



Climate Action Stokesley and Villages update 5th September 2020

Hello

Whilst August is usually a quiet month, members of the group have been busy, with an online catch-up and preparing for our Build Back Better event in September. Our next online meeting will be on **Tuesday 15th September**, starting at 7:30pm to finish planning for our Build Back Better event on **Saturday 19th September**. See below for details of the event.

Build Back Better

Thank you to all those who have signed our letter to Rishi Sunak MP. If you haven't already done so, please sign the letter: [online](#); during a visit to our Build Back Better event on the 19th September; or by adding your name and postcode (to show you live in the constituency) to a [PDF](#) of the letter and returning to info@climateactionstokesleyandvillages.org by **Monday 5th October**.

Are you a member of a local church, WI group, Rotary, other local group? Please will you share the link to the letter and ask people to sign. At the moment we have 44 signatures, with more coming in each day, but need a lot more to show our MP that a wide range of his constituents want a green recovery from the pandemic.

We are organising an event in **Stokesley Town Hall on Saturday 19th September, from 10am to 2pm.**

The plan is to have a series of displays in the Town Hall showing the work that the Climate Action Stokesley and Villages group is doing in the local area. People will have the chance to help further develop our vision and action plan, for a net-zero carbon area by 2030. Pete has been busy creating a 'selfie-frame' to attract attention and give people the opportunity to say what their vision is for 2030. We will be gathering signatures for a letter to our MP, Rishi Sunak as part of the [Build Back Better](#) and Friends of the Earth [Fair and Green Recovery](#) campaigns. We will also be looking for other opportunities to gather signatures to the letter during September so if you have an idea then get in touch.



If you haven't been able to make the group's online meetings, hopefully you can drop in and have a chat.

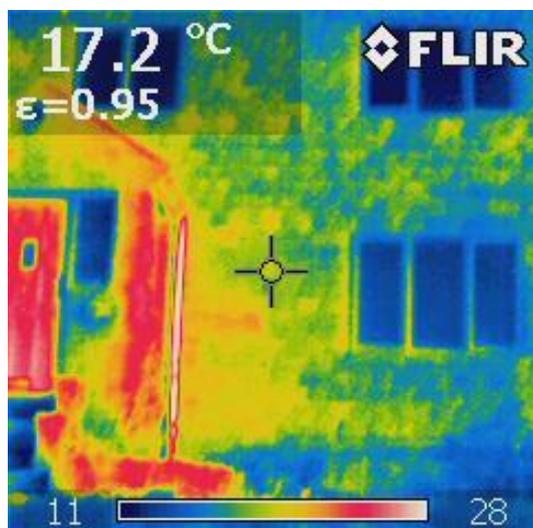
Please [email](#) Bridget if you can help on the 19th September so that she can arrange a rota.

Bridget has also been busy putting together a [letter](#) to Rishi Sunak, on behalf of the group, about the proposed changes to planning.

Energy

Green Home Grants Scheme for energy saving and renewable heating

The Green Homes Grant scheme was announced by Government in July 2020 and will commence in September; it is expected to run until March 2021. The Government published details in August, giving information on how the available £2 billion will fund improvements to over 600,000 homes in England. The scheme will be open to homeowners and landlords.



Vouchers worth up to £5,000 will be available for homeowners to cover two thirds of the costs of the improvement measures. Households on low incomes receiving benefits can receive vouchers covering 100% of the cost of the improvements, up to a maximum of £10,000.

For an overview visit Moor Sustainable's section on [financial support for energy](#) or go directly to Simple Energy Advice's [Green Homes Grant](#) web page. Simple Energy Advice are managing the Green Homes grant.

Environment

Free [online](#) course from the University of York — Tackling Environmental Challenges for a Sustainable Future

Discover how environmental research can inform how we respond to and solve the major global environmental issues of today. Thanks to Eileen for sharing this opportunity.

Food

The food sub-group has held several meetings recently to look at how to increase the availability of sustainable food. Caroline and Noemi are part of the food sub-group and their goal is it to convince local restaurants and cafés to have (creative) plant-based dishes on their menus. In order to do so they are asking for your help.

“One of the reasons for this is the environmental aspect since plant-based food has been found to have a much lower CO₂ impact than meat or dairy products but it's also about giving vegans the same opportunity as meat eaters to enjoy a good meal out and to socialise. Many restaurants here in the area have either no vegan dishes at all or often just a choice of one. It would be nice to see more balanced menus which are appealing to all their guests, no matter what dietary preferences they have. This would be particularly beneficial for couples or families where one party is a meat eater and the other a vegan.

We were therefore wondering if there are any vegans among the CASaV group or people who are omnivores but who would be more than happy to order a vegan meal every now and then if it was available and interesting enough. If we have some numbers, we could communicate them to the local businesses which would be a good selling point.

We're not trying to convert meat eaters into plant eaters, we're primarily looking for more variety.

If you would like to let us know whether:

- a) you're a vegan or
- b) you're not a vegan but you would be happy to choose a vegan meal if the choice was good

you can do so by replying by [email](#) to Noemi.”

Transport

A new no. 18 bus service linking Stokesley with Great Ayton, Guisborough and Saltburn has just started to fill the gap left by the no. 81, run by Coatham Coaches. The [timetable](#) is on the Stokesley Town Council website. Although you need to wear a mask whilst travelling on public transport, hopefully numbers of passengers will build up to keep the services going.

Waste

Great Ayton Parish Council are hoping to arrange a litter picking day in September as part of Keep Britain Tidy's [Great British September Clean](#). We will be organising a Climate Action team to pick litter along part of the planned Endeavour Way route. If you would like to take part then [email](#) Caryn.



The Arts

Shifting Tides was a new digital festival in July exploring the intersection between art and the climate crisis. The festival was been created by and for those aged 14 to 25, but everyone is welcome. [Watch or read](#) what was created. Thanks to Eileen for sharing this.

In July we mentioned a collective poem '**Murmuration**' being produced. Here is the contribution that Amanda submitted:

"What if ...before the dis-tractions of the day claim our attention, we spent just 12 minutes of our precious time on this planet simply noticing our breath. Just "breathing" in and breathing out "peace", paying attention to the words as we match them to the gentle rhythms of our own little bit of the 'natural world'. Would that help us to 'tune in and tread more lightly'?"

Request for help with a campaign on global health

The social impact agency [Purpose](#) are working on a new global health initiative in the Richmond constituency. They are looking to connect with:

1. People working in health. This could be doctors, scientists, administrators, nurses, drivers or researchers who would like to join a campaign called Team Health
2. People who are passionate about global health who can be ambassadors for the campaign, perhaps those who have experienced health work overseas or have a personal connection through family or friends.
3. And primary schools and teachers who want to take part in Life Savers Academy - an educational project to see how children today can engage in global health.

If you are interested in getting involved please [email](#) Sarah Croft.

Take care of yourself, each other and the planet.

Caryn Loftus

On behalf of the Climate Action Stokesley and Villages Steering Group