

CONNECTING LOW CARBON GROUPS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Low Carbon Warwickshire Network Newsletter

September 2021 Issue 10

The Low Carbon Warwickshire Network aims to connect low carbon groups across the county, sharing ideas and stimulating and supporting new activity. Although primarily rural in focus, we exclude no one.



<https://www.harburyenergy.co.uk/warwickshire-low-carbon-network>

Welcome to the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network (LCWN) Newsletter

The LCWN aims to create a central hub providing guidance, information and inspiration for new and existing groups, mainly in rural areas. 'Low Carbon Communities' events have been held in Harbury, Napton on the Hill and Henley-in-Arden. There will be an event in Church Lawford on November 7th 2021 and possibly one in Snitterfield in Spring 2022 – we're awaiting confirmation.

A range of partners are working together to help secure the resources the Network will need to grow and deliver on its vision.

The RSA on everyday deliberation and climate action

[Everyday deliberation and climate action - RSA \(thersa.org\)](https://www.thersa.org/)

The Low Carbon Warwickshire Network is being supported by the RSA's Lou Matter, who explains here about the aims and activities of this organisation. The RSA has supported every event run by LCWN so far.

How the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network started.

The first event funded by the RSA, "How Low-Carbon is Your Community?", was in Harbury in April 2019. The second event, "Creating Low-Carbon Communities", was hosted in the neighbouring village of Napton in June 2019. The third event, "Warwickshire: Creating a Low-Carbon Community", was hosted in Henley in Arden in October 2019.

Save the Date

We are now arranging the fourth event "Your Community - Towards a Greener Future", which will be hosted in Church Lawford on Sunday 7th November 2021. Contact Keith Sinfield for further information about this event at email: keithsinfield@talktalk.net.

The RSA and Deliberative Democracy

The RSA has worked in and around Deliberative Democracy for some time, we understand that there needs renewal in this space, where there are people listening to people again. A way to fight fake news, apathy, and division by creating spaces to talk and learn. We encourage Fellows to bring this to their projects and events.

RSA Area Managers support Fellows and Fellow-led social change activity across the UK. Whether it be through advice, connections, linking to RSA programmes of work, assisting with event planning/facilitation,



providing small budgets for venues/refreshments, through to promoting events/projects through RSA channels.

There are four key categories of RSA fellow-led event:

Connect - Explore our programme areas with our RSA research teams, learning from each other, hearing about and contributing to our work.

Collaborate - Discuss local and thematic issues, explore solutions and find opportunities for collaboration.

Develop your ideas - Demonstrate practical solutions (early-stage ideas, projects, or established partnerships). Make connections, test interventions, and receive feedback.

Be inspired - Learn from amazing guest speakers and join the debate on the biggest ideas.

On a practical note, all venues used for Fellow-led activity must be fully accessible and the lead Fellow will need to complete a Risk Assessment form in order for the event to be supported by the RSA.

Lou Matter, Area Manager (South West and Wales), The RSA, Lou.Matter@rsa.org.uk

Now we can meet face to face again - do you want to host an event in your community?

If you would like to host a “Low Carbon Community” event where you live, please email: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com and let us know where and when and we’ll get in touch and see how we can help.

Who are we? Introducing.....

This month we get **Ian Wood** from **Community Energy Warwickshire** to talk to us about his low carbon journey.

1. What is your first memory of when you realised things needed to change?

There was no “Eureka Moment”. As a teenager I’m sure I’d have happily driven a gas-guzzler and flown to exotic holidays if I’d had the money! Even then, I was beginning to learn about environmental issues such as pollution, pesticides (DDT) and acid rain. I did a physics degree (in the 1970s) and learned about heat pumps and wondered why they weren’t more widely adopted. By the time I bought my first house I was aware of wasted energy and did what I could to insulate it – in the 1980s this involved much research and inventive use of materials. With my growing interest in environmental issues, I came to realise that Global Warming posed an existential threat to humans as well as to so many floras and fauna.

2. What made you commit to doing something?

It has always been natural to me not to waste things and get the most use out of products, clothes etc. I worked in the telecoms industry for over 30 years, finally working on another form of “pollution” – radio frequency or EMC (ElectroMagnetic Compatibility). What made me more active in renewable energy was redundancy! The EMC department was closed down and I teamed up with a heating engineer to specify and install renewable heating systems – in the process I became a competent plumber, which was a bonus. At the same time, I was chatting to a fellow school governor who was also a local councillor. He made me



aware of Action 21 whose energy group I joined. This in turn led to participation in other groups/organisations including Community Energy Warwickshire (CEW).

3. What have you done?

As well as treating my current home with added insulation, heating controls and both PV and thermal solar panels, I have:

- Participated in Action 21 – especially the Solar 300 scheme.
- Joined CEW as a founding member and director from 2012. See also my fellow director, Keith Sinfield in newsletter issue 4.
- Spoken at events on CEW and renewable energy related topics.
- Now joined the steering group of the LCWN.

As a landlord I try to improve the fabric of my properties and have just had External Wall Insulation (EWI) installed on two flats. This has however highlighted the costs involved. Even with government green vouchers and a very optimistic estimate of savings, it will take ten years to recoup the cost. Most businesses (or indeed householders) would not consider doing that without being forced, which shows there is still a mountain to climb to improve the energy efficiency of UK buildings.

4. What's kept you going? What sustains you?

It's been very frustrating for many people over the years, knowing what needs to be done but being ignored by those who could do it. Sadly, it's taken floods, fires and loss of life to get the message through to those in power. I have tried by actions and words to inform and educate. CEW's community fund (via Heart of England Community Foundation) has helped pay for energy saving measures and has educated recipients as to what can be done.

New ideas also help keep me going; only this week I heard a report about how adding CO₂ to ash or building waste can lock in carbon and produce useable building aggregate. Carbon capture and USE, not storage!

5. If there was one thing / one solution you wished everyone knew about / did - what would it be ?

The one thing is that there are many things !!

It is no good just recycling, just insulating your home, just travelling less and/or in a less polluting vehicle, just using less plastic or just keeping clothes for longer I could go on. We must do them all or at least as many as possible.

Ian Wood, Community Energy Warwickshire

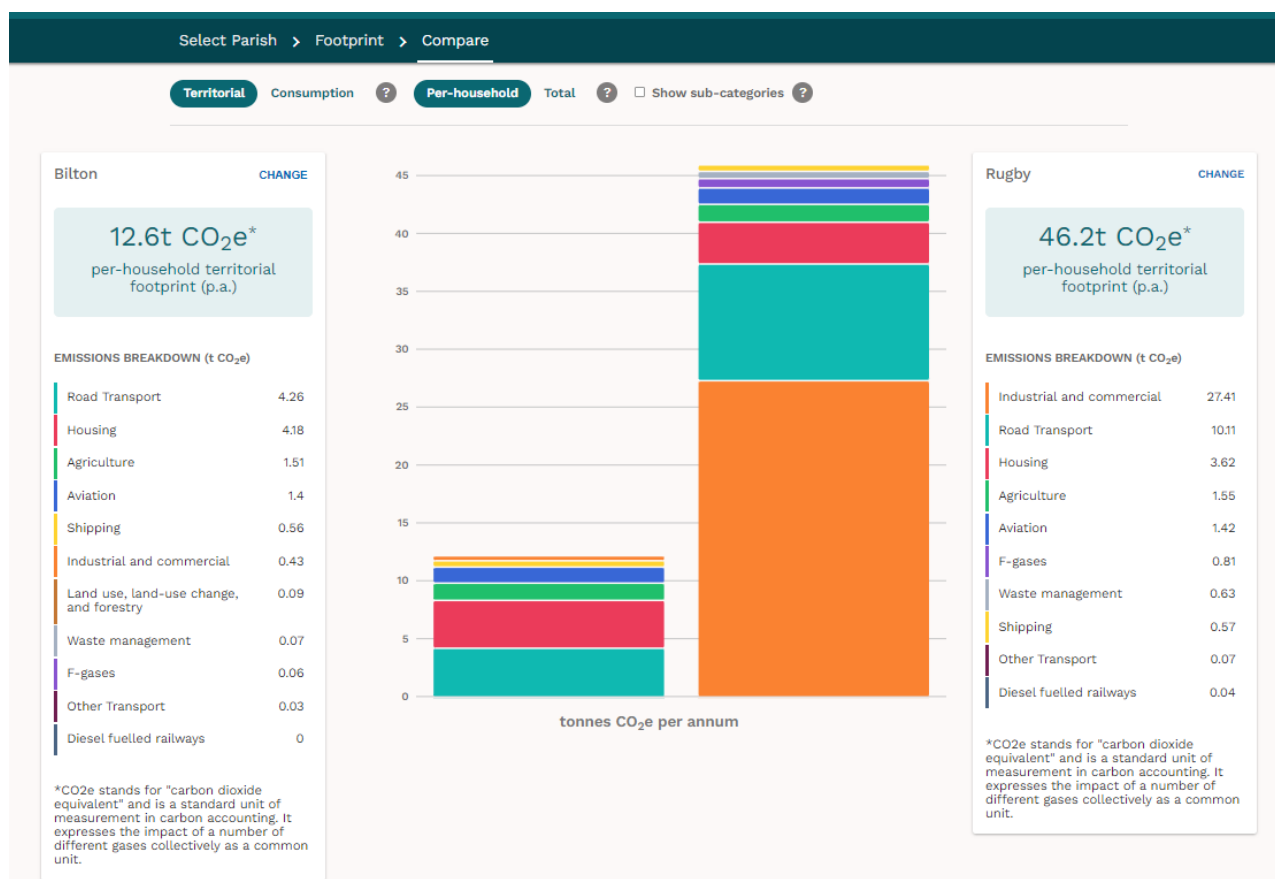
Have you looked at your Parish or Town carbon footprint yet?

Do you agree with the results?

The aim of the Impact carbon footprinting tool is to give small communities data on their carbon emissions that is easy to interpret, easy to share, and which gives them a clear idea of their main 'impact areas' – those big segments where concerted, community-based action could really make a dent in local emissions. The information is displayed visually via a series of charts. However, for those who do want to access the

raw data, you can visit the Downloads page to do so. [Impact | Community carbon calculator \(impact-tool.org.uk\)](https://impact-tool.org.uk)

A footprint for a geographic area (what this tool considers) may be produced on a strict territorial basis (all emissions occurring within the area) or on a consumption basis (all emissions caused by residents of the area, regardless of where geographically they occur). For example, territorial emissions would include those from all industry, agriculture and transport activity within the area (even if the agricultural output is consumed in a different place). Consumption-based emissions, on the other hand, would include upstream and downstream emissions from residents' consumption of manufactured goods, food and their own transport activity, regardless of where the emissions occur.



Bilton and Rugby District's per household (p.a.) territorial carbon footprint

Want to get Involved? – find your local climate action group

1. Low Carbon Warwickshire Network (LCWN) and
2. Harbury Energy Initiative (HEI) – Bob Sherman, email: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com phone: 07919157224
3. Napton Environmental Action Team (NEAT) – Jonathan Horsfield and Jacky Lawrence, email: neat@gmx.co.uk email
4. Grapevine Environmental Action Team (GREAT) (Charlecote, Hampton Lucy and Loxley) – Tass, email: hellogreatfuture@gmail.com Trello Board: <https://trello.com/b/Pz8kWzqd/hello-great-future>

5. Henley Climate Action - John Stott, email: jdstott@uwclub.net phone: 01564 792251
6. Stretton on Fosse Sustainability Initiative - Dave Passingham, email: davepassingham@hotmail.com phone 07973 846605
7. Warwickshire Climate Alliance (WCA) - Dominic Harrison, email: harrison_dominic@hotmail.com phone: 07977 279002
8. Build Back Better (Ilmington) - Liz Garton, email: lizgarton15@gmail.com Liz is also a contact for Ilmington 2020
9. TRACC (Bishop's Tachbrook) - Martin Drew, email: BishopsTRACC@outlook.com
10. GROW (Wolverton) - Paul Anthony, email: paul.anthony@wolvertonpc.org.uk phone: 077109821456
11. Pillerton Hersey PC - Tim Newcombe (although no longer on the PC), email: timnewcombe123@btinternet.com
12. Transition Town Rugby <https://www.facebook.com/transitiontownrugby>
13. Kenilworth All Together Greener <https://www.facebook.com/Kenilworth-All-Together-Greener-331940026990994/>
14. Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change [Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change | Community Group \(snitterfieldacc.org\)](https://www.facebook.com/Snitterfield-Actioning-Climate-Change-Community-Group-331940026990994/)
15. Avon Dassett Parish Council
16. Bishop's Itchington Parish Council
17. Church Lawford

News

NEAT News

Napton Environmental Action Team (NEAT) has launched the first edition of 'NEAT News'. Every house in the village will receive this new publication which seeks to raise awareness of what is happening – often behind the scenes to tackle climate change and biodiversity losses – both amongst the biggest challenges of our time.

NEAT News (funded under Warwickshire County Council's Green Shoots Fund) will be produced quarterly through to the end of 2022. There will also be a 'digital' on-line version to be made available soon.

The first edition focuses on what we buy and what we waste. It is hoped that future editions will focus on transport; energy and biodiversity, farming and food. Articles have been produced by local residents or others where we don't have the expertise.

If you have any comments or questions let NEAT know by emailing 'neat@gmx.com'.

Events / Meetings

Children's Climate Change Poster Exhibition

Over 1,000 submissions were produced for the climate change poster competition. Some were too large to send, but over 700 posters were able to be judged. The two best posters: one from Coten End School in Warwick and one from Wylde Green School in Sutton Coldfield are to go on display at COP26.





Around 40 posters will be exhibited at Holy Trinity Church, Broadgate, Coventry. Everyone is invited to an informal viewing of this exhibition on Friday October 8th 2021 between 10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

David Middleton Sustainability Conference

The David Middleton Sustainability Conference is on Tuesday 28th September 2021 at the Tally Ho Conference Centre, Birmingham BN5 7RN.

Jonathan Porritt is speaking at it and so is Bob Sherman, Chair of the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network who will be presenting on “A rural response to a global crisis”.

Details: <https://www.climate-change-solutions.co.uk/event/climate-change-turning-consequences-into-solutions-2/>



Warwickshire Association of Local Councils AGM, Climate Emergency: Practical Steps for Parish Councils

Friday and Saturday, 22nd and 23rd October 2021 (on-line). [WALC Annual Conference 2021-WALC - Warwickshire & West Midlands Association of Local Councils](#)

Useful Links

- [WALC Annual Conference 2021-WALC - Warwickshire & West Midlands Association of Local Councils](#)
- <https://www.climate-change-solutions.co.uk/event/climate-change-turning-consequences-into-solutions-2/>
- Community Energy Warwickshire Fund <https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CEW-2020.pdf>
- Anxiety and biscuits: the climate cafes popping up around the world [Anxiety and biscuits: the climate cafes popping up around the world | Climate crisis | The Guardian](#)
- [E10 petrol: What is it and can my car run on it? - BBC News](#)



Have your say— What do you want to see in future editions?

This is your newsletter and only as good as you make it – it is your opportunity to :

- publicise any on-line events you are holding
- let other community groups know what you are currently up to and other news
- share your experiences



Ideas, requests, offers, Q & A, hints & tips

Please send all copy (by 5th of each month), news items, case studies, details of events, comments, suggestions and enquiries about this newsletter to: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com referring to the issue date and number for queries or phone Jacky Lawrence on 07906 440496.