

CONNECTING LOW CARBON GROUPS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Low Carbon Warwickshire Network

August 2025 – Issue – 51

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, Church Lawford, Boddington, Kenilworth, Brailes, Cubbington, Wroxall, Wellesbourne, Lillington and again in Wellesbourne.

For those not yet familiar with the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network, this edition of the Newsletter gives some of the background to it, a few updates and the impact that some of the community groups and organisations associated with it are having.

The Low Carbon Warwickshire Network (LCWN) Journey

From Harbury Energy Initiative to Harbury e-Wheels, the LCWN and Harbury Future Energy CIC

Wanting to respond to the climate challenge, in 2010 a group of villagers set up Harbury Energy Initiative (HEI), a volunteer-run group that aimed to save energy, reduce household costs and cut carbon within the community. HEI created a constitution and links with the Parish Council. Over the years HEI and Harbury e-Wheels, the charity it created, have been successful in accessing many grants to enable village projects to be realised including:

- Supporting the village hall to modernise and upgrade insulation and heating to reduce energy use.
- Insulate the community library and café with internal wall insulation.
- Carry out and publicise EPCs on a range of domestic buildings from different periods to illustrate the importance of energy efficiency.
- Work with the school on two village energy surveys and the writing of 'Earth Poems', presented at an event and published for parents and others to see.
- Insulate the Rugby Club clubhouse cavity walls and roof.
- Install LED lighting throughout the village school.
- Install LED lighting in the Scout Hut.
- Install 12kW array of solar panels on the school.
- Install a 19kW battery in the village hall together with a solar energy generation monitor for the public to view.
- Brought an electric car club to the village (now discontinued).
- Used those cars to create a free social transport scheme, now a registered charity called Harbury e-Wheels. The charity now rents two electric cars for its exclusive use.
- Promoted a 'No Idling' message to drivers on air quality in key areas of the village.



- Encouraged and supported the Parish Council to acknowledge the climate emergency and form a working group to deliver practical change.
- Joined with the Parish Council and other villages in tree planting as part of the Queens Green Canopy project.
- Supported the local church in a major retrofit to modernise the heating and lighting.
- Held three public engagement events to raise awareness of the issues and solutions, as a result of which 12 households added battery energy storage to their PV systems.
- Harbury e-Wheels initiated an electric vehicle (EV) charging station part powered by renewables project then handed over to Harbury Future Energy at 'Business Ready' stage. Harbury Future Energy (HFE) CIC, gained Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) funding for Stage 1 and 2. When completed, the installation will comprise 6 x 22kW chargers and 2 at 50kW, a linked 160kW battery will allow energy storage linked to a 12 kWp solar PV array. HFE is now working with Warwickshire County Council to deliver the project with a government grant from the Low Emission Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) fund. [Major government green grant for innovative village project | Community Energy England](#)
- Initiated the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network (LCWN), a local network of mainly rural communities with the aim of sharing ideas on practical carbon reducing and environmental measures and stimulating the formation of new groups and activity.
- HFE are now working closely with Harbury Parish Council in a newly formed Climate Working Group. This consists of three Councillors and a number of non-Councillors already active in the community including three members of HFE. At the moment we are gathering project ideas that range from more PV installations on community buildings to environmental projects, such as the Swift Project.

The LCWN - beginnings

Looking to share experiences from Harbury and connect with others, Bob Sherman FRSA and Hugh Tottle went to Making Places Last in Birmingham, a sustainability conference organised in 2018 by another RSA Fellow, David Middleton. This inspired them to hold their own event to bring people together in exploring how to nurture low-carbon rural communities. Six months later, in April 2019, they held the How Low-Carbon is Your Community event. They filled Harbury Village Hall and attendees included residents, local councillors, representatives of community groups and businesses. A number of Fellows of the RSA also took part, among them Jacqueline McGlade, a former chief scientist to the UN Environment Programme, who lives locally. Bob and Hugh remained in touch with Jacqueline, using what they learned in Harbury to support her work developing a low-carbon community centre in Sekenani in the Maasai Mara, Kenya.

Soon after that first event, with financial support from the RSA (Royal Society of Arts, Commerce and Manufacturers), two RSA Fellows, Jacky Lawrence and John Stott, hosted events in neighbouring villages, Napton on the Hill (which led to the establishment of a new environmental group) and Henley in Arden (where an existing environmental group was re-energised) and the LCWN formally came into being.



Further LCWN events followed at Church Lawford, Boddington, Kenilworth, Brailes, Cubbington, Wroxall Wellesbourne and Lillington. A second event was held in Wellesbourne on Living Better for Less and a third event in Wellesbourne will be on Fast Fashion on October 4th. Book tickets here: [What's Up With Fashion and Textiles!? Tickets, Sat 4 Oct 2025 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Community ownership of outcomes is encouraged at all events. Experts present their insights, attendees use their local knowledge to discuss specific risks, issues and ideas and vote on which future actions should be prioritised. A number of new climate action groups have formed to help turn those ideas into reality.



People in several rural areas, too small to hold an event, have also been supported to find ways of engaging their community to take positive action. The RSA also support Carbon Literacy Training in the Stratford-on-Avon District area. Book tickets here: [Carbon Literacy Training - accredited by the Carbon Literacy Project Tickets, Sat 18 Oct 2025 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Growing Connections

The LCWN is an informal grouping with no constitution or bank account. It is steered by a group of **six** volunteers and aims to provide guidance, information and inspiration to the **41** community groups that are now in the Network. Communications are through the face-to-face events, occasional emails to the **216** people on the address list, the production of around **11** Newsletters a year featuring what the groups are doing and **two** bring and share lunch time socials a year.

50 LCWN Newsletters have been produced to date. The May 2025 issue had contributions from **18** people. Since August 2024, organisations that have provided copy for the LCWN Newsletter include the following:

1. Act on Energy
2. Alcester Academy
3. Bee Friendly Kenilworth
4. Bee Friendly Leamington Spa
5. Bee Friendly Warwick
6. Bee Squared Brailles
7. Bidford Climate Action Group
8. Bishop's Tachbrook Residents Action on Climate Change (TRACC)
9. CHARGE CIC, Claverdon
10. Community Energy Warwickshire (CEW)
11. Cubbington and Lillington Environmental Action Now (CLEAN)
12. Cycle Infinity CIC
13. Garden Organic
14. Grapevine Environmental Action Team (GREAT)
15. Green Schools Project
16. Harbury e-Wheels
17. Harbury Future Energy (HFE)
18. Harbury Swift Village
19. Heart of England Community Energy (HECE)
20. Kinder Energy Ltd
21. Langley home retrofit case study
22. Leamington Spa Town Council
23. Let's Go Zero Schools
24. Let's Make Stuff Happen, Ansley and Arley
25. Low-Income Households Green Energy Project
26. Napton Environmental Action Team (NEAT)
27. Napton Swift Group
28. Net Zero Stratford Climate Hub
29. Postcode Revolution
30. Rugby Eco Hub
31. Savers charity
32. Severn Rivers Trust
33. Shipston Action for Swifts
34. Shipston in Bloom
35. South Warwickshire Local Climate Engagement Programme run by Warwick and Stratford upon Avon District Councils
36. Sustainable Brailles
37. Sustainable Wellesbourne
38. The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM) and The Sustainables Academy
39. The Kenilworth Centre
40. The RSA
41. The Social Impact Academy
42. The University of Warwick Green Champions
43. Transition Town Rugby
44. Warwickshire Climate Alliance
45. Warwickshire County Council
46. Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils (WALC)

Plus, we have a regular blog from Carbon Choices and an opinion piece from Riverford Organic.



The LCWN Steering Group have also engaged with 6 other organisations:

1. Allen Energy
2. Climate Emergency – UK
3. River Hope
4. The Great Collaboration for Town and Parish Councils
5. the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology
6. Warwick Avon Rotary

The LCWN aims to bring people together to share ideas and stimulate new activity in rural areas.

Keen to see real practical change in your community?

Are you part of a local low carbon group? Why not join us and the groups already in the Network?



Since the LCWN formed in 2019 to date, the steering group has listed 137 projects undertaken or supported at some time by the climate and environmental groups in the Network. **The most popular type of initiative relates to improving biodiversity followed by litter, waste & recycling projects then communications, media & social activities, then energy projects.**

Building Community Resilience

In 2009 some research on the impact on community resilience through tackling climate change and environmental issues in Warwickshire was completed for the Warwickshire Rural Community Council AGM by the then Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership hosted by Warwickshire County Council.

Things need to change. Over the last 25 years quite a few of our rural communities have lost the reasons for their existence. Shops have closed and people have moved on. People now need to travel out of their communities to get what they need. That can't continue to happen and so it means they need to become more self-sufficient, both in terms of what's available in communities and the energy and fuel they consume. There are rural communities that are investing in power generation, producing food, surveying how they might survive if they flood and how they can be more sustainable" Linda Ridgley, Warwickshire Rural Community Council AGM 2009.

The consequences of a small sample of community initiatives related to improving sustainability were looked at:

- Communications and events
- Developing repair & maintenance skills and jobs
- Local food
- Local finance, exchange and trading
- Waste reduction and recycling
- Health and well-being
- Spirituality and faith
- Appreciating nature
- Local transport
- Local energy
- Tourism, heritage and culture
- Local housing



The conclusion was that when a community came together to take action to improve sustainability, create a better-quality environment, reduce energy costs and lower carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions it also resulted in:

- Satisfaction from a job well done
- Personal autonomy
- Better relationships between young and old
- More cooperation
- More / better use of free time
- Increased happiness
- Increased artistry
- Ingenuity
- Increased beauty of the built environment
- Opportunities for business start ups
- Lots of opportunities for communities to come together
- More pride in where you live
- A feeling of belonging
- A sense of community spirit, and
- More resilient communities

There is a great deal of talent in our villages and valuable people with relevant expertise and experience. Harnessing this is vital to ensure that every community plays its part in achieving a sustainable future, which can happen when we cooperate and collaborate. The LCWN exists to try and enable people to come together for mutual support and sharing of ideas.

Bob Sherman and Jacky Lawrence, LCWN

Warwickshire County Council Sustainable Warwickshire Podcasts – community action

All across Warwickshire there are groups of local people who are concerned about climate change and have joined together to run events, raise awareness, share ideas and deliver projects to reduce carbon emissions.

Sharing some examples of this in practice and discussing the benefits of community groups working in collaboration with town and parish councils, our guests include **Bob Sherman, co-founder and Chair of the Low Carbon Warwickshire Network** and Andrew Maliphant, Environmental and Sustainability Advisor to the Society of Local Clerks and Chairman of The Great Collaboration.

[Community Action | Sustainable Warwickshire](#)

[Sustainable Warwickshire | Warwickshire County Council](#)

BBC Rare Earth, - Is Net Zero a toxic brand?

In 2019 the UK made a commitment to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Since then, the political consensus has broken down and analysts doubt that current government policy has any chance of reaching the net zero goal. **Bob Sherman from the LCWN joined Tom Heap, Helen Czerski and an expert panel** to stress-test net zero. Is it still achievable? Is it even politically possible in a world of trade wars, Trump's anti-environment agenda and the rise of Reform?

[BBC Radio 4 - Rare Earth, Is Net Zero a toxic brand?](#)

The LCWN Steering Group are recruiting

The LCWN Steering group steers and guides the direction of the LCWN and **we are very interested in recruiting members** from the north of the county and anyone who may bring different experiences, perspectives and skills. If you are interested, **please get in touch** at lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com. The Steering Group meet infrequently and only when we have something of significance to discuss and it is possible to join on-line. To find out a little more about the other steering group members see their 'who are we?' answers:-

Bob Sherman - [LCWN-Newsletter-Issue-3-February-2021.pdf \(harburyenergy.co.uk\)](#)

Jacky Lawrence - [LCWN-Newsletter-Issue-7-June-2021.pdf \(harburyenergy.co.uk\)](#)

Ted Dowdeswell - [LCWN-Newsletter-Issue-9-August-2021.pdf \(harburyenergy.co.uk\)](#)

Ian Wood - [LCWN-Newsletter-Issue-10-September-2021.pdf \(harburyenergy.co.uk\)](#)

Teresa Buckle - [LCWN-Newsletter-February-2023-issue-24.pdf \(harburyenergy.co.uk\)](#)

Matt Black - [LCWN-Newsletter-April-2023-issue-26.pdf \(harburyenergy.co.uk\)](#)

To date, the LCWN have secured funding for community engagement events at: Harbury, Napton on the Hill, Henley-in-Arden, Church Lawford, Boddington, Kenilworth, Brailes, Cubbington, Wroxall, Lillington and two events at Wellesbourne. The aim of all LCWN events is to inspire the formation of new environmental groups to start in rural areas and provide useful information to enthuse existing groups. The RSA have supported these events through funding room hire, creating an Eventbrite link, helping design posters and promoting all events through their Fellows Network.

Do you want to host a LCWN event in your community?

If you would like to host an RSA funded "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. Get in touch for more details. email: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com



The RSA

The RSA – the Royal Society for encouragement of the Arts, manufactures and commerce. Where world-leading ideas are turned into world-changing actions. The RSA is committed to a world where everyone can fulfil their potential and contribute to more resilient, rebalanced, and regenerative futures.

[Sustainability at RSA House](#)

[Sustainability Network - The RSA](#)



Sustainable Wellesbourne – going from strength to strength

Sustainable Wellesbourne joined the LCWN in 2023 after going to an event in Brailes and later, the launch of the Shrewley and Wroxall Environmental Action Team (SWEAT) in Shrewley that the LCWN had supported. We were impressed with the community engagement and information sharing on the directions we need to go in for a more sustainable future.

LCWN have since supported two events in Wellesbourne (so far); Tomorrow's Wellesbourne I and II in Jan 2024 and 2025. They were a really useful resource for ideas; with a checklist on what to think about when putting together such an event. The newsletter is great for finding out what is going on in surrounding villages and for keeping up with the research/observations that other members have carried out on related projects. We take information from there to share in our own Sustainable Wellesbourne newsletter. It is also great advertising for any more independent, low carbon event or item we'd like to share. When the Steering Group have a social it is also brilliant for ideas and information exchange. I think that LCWN have really accelerated progress in villages in South Warwickshire by linking us all together.

What's up with fashion and textiles? - the third event

Saturday 4th October, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm at Wellesbourne Sports and Community Centre, CV35 9RU.

There will be fascinating opt-in talks on eco-friendly fabrics, repairing and repurposing clothing and other textiles, including speakers from Wellesbourne's Poppy Cascade Team and Repair Shop. Join in fun, family-friendly drop-in activities including remaking, upcycling, making lavender bags, rag weaving, rag rugs, block printing, crochet.

Come and find out how fast fashion and textiles waste is affecting the environment and get practical ideas and new skills to help you do something about it.



Brought to you by Sustainable Wellesbourne and supported by the RSA.

Book here: [What's Up With Fashion and Textiles!? Tickets, Sat 4 Oct 2025 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Lucy Hartley, Sustainable Wellesbourne

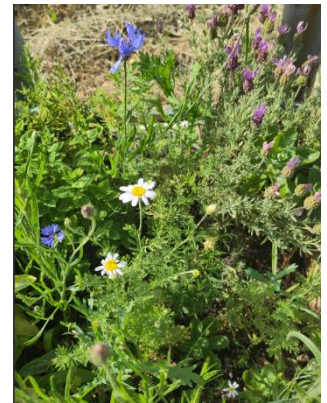


Bee Squared in Brailes and Winderton Parish

Following on from the RSA sponsored LCWN Tomorrow's Brailes event in January 2023 our Parish Council carried out a survey which found that Parishioners had three main concerns – Behaviour Change, Energy and Nature. Our group has been creating a Local Action Plan focusing on these topics and under the Nature section we've been looking at "easy" ways to encourage biodiversity at home. Having taken inspiration from other groups around the country we decided to carry out our own "Bee Squared Project". The idea is that you sow some wildflowers in a metre squared area in your patch. If multiple households take on the project, then many square metres can be sown.



We bought some wildflower seed mix, which contained 5 different native wildflower species (UK Native Origin). They are Chamomile, Cornflower, Corn Cockle, Marigold and Poppies and are recommended by the RHS as 'Perfect for Pollinators'. We contacted local groups and organisations to ask for their help distributing the seeds (which they kindly did) and advertised the project in the local Parish Magazine and on our village Facebook page. Over 60 packets of seeds were distributed and we've collated a map to monitor progress.



The wildflowers in the village planter to support the bee squared project are maintained by members of Sustainable Brailes.

For more information see <https://climateactionnow.uk/bee-squares/>

Maybe next year we'll strive for Bee Friendly status - <https://beefriendlytrust.org/meet-the-uks-first-bee-friendly-towns/>

Jo Taylor, Bee Squared, Sustainable Brailes

Rugby Eco Hub – planning an energy event

With the guidance from the LCWN, Rugby Eco Hub are in the planning stage of holding an Energy Efficiency event next year, bringing ideas and solutions to the community of Rugby. We hope to bring together speakers from backgrounds in efficiency and installation so that we can deliver not only ideas on ways that our residents can be more energy efficient but the solutions to making that a reality.

Kirsty Denyer, Operations Team, Rugby Eco Hub

Savers charity –Hand prints for action project

We might not know what our ecological or carbon footprint is (**what we take**), but we can keep track of our positive contributions to help heal the environment. Actions that cause positive change, including collecting litter, reducing the amount of waste we throw away, planting flowers for pollinators, using renewable energy, creating homes for wildlife etc.

Our 'handprints' are **what we give** – a helping hand, a healing touch. The purpose of this project was to engage everyone in thinking about the environment and how their families interact with it and to encourage everyone to explore what positive actions they and their families are already doing, or could do, to look after our planet.

Through attending community events or workshops organised by Rotary and Savers and advertised through the LCWN Newsletter, hundreds of people drew around their hand, most writing on it a



positive action they or their families were already doing or one they would like to do. These handprints were decorated in bright colours for flower petals or in different shades of green for leaves. They were then assembled into many garden collages for display at Holy Trinity Church, Coventry. The exhibition launch is on Friday 5th September at 11 a.m. and you are all invited to come and look at the amazing artwork.

Handprints for Action Project

Invitation

We would be delighted if you can join us for the launch of the

Handprints for Action exhibition

With the Lord Mayor of Coventry and the District Governor of Rotary Heart of England

On Friday 5th September 2025

At Holy Trinity Church, Broadgate, Coventry

Between 10:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Refreshments will be available.

Gabrielle Back, QMBA

Savers Charity Number 1108191



Organisations that took part were:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baginton Flower Festival • St. Martin's Club Group • United Reform Church • Holiday from Home • Shipston on Stour Scouts Group • Savers Charity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Air Day Kenilworth • Coventry SpiresU3A • Phoenix Rotary Club • Binley Woods Group • Energy Festival Leamington • Baginton Ladies Circle |
|--|---|

Schools that took part were:

- Bishop Ullathorne
- Cannon Park Primary
- Earlsdon Primary
- Higham Primary
- Coten End Primary
- Newburgh Primary
- Shipston on Stour Primary
- Highclere School
- Rugby Schools Rota Kids
- Wilde Green Primary
- Warwick Schools
- Kenilworth School

Jacky Lawrence, Trustee of Savers charity

Napton Environmental Action Team (NEAT) – ticking over

Following interest shown by local residents at the RSA sponsored LCWN 'Creating Low Carbon Communities' event at the village hall in June 2019 the Napton Environmental Action Team was created. NEAT organised a second event 'NEAT Conversations' in December 2019 and priority areas of action were agreed on energy, food and biodiversity, transport and what we buy and what we waste. Progress was slow during COVID but continued. Two mini wildflower meadows were created, a small copse was planted at the skateboard park and hedging was planted at the Victory Club and allotments, over two years five editions of NEAT News were funded through a WCC Green Shoots grant and delivered to every house and business in the Parish and two ev charge points were installed at Napton Village Hall.



A second 'NEAT Conversations' event in September 2022 agreed priorities as communications, skills sharing, growing food and produce, improving recycling and energy efficiency:

- NEAT arranged a number of NEAT Know-How talks to share skills and knowledge
- worked with Napton Parish Council to survey everyone in the Parish to determine priorities for a climate and environment action plan
- coordinates blister pack collection and recycling for the village
- holds apple pressing events in autumn
- publishes periodic articles in the Parish Magazine
- supports the Napton Parish Council Climate and Environment Working Party, No Mow May, Napton Hedgehog Highways, War on Waste Napton, the Napton Repair Café, and the Napton Swift Group
- manages the ev chargers at the village hall, the mini wildflower meadows and weeding at the copse
- undertakes thermal image surveys in winter using their thermal camera funded by a grant from Heart of England Community Energy
- supports Napton River Watch and undertakes weekly quality testing of local water courses to monitor levels of pollution

Following the initial intense period of action in all areas, it is fair to say that the small number of active NEAT members are experiencing some burn-out and find that just keeping the existing initiatives ticking over is currently realistic.

Jonathan Horsfield, Coordinator, NEAT

Shipston in Bloom –improving sustainability

We changed the regime from Dutch daffodils, thrown out after one year, then annuals put in and thrown out at the end of the season to English/Cornish daffodils, left in the tubs & beds to flower repeatedly, and planted more pollinator friendly perennials, and shrubs. The tubs are all maintained by volunteers. Some people have complained, but with lots of different plants, I'm sure the bees and butterflies are happy.



Hilary Kelly, Coordinator, Shipston in Bloom

Kenilworth All Together Greener –helping people live more sustainably

Kenilworth All Together Greener (KATG) is a community group which attracts people from a wide range of backgrounds who have an interest in living more sustainably. Meeting monthly over the last 10 years, it has organised more than 90 speaker meetings and visits and explored a vast array of topics relevant to life in Kenilworth. It currently has 160 people on its mailing list who have attended one or more meetings.

Sometimes KATG also organises larger events. For example, in response to many requests from people for advice on how to make their homes warmer and more comfortable, it organised a special free event with talks and workshops given by six local professionals. The speakers talked about thermal imaging, energy efficiency, ventilation, heating and air conditioning, and presented case studies of 20th century and period properties. More than 50 people attended and used the opportunity to get advice and recommendations as well as make useful contacts.

Jan Burnell, Kenilworth All Together Greener

Let's Go Zero - The impact Let's Go Zero creates, Powering the transition to zero carbon schools

Let's Go Zero is the campaign for all schools, colleges and nurseries to be zero carbon by 2030. We bring support, guidance and opportunities to thousands of schools – representing more than two million young people.

Let's Go Zero is a campaign from Ashden. Ashden's mission is to showcase outstanding climate solutions, and to accelerate systemic change that unleashes their transformative potential. Ashden has been creating impact for 25 years, including more than 15 years supporting climate action in UK schools.

Let's Go Zero was launched in 2020. Since 2023, our primary funder has been Green Future Investments Limited (GFIL). GFIL's enthusiastic commitment has grown Let's Go Zero to be the biggest, most impactful school sustainability movement in the UK.

- **The need for action** - Schools and universities create 36% of the UK's public sector building emissions.
- **The scale of our support** -Our advisors have supported climate action at 3,419 schools.
- **Our carbon impact** -We've helped schools deliver, or take steps towards, 82,477 tonnes of annual CO₂ savings. That's the same impact as 266,464 individual passenger flights between London and New York.

Our impact in numbers - All figures correct April 2025.

- 7,066 schools have joined Let's Go Zero



- 2 million young people learn at Let's Go Zero schools
- 311,000 staff members work at Let's Go Zero schools
- 2,519 schools have joined since September 2024
- 767 school trusts work with Let's Go Zero
- 16,000 schools have heard the messages at the heart of our campaign

Progress on the biggest challenges

The actions we support are aligned to the Department for Education's four key areas for school sustainability. In each priority area, our advisors are inspiring and supporting progress.

Department for Education priority area	Total school actions taken in this area, with support from our advisors	Total school actions planned for 2025, with support from our advisors
Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency	948	1151
Adaptation and Resilience	67	482
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	304	514
Climate Education, Green Skills and Careers	106	239

Let's Go Zero works in partnership with leaders in education, the climate sector and beyond. Together we share knowledge, resources and best practices, and campaign together for policy action and legislative change.



[Impact - Lets Go Zero - Zero Carbon Schools](#)

Sarah Mills, Let's Go Zero Climate Action Advisor to schools (West Midlands), +44 207 096 6120

The Kenilworth Centre - Empowering Community and Climate Action: The Kenilworth Centre's Impact

The Kenilworth Centre (tkc), a registered charity, continues to be a force in the heart of Kenilworth, engaging over 4,100 young people annually through diverse youth services including counselling, mentoring, and skills-based programmes. With 3,000+ community interactions and partnerships like Compassionate Kenilworth, the centre delivers inclusive support such as emergency food support, pop-up cafes, and wellbeing hubs. Abbey End Studios and Radio Abbey further foster creativity and social connection through podcasting and radio, while over 6,000 volunteer hours fuel these initiatives. Income from room hire covers nearly half of the centre's running costs, but continued delivery depends on grants, business sponsorships, and personal donations.

In a major step towards environmental sustainability, tKC installed solar panels, LED lighting, and insulation in early 2025 thanks to a successful Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE) Energy Grant. This investment has already reduced emissions by over 610kg of CO₂—equivalent to planting nearly 37 trees in just one month—while helping to avoid raising hire costs. As tKC works to safeguard both community wellbeing and the planet, local business sponsors and donors are critical in keeping its doors open and its green impact growing.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Kenilworth Centre's Youth or Community provision, our room hire or Abbey End Studios please check out the website: [The Kenilworth Centre – Kenilworth Community Centre and Youth Club](#)

If you are interested in supporting the Kenilworth Centre as a sponsor, partner, volunteer or donor, please check out the support us page on our website: [Sponsorship – The Kenilworth Centre](#)

For our annual impact report, please click here:
[Impact Report – The Kenilworth Centre](#)

- 450 registered hirers – charities, businesses, health and voluntary organisations, community interest groups & individuals.
- 9 new regular hirers since March 2024.
- 12 programmes of youth support
- 6 programmes of community support
- 21,000 listeners
- 12 live shows a week
- 24-hour music streaming
- 50 partners, funders, donors, friends and supporters contributing financially or in kind on a regular basis.

Becky Webb, Joint Manager of The Kenilworth Centre

Act on Energy

Warwickshire Energy Advice – We are encouraging residents across all of Warwickshire to phone our experts for free energy advice. We currently have funding available to support with energy debt and repairing or replacing heating systems (subject to eligibility).



With over 25 years' experience, Act on Energy is an award-winning charity, delivering free, impartial energy advice. Working in partnership with the Local Authorities and external organisations, we offer a range of services such as help with applying for grants, access to funding for energy efficiency measures and in-home support for those struggling with the cost of living. Free advice phone line: 0800 988 2881, Email: advice@actonenergy.org.uk, Website: www.actonenergy.org.uk

[Our Impact | Act on Energy](#)
[AoE Impact Report 2023-2024 | Resources](#)

Madeleine Avila-Thomas, Communications & Campaigns Officer, Act on Energy



Useful Links

- www.harburyenergy.co.uk
- [Warwickshire Low Carbon Network – Harbury Energy Initiative](#) (please note, the web link for the LCWN still comes up as Harbury Energy Initiative, but HEI is now incorporated into Harbury Future Energy.
- 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 \(heartofenglandcf.co.uk\)](#)
- [Solar Soft Loans | Heart of England CE \(hecommunityenergy.org\)](#) HECE's Solar Soft Loans are a subsidised investment model. They are only available to schools and community organisations.

LCWN Facebook group

[Low Carbon Warwickshire Network | Facebook](#)

Set up by Emma Powell for everyone to share useful things. Please like and follow it. Please send any comments to lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com

(2) [Low Carbon Warwickshire Network | Facebook](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/Low-Carbon-Warwickshire-Network-101562702401683/>

Want to get involved? – Warwickshire's Climate and Environmental Action Groups

LCWN Steering Group member, Ian Wood, has mapped the locations of all the Warwickshire climate and environment community action groups in the Network.

[LCWN Map - Google My Maps](#) (right click, open hyperlink).

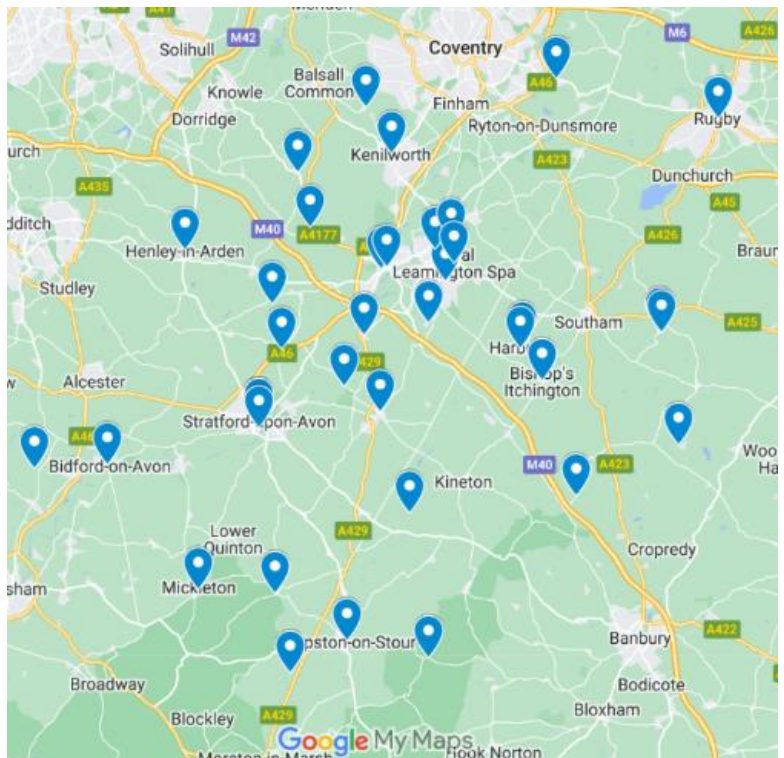
If there are still gaps or errors in your entry, or if you have a question, please let Ian know. email: lowcarbonwarks@gmail.com

SearchOut Warwickshire is a mapping service run by Warwickshire County Council. You could register your group there too.

[Welcome to SearchOut – SearchOut](#)

SearchOut Warwickshire is there to help you find and access organisations, services and events that are local to you.

Things that will help you stay active, healthy, happy, and well. And make taking care of the health and wellbeing of you, your family, and friends a bit easier. [Environmental – SearchOut](#)





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 let us know what you wish to see in your newsletter: publicise any on-line events you are holding, let other community groups know what you are currently up to, share your experiences, let others know of interesting low carbon news .

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

Please send all copy (by 12th 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.

