

CONNECTING LOW CARBON GROUPS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Low Carbon Warwickshire Network Newsletter

October 2021 Issue 11

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.

Join us 10:00 – 13:00 on Sunday 7th November 2021 for the RSA Warwickshire and LCWN event: Your community - towards a greener future

This event is part of a series of events that RSA Fellows have organised with the LCWN and are resuming post lockdown.

During the event there will be a series of short talks given by those who have sought to reduce their own and society's carbon footprint, followed by an opportunity to take part in discussions aimed at creating low-carbon solutions for communities – from parish councils and community energy groups to individuals keen to make the change to low-carbon.

The event is free to attend and open to everyone interested in delivering low-carbon solutions for local communities. Light refreshments will be available.



Location: Church Lawford Village Hall, School Street, Church Lawford, Warwickshire. CV23 9EE.

Please note this event will be run in line with up-to-date Covid safety guidance and if guidelines change may be cancelled at short notice.

Contact Keith Sinfield for further information about this event at email: keithsinfield@talktalk.net.

Registration: [RSA Warwickshire: Your community towards a greener future Tickets, Sun 7 Nov 2021 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)



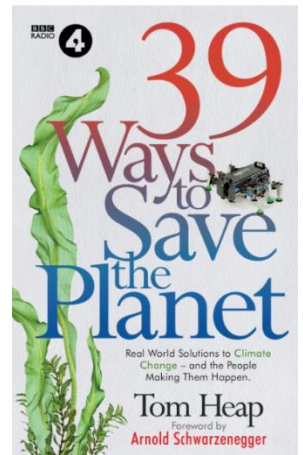
Now we can meet face to face again - do you want to host an event in your community?

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.

39 Ways to Save The Planet

We got ourselves into this. Here's how we can get ourselves out.

LCWN member Tom Heap has published a book to accompany his radio series '39 Ways to Save the Planet'. Like in the broadcast, it is a revelation of the people and ideas for solving climate change happening right now around the world. The book is released on 14 October 2021 and will be available from all good bookshops or can be pre-ordered at this link [39 Ways to Save the Planet \(penguin.co.uk\)](https://penguin.co.uk)



Who are we? Introducing.....

This month we get **Dave Passingham** from **Stretton on Fosse** to talk to us about his low carbon journey.

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

It was when I was studying the Environment Foundation course with the Open University that I realised things needed to change. This was 40 years ago and even that far back the course highlighted the "greenhouse effect". They showed how energy inefficient it is to feed good cereals and pulses to animals in order to get meat and they talked about how important biodiversity is.

2. What made you commit to doing something?

There was no one thing that made me think I should do something. It was just the realisation that so many things were harming the environment.

3. What have you done?

Firstly, I joined Friends of the Earth and was Stratford Coordinator for several years. Then I got the District Council to start a Tree Warden scheme which at one time had wardens in 40 parishes and towns across the District. This lasted for 6 or 7 years until the Council support withered.

When the Transition Town movement was at its height, I helped start Transition Stratford and then Transition Shipston. For some time, these groups were full of energy. They initiated community orchards, harvest share schemes, community energy companies, local food directories and festivals.

More recently I was involved with starting Stratford Climate Action group. We lobbied successfully for Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County Council to declare climate emergencies. We continue to lobby them in the hope that they will do something more than produce warm words.

At some point a few years ago I realised that the current set of politicians only paid lip service to doing something about the environment and climate change. I joined the Green Party and stood for election a few times. At the last election I got 31% of the vote in the rural Shipston Division for the County Elections.

Currently, I am a director of two Community Energy Companies – Heart of England Community Energy and Woolhope Wood Energy. They are fantastic organisations not only because they produce energy locally but also because they involve the local community. Any profits are donated to Act on Energy and Citizens Advice.

In our village of Stretton-on-Fosse I have been involved in many initiatives... tree planting, wildflower areas, community chicken keeping, community bee keeping, making and selling local apple juice, energy efficiency events and the village biodiversity group.

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

The thought that we must do what we can.

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

I wish everyone understood how fragile our environment is and if we humans keep degrading it, we risk a catastrophe.

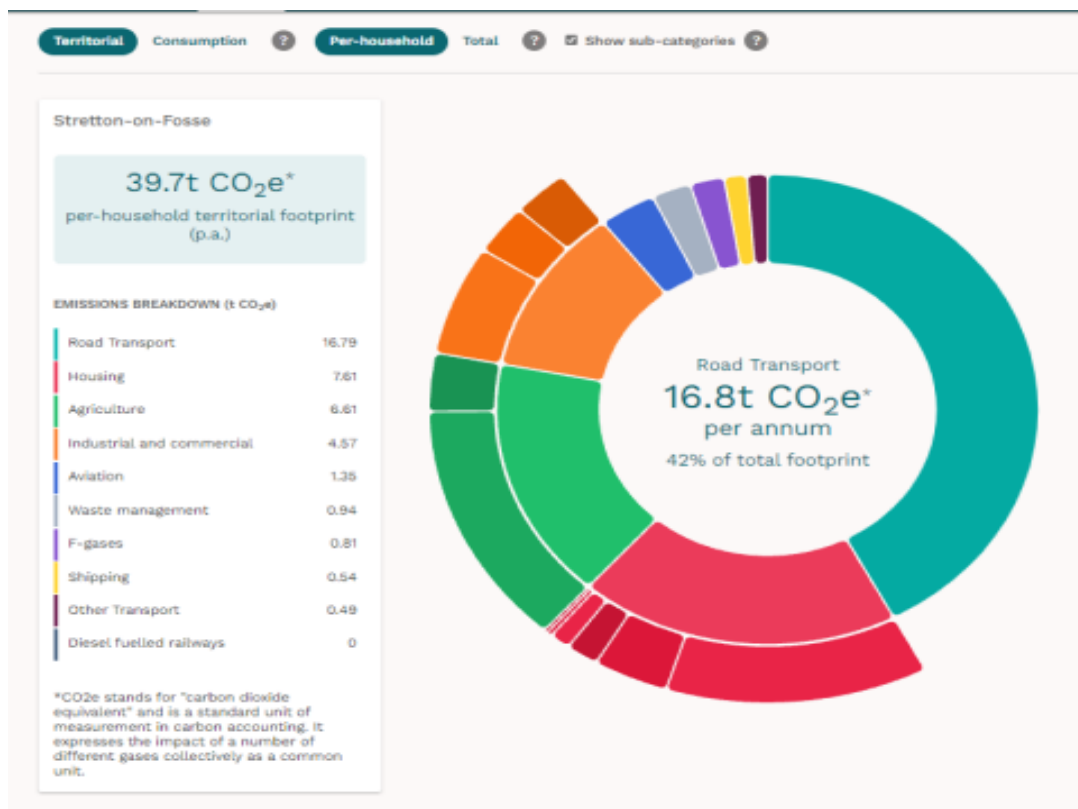
Dave Passingham, Stretton-on-Fosse

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.



Stretton-on-Fosse 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, Duncan Parker, [Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change | Community Group \(snitterfielddacc.org\)](https://snitterfielddacc.org)
15. Sustainable Brailes, Jo Taylor and Louise Appleton, email: sustainable.brailes@gmail.com
16. Avon Dassett Parish Council, <http://www.avondassettparishcouncil.com/>
17. Bishop's Itchington Parish Council, [Bishops Itchington Parish Council \(bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk\)](http://bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk)
18. Church Lawford, keithsinfield@talktalk.net

News

David Middleton Sustainability Conference: 28th September 2021

The LCWN Chair, Bob Sherman, gave a presentation at the David Middleton Sustainability Conference on 'A rural response to a global crisis - the story of one Warwickshire village's determination to contribute to meeting the challenges of the climate emergency - from small beginnings to more adventurous plans.'

Bob told the appreciative audience about Harbury Energy Initiative and what they have done over the last ten years. HEI secured grants to:

- insulate the community library and the Harbury Rugby Football Club clubhouse
 - install solar panels and LED lighting in the village Primary School
 - install LED lights in the scout hut
 - start an electric car club (now closed)
 - install a 19kW battery in the village hall linked to their solar panels
- and has enabled discounts on 13 domestic battery energy stores and other devices.



HEI initiated two other organisations, Harbury e-Wheels, a free social transport charity using electric cars, and the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network. In association with HEI, Harbury e-Wheels is now developing a village EV charging station with a Stage 2 grant from the Rural Community Energy Fund.

Events / Meetings

Sustainable Brailes

The next meeting of Sustainable Brailes is on 13th October. We'll hopefully hear more about what they are up to and their experience of being at COP 26 in the November issue.

Children's Climate Change Poster Exhibition

The posters are on display and everyone is welcome to go and see them at Holy Trinity Church, Broadgate, Coventry.



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](#)

Making our Fair Green Solar Future

Climate Change Solutions are running a public event in Coventry on the 27th October 'Making our Fair Green Solar Future' - which features a number of Solar Initiatives in the region. The presentations will highlight:

- the latest installation of 5,000 solar panels on 41 Coventry buildings
- the Warwickshire based Heart of England Community Energy solar farm which has 55,000 panels
- the CCS Ltd project with Warwick University students producing extensive solar mapping of large clusters of Coventry buildings.



[Making our Fair Green Solar Future – Climate Change Solutions \(climate-change-solutions.co.uk\)](#)

[Heart of England Community Energy | HECE Community Solar Farm England \(hecommunityenergy.org\)](#)

Useful Links

- [RSA Warwickshire: Your community towards a greener future Tickets, Sun 7 Nov 2021 at 10:00 |Eventbrite](#)
- [39 Ways to Save the Planet \(penguin.co.uk\)](#)
- [WALC Annual Conference 2021-WALC - Warwickshire & West Midlands Association of Local Councils](#)
- Community Energy Warwickshire Fund <https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CEW-2020.pdf>

- [Heart of England Community Energy | HECE Community Solar Farm England \(hecommunityenergy.org\)](http://hecommunityenergy.org)



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.

