

Climate Change Education and Facilitation

Cllr's Gray, Kennedy and Testa met to discuss the provision of information regarding the climate emergency as per agenda item 5.5 at the 5th January 2021 NTTC Council Meeting.

Cllr Testa has spoken with Sampford Courtenay PC and they are broadly in favour of working with us.

Some suggestions of how we can take forward the education element of the climate emergency are below;

Online

Series of workshops/talks held over zoom – could be arranged in conjunction with the Community Centre (and then move into the centre as in person talks when COVID allows). These should be held at a variety of different times to allow the maximum number of people to attend. We should not assume that everyone can access a laptop with video conferencing abilities so we should consider the use of digital buddies to involve the maximum number of people. In addition all workshops could be recorded and the films made available later on.

Possible topics

Climate Emergency

1. What is it and why should we take action?

Encouraging wildlife:

1. Wildlife corners – what are they, what wildlife do they help, how do I make one?
2. Wildlife ponds – what size, what wildlife do they help, how do I make one?
3. The role of trees and scrub

Energy efficiency:

1. Why bother? The common causes of heat loss and energy inefficiency. This could cover the potential savings in heating costs and the beneficial impact on the environment and climate change.
2. What grants are available? All the grants available and how to apply. We could offer a buddy system to help those who feel daunted by the process of grant application.
3. Saving money on utilities. How to go about changing your supplier to save money and potentially buy greener energy. Again, potential buddy system to help people.

Climate home resilience:

1. Flood causes – rainstorm as well as rivers. How can I tell if my property might be prone to flooding? Mitigation we can take for ourselves.
2. How to stay warm in winter for less money.
3. How to stay cool in summer.

Local food and the part of agriculture

1. Seed swapping/saving
2. Food miles and eating seasonally
3. Cooking classes using seasonal food.

4. Home ec – what can I freeze, making the most of leftovers etc.
5. Local food co-ops what are they?

Carbon footprint.

1. What is it and why is it important? How do I calculate mine and how can I reduce it.

Online Toolkits – available on the NTTC website, but with information that can be mailed out to residents who don't have online access

1. Carbon footprint calculator
2. Energy Efficiency/Fuel poverty toolkit – all the info in one place regarding grants etc.

Other methods;

1. Investigate using other methods of engaging with residents – e.g. YouTube channel or Instagram for younger residents (could get them involved in setting it up?)
2. Once COVID allows we could hold a coffee morning in the town hall, bringing together woodland trust, wildlife trust, energy efficiency people, recycling, home improvements, local food co-ops, climate resilience groups etc.
3. Articles including the information provided online to be made available either through the Roundabout or through a bespoke NTTC newsletter. This should include summaries of any workshops/talks.