

Mere, East Knoyle, Kilmington, Sedgemoor and Semley, Stourton with Gasper, West Knoyle and Zeals.

Tisbury, Ansty, Berwick St John, Berwick St Leonard, Chicklade, Chilmark, Donhead St Andrew, Donhead St Mary, Fonthill Bishop, Fonthill Gifford, Fovant, Hindon, Sutton Mandeville, Swallowcliffe, Tollard Royal and West Tisbury.

Wilton, Alvediston, Barford St Martin, Bishopstone, Bowerchalke, Broad Chalke, Burcombe Without, Compton Chamberlayne, Dinton, Ebbesbourne Wake, Netherhampton, Quidhampton, Steeple Langford, Stratford Tony, Teffont and Wylde.

South West Wiltshire Community Area Climate Change and Eco Friendly Living Online event

26th July 2021 Meeting – brief summary (please read with the attached slides)

Attendees: Catherine Allinson, Pauline Church, Clare Churchill, Tony Duthie, Richard Ecclestone, Nick Errington, Neil Hall-Mclean, Ros Gough, Alan Maryon-Davis, Nabil Najjar, Margaret Paul, Alan Maryon-Davis, Jonathan Plows, Julia Strawson, Ken Taylor, Leo De Watts, Bridget Wayman

Wiltshire Council and Area Board current focus

- 1) The attached slides were presented, with the following key points emphasised:
 - (a) Significant financial investment already committed by Wiltshire Council to ensure it meets its 2030 net 0 carbon target
 - (b) Amended grass cutting and verge maintenance schedules to enhance biodiversity
 - (c) Investing in public transport options to strengthen the sustainable transport offer
 - (d) Working with key partners to support farmers and landowners to adapt to the climate issues
 - (e) Real concern about Ash Die back and the impact this will have nationally and locally (a briefing paper on this will be issued at the next Area Board meeting in September)
 - (f) That alongside the Council's strategic actions and investment, the Area Board has a responsibility to support and stimulate grass roots local community led action, which is supported by a new Community Environment Toolkit

Contributions from local groups and village representatives

- 2) The LEAF (Local Environment Action Friends) group in Steeple Langford was heartened by the response to its regular social media posts which were attracting strong local support and following, and reaffirmed the Area Board's stance that local action was best community led, rather than top down controlled. LEAF is very keen to network with other village and community groups in this work
- 3) Education is a key aspect to ensure this local work goes from strength to strength

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- 4) Nadder Community Energy was progressing a range of local projects and research tasks, and asked for help regarding the findings of a Heat4Schools project to see how the recommendations could be funded and progressed, and help for a fuel poverty project in Tisbury to see how properties might benefit from solar panel investment (Karen to follow up). NCE was also progressing with its Electric Car Club pilot and was keen to scale up this venture in collaboration with neighbouring and further afield car clubs, whilst also requesting greater urgency in the implementation of local strategies to increase the number/best siting of charging points in the county. NCE also asked that Wiltshire Council lobby the British Association of Insurers to make electric car club schemes easier to progress
- 5) There was an interest in exploring what more could be done to increase solar panels installation across the community area
- 6) Partners from [Eco-Buildings | United Kingdom | NaviHo](#) explained their vision and concept for affordable / sustainable homes (and associated leisure and amenity schemes) in South West Wiltshire and beyond
- 7) Help was needed for many parish councils and community groups who were not yet started or had yet to advance initial ideas on how to facilitate eco friendly villages and living, and a programme of mentoring/parish workshops could assist this (Karen to follow up)
- 8) Quidhampton Parish Council has established a working group to this issue, and was offering regular newsletters, tips and suggestions to residents as to how on an individual level a difference can be made
- 9) There was also a request that the Area Board recommend to Cabinet that Council's strategic plans be sharpened and made to be more ambitious, with some citing a strong sense of urgency for bigger, greater targeted action and investment to be taken alongside the smaller incremental work at a local level
- 10) A call was made for a stronger emphasis on growing the greener economy in Wiltshire

Next Steps

- 11) Karen and the Area Board to follow up all action points
- 12) All were asked to keep each other in the loop about their local work, so that all could learn from each other
- 13) All were invited to contact their unitary cllrs for help and assistance in this work
- 14) The Area Board to consider an update report from this event at its 15th September Area Board meeting