

Notes Climate Emergency Response Group

18 May 2021

Present

Cllr Jacqi Hodgson

Sylvia Dell (notes)

Sue Bethel

Richard O'Connell (recycling)

Sue Misselthwaite

David Cuttin

John Cummings

Cllr Ray Hendricksen

Ian Bright

Steve Nayer

Jem Friar

Chris Watson

Cllr Jo Rose

Michael Heather

2. Notes from the last meeting - at this [2021 04 20 Notes Climate Emergency Working Group \(mcusercontent.com\)](https://mcusercontent.com/2021_04_20_Notes_Climate_Emergency_Working_Group) –

- Matters arising
- Renewable energy at the Pavilions – project is ready to proceed but SHDC have not given approval to proceed. Green Travel Steering Group is in process of writing a letter to SHDC with cc to Adam Williams, and Tom Holway (cllr recently taken over climate portfolio at SHDC. Proposal is going to Town Matters committee and full council beginning of June

3. CEE (Climate & Ecological Emergency) Bill progress at Devon County Council and South Hams District Council

- Parliamentary Bill attracting wide cross party support (109 to date), but there is a need for local councils and members of public to write to their MPs to encourage them to support the CEE Bill
- DCC approved motion to support at end April – they now intend to write to Devon MPs asking them to support it
- SHDC – refused to debate the proposal, claiming that it contravened the rules for local elections. Proposal is coming to latest full council – but Jacqi has been asked to water down the proposal by changing “accept” to “accept the aims” – which clearly is what they already do as SHDC have already declared a Climate Emergency

4. Focus on Biodiversity Wildlife Flower Verges - taking actions to identify & protect; link to DCC policy Cumulative impacts on wildlife and air quality - mitigations / options? Discussion

- Moor Meadows seminar Sarah Jennings, Life on the Verge.
- Put signs on areas that are not being mown, to ensure that the mowing maintenance service know which ones not to cut
- Action: At next meeting can members feedback on where verges are being left for nature
- Concern that wildlife corridors are being lost when developments engage in mitigation for wildlife – this can result in corridors becoming isolated islands which then undermines biodiversity. This creates a cumulative impact
- Friends of the earth have produced a detailed mapping to show where potential woods could be sited <https://takeclimateaction.uk/woodland-opportunity-mapping-england>
- Portable air quality monitors – a tool for public engagement and engaging people – TCC will have 5 monitors and offer them to members of public to borrow and identify for themselves what the air quality issues are for them in the routes they normally take
 - JF - A recent study by Harvard, Birmingham & Leicester University made a new assessment of the health impact of air pollution on health & came to the conclusion that 8.2 million lives are lost because of it every year - that's 1 in 10 deaths in Europe & 3 in 10 deaths in China. Most people have no idea of the present impact of air pollution so I think making people more aware is really important
- Sustainable South Hams <http://www.sustainablesouthhams.org/>. And very active google group <https://groups.google.com/g/sustainable-south-hams>

5. Devon Doughnut Collective: <https://devondoughnut.org/> – based on Kate Raworth's Doughnut Economics, collective aims to produce a Devon wide dashboard of key indicators. Discussion

- Doughnut Economics have huge following worldwide and growing locally
- Devon Doughnut Collective – currently building groundwork in preparation for the launch – defining metrics to measure environmental and economic issues, framework to measure the things that are most meaningful to people in Devon. Planning monthly Doughnut Cafes where a topic specialist will be in conversation with a local person active in that area. And then an online Devon Doughnut summit (Autumn 2021)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7HZzBXqkm70>
- <https://devondoughnut.org/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rhcrbcg8HBw>
- Suggestion for a metric – percentage of energy used in Devon which is produced locally
- JF Carbon footprinting: The Centre for Sustainable Energy & Exeter University have been working on & created a brilliant tool called the Impact Tool which measures both territorial & consumption footprinting <https://impact-tool.org.uk/>
- Jem Friar : fossil free steel making process works: <https://youtu.be/ywHJt88H5YQ>
- Chris Watson : This is the Wavin page re roads made of recycled plastic rather than oil tarmac <https://www.wavin.com/en-gb/knowledge-centre/news/plastic-road-opens#:~:text=On%20September%2011th%202018%20the,of%20Zwolle%20in%20the>

[%20Netherlands.&text=The%20PlasticRoad%20is%2030%20meters.more%20than%20218%2C000%20plastic%20cups](#). Although JH outlined that there are some concerns about plastic roads could release micro-plastics into environment

6. Letter to SHDC from Sustainable South Hams re ban of gas boilers <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BsrzHjeRSdHninkZAZqE5Qz5stjsXt6KkM7tdQcyAXk/edit> .

- Do we want to endorse this? All members in the meeting supported the letter
- Sylvia Dell : Anaerobic digester <https://seabenergy.com/products/anaerobic-digesters/>
- Chris Watson : Energy efficient anaerobic digestion http://www.organic-power.co.uk/why_the_maltin_system.aspx
- Chris Watson : UK produced solar panels https://www.gb-sol.co.uk/products/pvslates/default.htm?gclid=CjwKCAjwy42FBhB2EiwAJY0yQghROn6YHHA6bdS19V-mDAgNEq-v1aL9nx0Ks15E3Th5ZvpHsoANqhoCPcYQAvD_BwE

7. Keep Britain Tidy - annual event 28 May - 13 June: Possible option to support: Stall in market square to promote recycling and promote some litter picking events.

- Graffiti is becoming a big issue - in the Rotherfold they tackled this by dealing with the graffiti as soon as it appears - and eventually the culprits stopped
- Suggest asking Rotary to help - Sth Hams has equipment - not recommended to engage with children under 14

8. Items for future meetings

- GO-OP battery operated train service - CW to send info to JH for future agenda
- Hedge planting (in addition to tree planting)
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9. Any Other Business (time permitting)

- Run bird box making session

10. Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 15th June 6 - 8pm