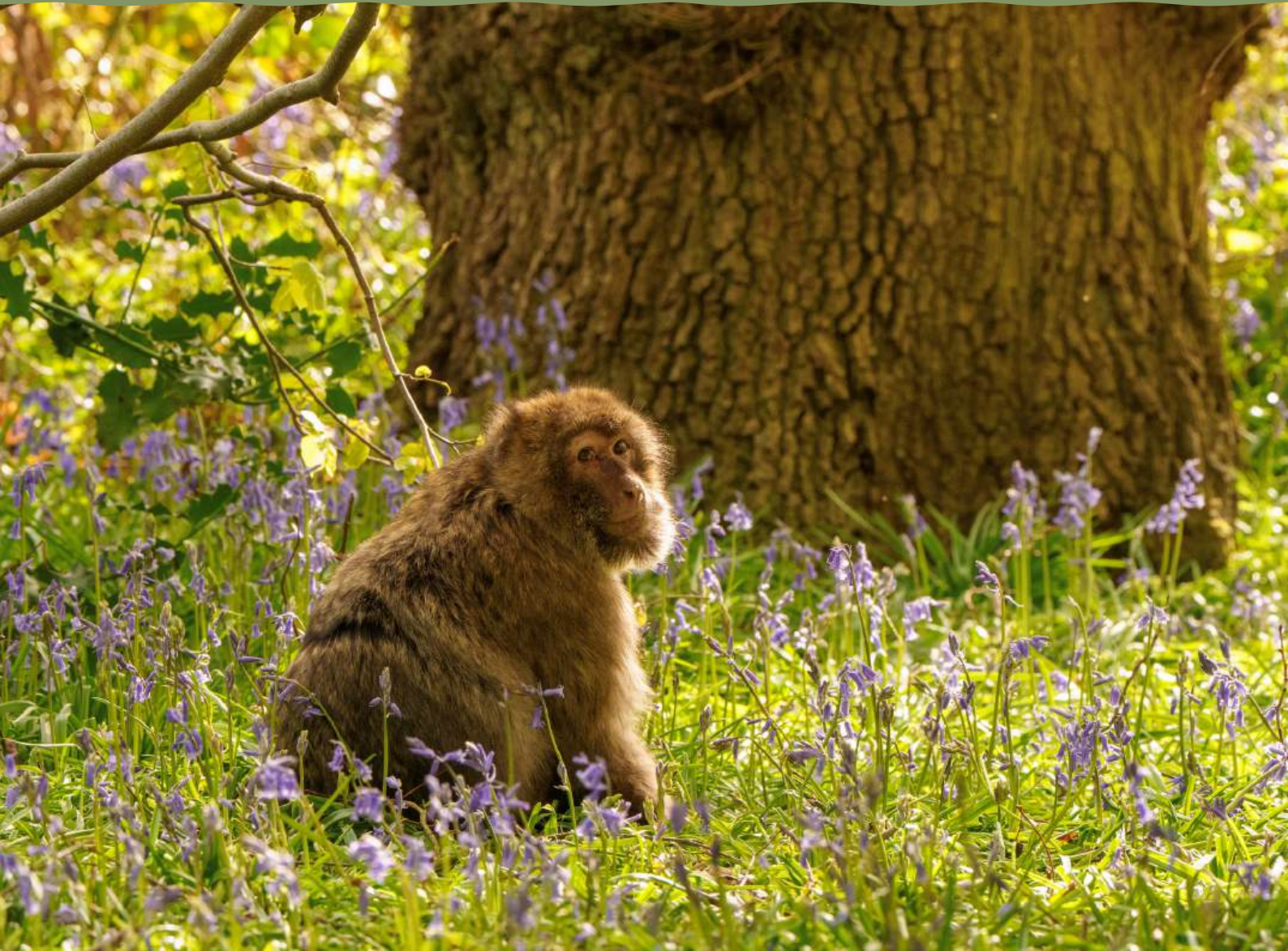
There is much that can be achieved in this area, and while it is very unlikely indeed we will reach carbon zero in this area; we can work towards reducing our impact.

Short term goals: installation of EV charging stations for staff and visitors, both on the visitor car park and staff area.

Long term goals: Use of public transport (bus or shuttle) can be promoted or upgraded; perhaps to combine the transport solutions to the 2 attractions on the Trentham Estate, thereby minimising individual vehicles arriving on site.

This may take a couple of years to organise- so realistically, this is a 10 year plan.

ANIMAL WELFARE & CONSERVATION



Trentham Monkey Forest is deeply committed to the health, welfare and safety of the 140 Barbary macaques that reside here. We strive to maintain a harmonious balance between the animals and the forest; as well as between conservation efforts and the ethical treatment of the animals who reside here.

CONSERVATION



We are dedicated to supporting global wildlife conservation initiatives; particularly for endangered primates- as highlighted by our support for BMAC, Chances for Nature and PSGB. Through these partnerships; we contribute to the protection of habitats, biodiversity and promote education and research for conservation efforts worldwide.

SUSTAINABLE DIET & SOURCING



The diet of the Barbary macaques is sourced sustainably, ensuring their food is nutritious, ethically sourced and aligned with our own conservation principles.

We will continue to evaluate the sustainability and suitability of our suppliers and prioritise locally sourced and organic goods where possible.

TEMPERATE LIVING SPECIES



Barbary macaques are adapted to a temperate climate; thereby eliminating the need for indoor housing, lighting and heating.

This means Barbary macaques can survive and thrive in Staffordshire without man made or carbon heavy living conditions.

Housing a species that is well adapted to the environment/climate in the UK- is the best possible way to house a species to ensure its success.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION



Conservation Education is central to our mission, as reflected in our Mission Statement. We engage with our visitors to raise awareness of sustainability issues and inspire environmentally responsible behaviour.

VISITOR ENGAGEMENT



We will continue to provide engaging educational programs that highlight the importance of protecting natural habitats, the effects of climate change, and the role that sustainable practices play in biodiversity conservation.

Our educational signage, feeding presentations, and Discovery Workshop activities will emphasise the interconnectedness of wildlife, ecosystems, and human activities.

SUSTAINABLE VISITOR PRACTICES



We will encourage visitors to reduce their environmental impact by promoting sustainable practices, such as the use of reusable bottles, reducing waste, and offering sustainable merchandise within our gift shop.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Trentham Monkey Forest will work in partnership with local businesses and organisations to support sustainable development initiatives in the region.

This can be evidenced by our inclusion with the initiative SBEN (Staffordshire Business and Environment Network).

We will foster partnerships that promote environmental stewardship, local conservation projects, and responsible tourism, such as our partnership with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES



We are committed to operating in a way that is ethically and environmentally sound.

SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAIN



We will continually assess the sustainability practices of our suppliers and aim to source products that are responsibly made, from packaging materials to the products we sell.

We will prioritise suppliers who adhere to ethical, environmental, and social standards.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING & ENGAGEMENT



All staff will undergo training in sustainable practices to ensure that sustainability is integrated into daily operations.

Permanent staff will be included in decision making, and seasonal staff will be encouraged to share ideas and innovations to improve our sustainability initiatives.

GREEN CERTIFICATIONS & STANDARDS



We will pursue certifications from relevant environmental and sustainability organisations. We are working towards being accredited by the Environmental Quality Mark, and have plans to work towards Learning outside the Classroom accreditation.

We will regularly audit our sustainability progress and continue to set targets for continued improvement.

MONITORING & REPORTING



Trentham Monkey Forest recognizes that sustainability is an ongoing process.

We will regularly measure and report on our sustainability performance, ensuring transparency in our progress.

Annual sustainability reports will be made available to the public via our website to demonstrate the impact of our efforts.

Our sustainability policy will be reviewed regularly, with an emphasis on innovation, learning, and adapting to new challenges. We will set clear targets and continuously work towards achieving a greener, more sustainable future.

CONCLUSION



Trentham Monkey Forest is committed to leading by example in sustainability within the wildlife conservation sector.

By taking a proactive approach to environmental, animal, and community sustainability, we aim to create a positive, lasting impact on both the natural world and the visitors who experience the beauty of our forest.