



Climate Action Stokesley and Villages update July 2022

Hello

Welcome, if you have recently signed up to receive our updates. We usually meet on the third Tuesday of the month, however, this month instead we are having our AGM, in **Stokesley Town Hall on Thursday 21st July, starting at 7:30pm.** We will be in The Jack Brunton room so hopefully the acoustics should be better than the room we have been using.

Jos Holmes, Climate Change Policy Officer for North Yorkshire County Council is coming to speak at the AGM about her work and the Council's climate action plans. We have also invited the new county councillors for Great Ayton, Hutton Rudby & Osmotherley, and Stokesley to join in the discussion on how we can work together most effectively given the need to increase the rate and depth of change to address the climate and biodiversity emergencies. Members as of 23rd June have received their reminder and papers yesterday by email.

Energy

Community Energy Fortnight (11th – 24th June)

CASaV held an Energy and Efficiency Event, as part of Community Energy Fortnight, at the Globe in Stokesley from 10am-12pm 18th June. It was a quiet day in The Globe due to another event in Stokesley but information was handed out to those that came and some useful contacts made. There are now five [case studies](#) of local people who have carried out modifications to their homes to reduce energy use and carbon dioxide emissions.

Our Darlington & Stockton Times Climate Column published on the 17th June focussed on [‘Energy Efficiency First’](#).

Food

Energy efficiency first

Climate Action Stokesley and Villages provides practical tips on how to make a difference

FUEL poverty – the result of rising energy costs, low income and energy inefficient housing – is a major challenge for many people at the moment. Organisations such as Citizens Advice, specifically its Warm and Well project (www.warmandwell.org.uk/About-Us) provide advice on the local and national help which addresses fuel poverty and hardship generally. In this month's Climate Action Stokesley and Villages (CASaV) article we are focusing on improving the energy efficiency of housing.

Energy production is the largest emitter of carbon dioxide and our largest use of that energy is heating our homes (80 per cent gas).

To stop climate change we need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Ways to use less energy for heating:

- Reduce heat loss – reduce draughts (easy) and better insulation (easy to difficult).
- Generate more heat from the same amount of energy – new boiler.
- Lower room temperature or heat fewer rooms – limited impact.

Modern gas or oil boilers are more efficient, but can only ever approach 100 per cent efficiency, whereas heat pumps can approach 400 per cent efficiency. Heat pumps transfer heat, air source heat pumps heat from the air outside your home to inside your home, and ground source heat pumps transfer heat from the ground.

Why are heat pumps so efficient? A gas boiler uses one unit of gas energy to produce one unit of heat energy, whereas a heat pump uses one unit of electrical energy to produce up to four units of heat energy, this is because the electrical energy is being used to pump heat into your home and not heat your home directly using electricity.

The success of transition to ever higher levels of renewable electricity generation is contributing to the greatest reductions in UK greenhouse emissions.

If renewable electricity is used, then heat pump heat produces no carbon dioxide emissions.

New grants for installation of heat pumps are now available building on government legislation and grants that have been helping all housing sectors to use less energy.

One part of this approach is the energy performance certificate (EPC), required to rent or sell. An EPC is an estimate of the energy your home uses in a year, with A being very little and G a lot. EPC ratings of C, B or A are more efficient homes, all rented properties must be at least EPC C. You can check the EPC rating of your home at www.gov.uk/find-energy-certificate.

CASaV are publicising ways for households, shops and businesses to use less energy; encouraging local, small-scale solar and wind energy; promoting suppliers of 100 per cent renewable energy; lobbying local councils for new builds in the area to be carbon neutral. Visit www.climateactionstokesleyandvillages.org to learn more about making your home more energy efficient.

CASaV are holding an Energy and Efficiency Event, as part of Community Energy Fortnight, at The Globe in Stokesley from 10am to 12pm on June 18. Visit to learn about ways to improve the energy efficiency of your home and learn about Warm and Well support available from Citizens Advice.

Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership are hosting a Helping Richmondshire Heat, Eat and Meet event at Tennants, Leyburn on July 1 from 10am to 3pm, see www.richmondshireclimateaction.org

Where Heat is Lost from Homes

Roofs: 25%
Walls: 20%
Windows: 15%
Draughts: 10%
Floors: 10%

Farm visit

The Food Group thank Robert for a wonderful guided tour through the fields on his farm. Robert explained the changes they have made, and experiments they are currently trialing in order to farm with the environment and well being of the soil and cattle as a priority. They were blessed with beautiful weather and sightings of hares, lapwings and a barn owl.

Robert has kindly offered to take another group of 4 people if there is interest. Please [get in touch](#) if you would like to go and they will coordinate with Robert.

Nature



Bug Hunt

The Kids Bug Hunt, 11am and 2pm, on Sunday 19th June in Stokesley was fully booked. The field explored is located between Neasham Lane and Fairfield Road. The sessions were led by Dr Roger Key, Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society. He is best known for appearances on Country File and the Really Wild Show. Great fun was had by all generations from children, parents and grand parents. Hopefully we will get some future enthusiastic entomologists.

It was amazing how many bugs were found and the data has been recorded as part of the Great Yorkshire Creature Hunt organised by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. At least 70 different species were found on the day.

No Mow May and Let it Bloom June

The other initiative ongoing is No Mow May. Stokesley Town Council kindly have agreed to two months to facilitate more time for surveying. Bridget is excited to report that in one location in Stokesley we have found some pignut. In addition to the flowers, up to six different grasses were found.

Transport

New cycle shelter

CASaV, in conjunction with Friends of Great Ayton Station and Great Ayton Parish Council, applied for funding from Northern's Customer and Community Investment fund for a cycle shelter at Great Ayton Station to replace the cycle lockers that had been vandalised a few years ago. The application was successful and the shelter has now been installed.

Moorsbus

One way of leaving the car behind is to use the Moorsbus, which runs from July until September on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays. The Moorsbus connects the North York Moors with surrounding areas including the M4 route through Great Ayton, Stokesley, Great Broughton and Chop Gate to Helmsley and Sutton Bank with connections to other places on the Moors. For timetables and fares visit www.moorsbus.org.



Transport event – 30th July

CASaV are organising an event on the 30th July, 10am to 1 pm, at Stokesley Town Hall and The Plain car park, with the focus on transport. The event will cover the role of public transport and recent developments in the local infrastructure. Electric bikes and cars will be on display together with their enthusiastic owners to answer questions. The on-going Red Car project co-ordinated by George Carter will also be featured.

Walking and cycling are the ultimate zero carbon travel, but are not always the easiest way to get from a to b even for short distances. At ['The Route Ahead to Sustainable Transport'](#) we will see what is possible and how we are trying to make active travel more possible locally.

If you can help in advance and/or on the day please [get in touch](#).



The Route Ahead to Sustainable Travel

Saturday 30th July
10am – 1pm
Stokesley Town Hall and environs

20th 20's Plenty for Us
...making your place a better place to be

Stalls from transport related groups plus display of electric, hybrid and hydrogen vehicles and various e-bikes.

Moorsbus

Waste

Repair Café

We held our third Repair Cafe on Saturday 25th June in Swainby Village Hall, 50 items were repaired this time. The fourth Repair Cafe will be held on **Saturday 10th September** in Swainby Village Hall from 10am-12pm. So bring along your broken things and our volunteer repairers will work with you to fix them.

Refill Scheme

Since we started contacting local venues last month about the [Refill Scheme](#), the following have agreed to sign up to the Refill App and display Refill stickers in their windows:

- The Green Man, Stokesley
- Il Mulino, Stokesley
- Fletchers Farm, Great Ayton.
- The Pomegranate Persian Tearoom, Great Ayton
- The Poor House, Great Ayton
- The Royal Oak, Great Ayton

There are now 11 cafes and shops in our area offering to refill water bottles, accept reusable cups or cleaning products.



Saturday 10th September 2022

REPAIR

swainby.org.uk

CAFE

Saturday 10th September 2022

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH
a computer that's slow?
a phone that won't charge?
clothes that need mending?
broken crockery and ornaments?

REPAIR CAFE IS
repairing broken items together, professional advice,
encounters and inspiration

COSTS?
A voluntary contribution

WHERE?
Location: Swainby Village Hall <https://swainby.org.uk>
Address: 30 High Street
Place: Swainby, DL6 3EG

WHEN?
Date: **Saturday 10th September 2022**
From: 10am to 12pm

CLOTHES • FURNITURE • ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES • TOYS • BICYCLES • ETCETERA
swainby.org.uk repaircafe.org/en climateactionstokesleyandvillages.org

Zero carbon

North Yorkshire County Council

North Yorkshire County Council declared a climate emergency on Tuesday 5th July 2022. You can [watch](#) the Executive meeting at which this happened (from 20min – 27 mins). They pledge to play their full part in tackling climate change. They have accepted a draft strategy to be ready for when the new North Yorkshire Council is launched next year. The strategy will go to public consultation.



CASaV are working with other climate action and environmental groups across North Yorkshire to see how we can best both support and challenge the regional plans.

Stokesley School

Did you spot the climate change treasure hunt during the recent Festival of Youth in Stokesley. Thanks to Jack who links our group with the Stokesley School's Green Group for putting it together.

We have been successful in applying for a grant from Friends of the Earth Climate Action fund to pay for materials and prizes for a cloth banner competition, reflecting the climate and/or ecological emergencies, in the school. Come to the AGM and help judge which banners are the most impactful. If you are able to help with the banner making, on the afternoons of Wednesday 20th and/or Thursday 21st July, or have unwanted scraps of material please get in touch with [Jack](#).

Hope to see you at the AGM on the 21st July.

Caryn Loftus,

on behalf of the Climate Action Stokesley and Villages Steering Group Steering group:
Bridget Holmstrom, Caryn Loftus, Jack Turton, Ron Kirk and Simon Gibbon