

CONNECTING LOW CARBON GROUPS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Low Carbon Warwickshire Network Newsletter

April 2022 – Issue 16

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, Henley-in-Arden and Church Lawford.

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

LCWN Steering Group

If you would like to join the other Steering Group volunteers please contact Bob Sherman by email:

lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com

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 will support you in planning it. You will not be on your own.

Tachbrook Residents Action on Climate Change (TRACC)

Re-wilding

At long last TRACC's first green initiative is getting off the ground. On 27 February we started work on re-wilding the perimeter of the Meadow recreation area in the centre of Bishop's Tachbrook. Warwickshire Wildlife Trust in association with Severn Trent Water, who are funding the project, supervised it. The BT working party will scarify the area, rake and clear the grass, to prepare the soil for seeding with wild flower seeds and grasses that have been selected to suit the different locations around the Meadow.

Originally it was planned to re-wild all the green spaces in the village following a survey by WWT. However we thought that this maybe too ambitious and may cause opposition from residents. The Meadow was chosen as a trial to determine whether re-wilding will prove acceptable. If it is, it will be extended to the village green, churchyard and other grassed areas. Coincidentally WCC launched a project to re-wild verges in the village. Reluctantly we have postponed this owing to the burden it will put on the BT working party.

Carbon Impact calculator

68,449 tons of CO₂e* pa.

This is Bishop's Tachbrook's annual contribution to global warming. It's a frightening figure that we, as residents, consume 30,233 tons of CO₂ pa, which works out as a carbon footprint of 24.2 tons CO₂ per



household. Even more disturbing is, thanks to the M40 running through the Parish, the total territorial footprint is 68,449 tons - that is 54.8 tons of CO₂ per household of planet destroying carbon. CO₂e* is the standard measurement in carbon accounting and also includes all the other exhaust gases that harm our health with every breath we take.

These statistics are calculated using the Centre for Sustainable Energy's (CSE) community carbon impact tool, which was developed by Exeter University.

Download it here <https://impact-tool.org.uk/footprint/search>

An online campaign will be posted on the BT website and social media to promote the carbon impact calculator and provide information on **12 actions residents can take to reduce their carbon footprint**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Extend the life of your clothes | 7. Switch domestic and short-haul flights to |
| 2. Switch to short car journeys, cycle, walk or | travel by train, coach or boat |
| take public transport | 8. Consider electric or hybrid travel |
| 3. Reduce energy use | 9. Repair or recycle all electronics |
| 4. Halve the amount of meat you eat | 10. Switch to a green pension & an ethical |
| 5. Eat more seasonally and locally grown | bank |
| food | 11. Commit to buying peat-free compost |
| 6. Cut food waste | 12. Switch to a renewable energy tariff |

Download more information here@

[12 actions you can take that will have a positive impact | Hubbub Foundation](#)

Repair & Recycle Café

A new campaign is underway to recruit organisers and hands on repairers to get the repair and recycle café up and running. It's has been a real struggle to attract people so this time revolutionary style graphics are used featuring fists holding a hammer, a spanner and electrical test probes. Let's hope it will persuade residents to do their bit to stop chucking and start mending.



New green energy

A new solar farm development covering 230 acres is to be built alongside the M40 and Fosse Way. It will generate 50MW, enough electricity for 14,800 houses per annum and save around 371,000 tonnes of CO₂. Up to 2 km of tree/hedgerow, creation of 21 acres of wild-flower meadow and scrub habitat and features such as insect hotels, log piles, bird boxes and shelters will ensure bio diversity. New footpaths are planned, including restoring the path from Bishop's Tachbrook to Chesterton.

Martin Drew, February 2022

Who are we? Introducing

This month we get **David Mond** from **Warwickshire Climate Alliance** to talk to us about his low carbon journey.

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

I don't remember what it was. I grew up with the feeling that things weren't right. I felt from very early on that the unbridled consumerism I could see all around me was destroying too much of the natural

world. In the sixties the hippie movement called for a return to a simpler less material life, and this appealed to me very much.

2. What made you commit to doing something?

Mostly it was the thought that there was something I could do. After reading some elementary Game Theory (I am a mathematician, so its mathematical formulation was appealing to me), I could see its relevance to the problem of securing agreement to limit carbon emissions. This led to a lecture on "Game Theory and Climate Change" which I gave at several different audiences, including to schoolchildren. In 2012 a colleague and I started an interdisciplinary module on Climate Change at Warwick University, for which we recruited lecturers from different departments at the university, and in which I gave the Game Theory lecture, and later also lectures on the Economics of Climate Change. The module is still going, and is taken by about 80 students each year.

3. What have you done?

In 2020, after taking part in some Extinction Rebellion demonstrations, I helped to form Warwickshire Climate Alliance (WCA), initially with the aim of bringing together different groups to support Warwick District Council's plan to achieve Net Zero by 2030. We wanted to campaign for a Yes in the referendum on the Council Tax rise to make Net Zero possible. The referendum never took place because Covid intervened, but WCA is still going. We have run on-line climate quizzes, a climate hustings before the May 2021 local elections, and an art competition for local schools with theme "A Creative Response to Climate Change", and we try to influence local government in favour of stronger action to reduce emissions. We meet monthly online, and everyone is welcome to attend. Contact info@warwickshireclimatealliance.org for details.



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

This is a good question! We work to combat climate change because we're terrified of what it might bring. I think that an important aspect is simply that it's very enjoyable to work with others on issues we feel passionate about. I'm not religious, but I imagine that this is a little like the fellowship that comes from sharing a faith and singing hymns together. A second is, of course, that we are working for our future, and the future of a lot of the things we most love in the world. Not only people, but nature in general. This gives a lot of energy. And I have to admit that anger at the neglect of politicians plays a role. Anger can be a good fuel for action.

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

I wish everyone understood that some degree of altruism is the only way to solve the climate crisis. We all have to be prepared to make sacrifices for the common good, and not to expect that our actions on behalf of the climate will bring us a direct recompense. This applies at every level -- to individuals and to nations. Of course, there are side-benefits from climate action. A greener, healthier environment for one, and lower energy costs as we develop renewables and insulate our homes. But it is an illusion to pretend that everything we do will bring us a personal benefit. Politicians are afraid of introducing measures that will require sacrifices -- limiting air travel, for example. To win our vote they deceive us into believing that no sacrifice is needed. It's crazy to imagine that material wealth can go on rising for ever, but that's what they would have us believe.

David Mond, April 2022

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

Do you agree with the results?

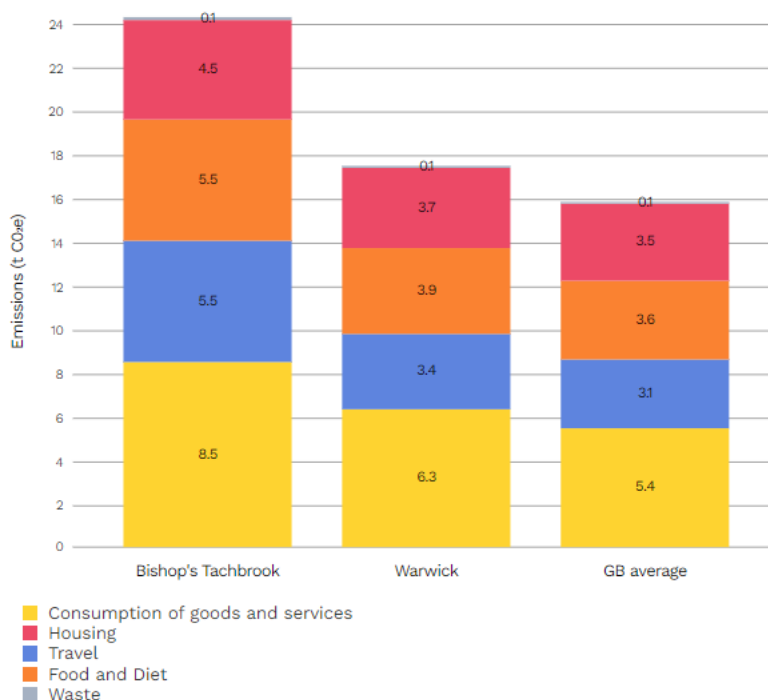
The aim of the Impact carbon footprinting tool is to give small communities data on their carbon emissions that is easy to interpret, easy to share, and which gives them a clear idea of their main 'impact areas' – those big segments where concerted, community-based action could really make a dent in 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 (who to lobby) 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 (what local people can do), 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.

[Impact Report - Bishop's Tachbrook \(impact-tool.org.uk\)](https://impact-tool.org.uk)

How does your area compare?

Here is what the average consumption footprint for your area looks like per household, and how this compares with the district average and the national average. Note that these per household footprints are averages. Within a larger (e.g. local authority) area you may have neighbourhoods with very different per household consumption footprints and it will be worth looking at more granular data if you are planning area-specific initiatives or messaging.



This months featured Parish – Bishop's Tachbrook (p.a.) consumption carbon footprint

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

1. Low Carbon Warwickshire Network (LCWN) plus Harbury Energy Initiative (HEI), Harbury e-Wheels and Harbury Future Energy – Bob Sherman, email: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com T: 01926 612277, M 07919 157224
2. Napton Environmental Action Team (NEAT) – Jonathan Horsfield and Jacky Lawrence, email: neat@gmx.co.uk email
3. 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>
4. Henley Climate Action - John Stott, email: jdstott@uwclub.net phone: 01564 792251
5. Stretton on Fosse Sustainability Initiative - Dave Passingham, email: davepassingham@hotmail.com phone 07973 846605
6. Warwickshire Climate Alliance (WCA) - Dominic Harrison, email: harrison_dominic@hotmail.com phone: 07977 279002
7. Build Back Better (Ilmington) - Liz Garton, email: lizgarton15@gmail.com Liz is also a contact for Ilmington 20:20 Vision
8. TRACC (Bishop's Tachbrook) - Martin Drew, email: BishopsTRACC@outlook.com
9. GROW (Wolverton) - Paul Anthony, email: paul.anthony@wolvertonpc.org.uk phone: 077109821456
10. Pillerton Hersey PC - Tim Newcombe (although no longer on the PC), email: timnewcombe123@btinternet.com
11. Transition Town Rugby <https://www.facebook.com/transitiontownrugby>
12. Kenilworth All Together Greener <https://www.facebook.com/Kenilworth-All-Together-Greener-331940026990994/>
13. Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change, Duncan Parker, [Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change | Community Group \(snitterfieldacc.org\)](https://www.facebook.com/SnitterfieldActioningClimateChangeCommunityGroup)
14. Sustainable Brailes, Jo Taylor and Louise Appleton, email: sustainable.brailes@gmail.com
15. Avon Dassett Parish Council, <http://www.avondassettparishcouncil.com/>
16. Bishop's Itchington Parish Council, [Bishops Itchington Parish Council \(bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk\)](http://www.bishopsitchington-pc.gov.uk)
17. Church Lawford, keithsinfield@talktalk.net
18. Stratford Friends of the Earth, Janet Palmer, Stratfordonavonfoe@outlook.com
19. Clean Air Warwickshire, Warwickshire Cycle Buddies, Hazel Underwood, <https://www.facebook.com/WarwickshireCycleBuddies> <https://www.instagram.com/warwickshirecyclebuddies> www.warwickshirecyclebuddies.co.uk
20. Act on Energy, Nick Bancroft, Head of External Programmes, Unit 1.4 Lauriston Business Park, Pitchill, Salford Priors, Warwickshire, WR11 8SN, Tel: 01789 333169, Email: nick@actonenergy.org.uk, website www.actonenergy.org.uk <https://www.facebook.com/actonenergy>
21. Boddington Parish Council Sustainability Group, Mark Thompson, <https://www.boddingtonparish.co.uk/index.php/information/sustainability>

News

LCWN Facebook group set up by Emma Powell for everyone to share useful things. Please like and follow it. Please send any comments to emma.powell@octoenergy.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Low-Carbon-Warwickshire-Network-101562702401683/>

WCC Home Composting Workshop, 4th May 2022 at 10:15 a.m. Warwick Library, Market Place, Warwick, CV34 4RL

Warwickshire County Council is helping residents to start composting at home, with the offer of purchasing a 330 litre compost bin for just £5 for households attending a home composting workshop.

Workshops will last no more than one hour and will tell you all you need to know about composting. Each household attending will be given a voucher to purchase a 330 litre compost bin for just £5, available from selected Warwickshire household waste recycling centres. Book your place by registering on this Eventbrite page [Home Composting Workshop @ Warwick Library Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

Act on Energy have some really useful resources on-line

[Resource Archive - Act On Energy](#)

[Quick Tips to Save Money - Act On Energy](#)

Act on Energy has a new service which started in early April supporting vulnerable households with their energy use and the efficiency of their home. If you live in Warwick and Stratford on Avon district areas and currently struggling with your energy costs you maybe be eligible for this ongoing support.

Households can contact Act on Energy on the freephone number 0800 2881 998.

Households can also refer themselves direct via the following email address: advice@actonenergy.org.uk

If you are an organisation wanting to partner up with Act on Energy across this area and refer into this project, they'd love to hear from you. Organisations can refer vulnerable fuel poor clients and customers they are working with, via the following online form on the Act on Energy website. [Professionals - Act On Energy](#)

Warwickshire County Council Update – webinars - support for business

Small to medium-sized businesses across Warwickshire are being supported by Warwickshire County Council and Warwick and Stratford District Councils to achieve Net Zero emissions as part of a new and free webinar series. Delivered by Sustainability West Midlands, the webinars cover various aspects of sustainability and achieving Net Zero carbon emissions by 2050. They follow feedback from businesses across the region that despite the frequency with which sustainability is being discussed there is still lack of clarity around how businesses should respond to it.

Although the series started in March, there is still time to join any of the final three sessions:

- Greener transport - 26th April
- Energy saving in your small business - 10th May
- Engaging your employees and customers - 24th May

Please book your place on these webinars at:

<https://www.sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk/news/fuelling-sustainability-in-your-business/>

Rachel Killian, Strategy & Commissioning Lead - Marketing & Communication, Warwickshire County Council
T: 07746 411776



Events and Meetings

If covid restrictions allow:

- A Summer / Autumn face to face community event will hopefully be with Kenilworth All Together Greener.
- A Winter face to face community event will hopefully be with Snitterfield or Upper Boddington.

Warwick District Council want your stories to celebrate Earth Day 22nd April

To demonstrate the amazing community work happening locally on climate change, Warwick District Council's 'Climate Champions' aims to bring together brilliant stories and to share these locally with residents on Earth Day on 22nd April to make them feel inspired to do the same. These case studies can be from local individuals or organisations including schools across South Warwickshire.

Submit your story: <https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/xfp/form/376>

If you know of a good story, please complete the form above, we are especially keen to have some case studies on the website for when 'Climate Champions' is launched, and therefore in this instance, your form would need to be submitted by Monday 19th April. We are 'officially' launching this on 22nd April – hopefully this will make a really lovely positive news story to share in everyone's work.

If you have any queries, please get in touch with:

Alice Ellis, Sustainability Energy & Engagement Officer, Climate Change Team – Chief Executive's Office
Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa, CV32 5HZ, Direct Dial: 01926 456102 Switchboard 01926 450000 Mobile: 07780 992978

Carbon Ambassador Course

Carbon Ambassadors Course

A comprehensive overview of carbon foot-printing and reductions including the global picture and the localised opportunities, for decision makers and communicators.

Resurgence
EVENTS



8 week online course
Starting Friday 6 May 2022 9-11am



Trainer Mukti Mitchell has won multiple awards in this field and uses his quarter of a century of experience to deliver knowledge that can be put straight into practice at the same time as enthusing audiences with his positive, uplifting approach.

[Book now for Carbon Ambassador Course on Zoom, Fri 6 May 2022 9:00 AM - Fri 24 Jun 2022 11:00 AM \(tickettailor.com\)](https://www.tickettailor.com)

Warwickshire's Youth Conference

[Warwickshire's youth conference – Child Friendly Warwickshire](#)



Sign up to Warwickshire's Youth Conference 2022 at
www.childfriendlywarwickshire/youthconference

THURSDAY 21 APRIL 2022

11am – 4pm (lunch provided)

Woodland Grange, Old Milverton Ln, Leamington Spa, CV32 6RN

Future Ready: Warwickshire's Youth Conference will offer a friendly and empowering environment where young people and local organisations will come together to amplify the voices of tomorrow to help shape the county.



Great Big Green Week Great Big Green Community Meet Up: How to run a Green Week



[Great Big Green Week — The Climate Coalition](#)

[Great Big Green Community Meet Up: How to run a Green Week Tickets, Wed, Apr 27, 2022 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

The most eco-friendly places to raise children in the UK revealed with access to nature, allotments and farms

The Warwickshire town of Nuneaton and St Austell in Cornwall are the best places in the UK to live an eco-friendly childhood, according to a new survey.

The research measured the access to nature, allotments and public farms as well as the availability of second hand clothes shops and outdoor learning organisations such as forest schools, where children develop through regular activities in natural spaces.

[The most eco-friendly places to raise children in the UK revealed with access to nature, allotments and farms \(inews.co.uk\)](https://www.inews.co.uk/news/eco-friendly-places-to-raise-children-in-the-uk-revealed-with-access-to-nature-allotments-and-farms/)

Useful Links

- [Warwickshire Low Carbon Network – Harbury Energy Initiative](#)
- www.harburyenergy.co.uk
- Community Energy Warwickshire Fund <https://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CEW-2020.pdf> The fund aims to:
 - • Support the development and installation of renewable energy projects
 - • Encourage the sustainable use of energy and reductions in carbon emissions
 - • Promote public awareness of environmental issues and support educational initiatives
 - Available Funding - There's grant of up to £2,000. Funding must be spent within 1 year. [CEW-2020.pdf \(heartofenglandcf.co.uk\)](#)
- [The Climate Action Plan Checklist Jan21.pdf \(climateemergency.uk\)](#)
- <https://impact-tool.org.uk/footprint/search>
- [12 actions you can take that will have a positive impact | Hubbub Foundation](#)
- [Sustainability West Midlands | Sustainability adviser for the leaders of the West Midlands.](#)
- <https://www.sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk/news/fuelling-sustainability-in-your-business/>
- [Composting – Warwickshire County Council](#)



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 6th 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.

