

Totnes Town Council informal meeting

Totnes Town Council's Declaration of a Climate Emergency workshop to discuss next steps.

2nd March 2019

Masonic Hall, South Street, Totnes.

10am – 12 noon

About 10 people with collectively very wide-ranging expertise and experience on this matter attended this second scoping meeting. Most had attended the previous meeting:

1. Cllr Jacqi Hodgson who had convened the meeting on behalf of the Town Council, welcomed everyone and outlined the draft agenda.
2. **It was agreed that a series of speakers on various topics to inspire and inform would provide a beneficial input to this process:** Some starting suggestions were made:

Kevin Anderson (from the Tindle Center in Manchester) <https://tyndall.ac.uk/partners/university-manchester>
Doug Eltham: DCC Officer who manages the Environment Protection Board at DCC (which has been mandated to review DCC policies and plans in light of their Declaration of a Climate Emergency)

Heidi Hallam – Outreach officer at HOSW Local Enterprise Partnership

Dr James Nanavitch (? Spelling) who works in north Devon on social prescriptions

Head of Dartmoor National Park (part of LEP)

Ted Talk – where to invest funds

3. Other Places as useful models –

- A) **Bologna:** They run citizen assemblies, Their Civic offices are a go between for the actions, open space events, playful approach. They made a pact with civil society. Participatory budgeting & Community Wealth Building.. They have an interactive map.
(<https://www.climate-kic.org/news/city-finance-lab-successful-pilot-bologna/>)
- B) **Preston (based on Cleveland model) :** Participatory budgeting. Anaerobic digester project. The challenge of the Preston model is to adapt this to a rural model.
<https://www.preston.gov.uk/yourservices/planning/planning-policy/preston-local-plan/tackling-climate-change/>
<https://www.lancschamber.co.uk/business-support/chamber-low-carbon/>
<https://www.lep.co.uk/news/business/the-200m-biomass-plant-with-enough-energy-to-power-preston-1-9605016>
- C) **Wales:** Neath community building projects – look at key anchor institutions & find ways to improve. (Frances Northrop (NEF) is doing a similar work programme here)
- D) **Totnes;** we need to create a Totnes model

4. **Finance: EDAP & TTT Economic Blueprint** - Mapping where the money goes with Totnes as a pilot LEP (neoliberal agenda) but has access to large funds. 2020 is their next date
What other large funding opportunities are out there – need to map

5. Greenshoots resilience agenda (incl LEP and DCC)

For people to come and see what we are doing (and vice versa)

There are local models available which can be shared – the key tool is mapping as the rate of technical change = great capacity. Frame the narrative in terms of tipping points

The territory needs to be mapped within a framework to enable whole systems change

The enormity of the issue is the challenge – it needs influence and experience – if brought to a manageable level it will mobilise people (e.g. electric car clubs) and it needs to be affordable

Need to develop relationships as partnerships

6. Taking this forward - suggestions:

- Some quick wins are needed to bring people in and get the ball rolling
- Overarching open space - Citizens assemblies to start the mapping process (Citizen's assemblies in Spain – very effective)
- Don't impose a model – let it happen
- System change is needed (Erica's event in June will inform & inspire)
- Tri – outs and canary groups
- Create a Toolkit

7. Quick Actions to be looked into: Shop Front pop-up at Guildhall (action JH)

- Separate website
- Extinction Rebellion's shopping list
- Plant spring flowers
- Plan autumn tree planting
- Inclusive Town Totnes (Sarah Cullin's work?)
- Collaborative model (Susie to circulate)
- Preston model (Rob to circulate)

8. Next Steps

- It was agreed that monthly meetings were needed. The next meeting would be an open space for people to bring a question they care about – to reboot!
- that all participants would bring back to the group proposals for actions that could be taken forward and start the plan and process in parallel.
- **it was agreed to reconvene on April 7th at 10am (-noon) at the Guildhall**

Notes recorded by Cllr. Jacqi Hodgson