



Annual Report 2010/11





A message from Jon Cooke, Chair

It is hard to believe that Stretton Climate Care began as a germ of an idea back in January 2007. After the showing of Al Gore's film *The Inconvenient Truth* I stood up and asked the local audience if anyone thought we ought to try and form a local group to raise awareness of the need to reduce carbon emissions. Little did I think we would develop into such an influential team, now one of the lead players in Shropshire's community carbon reduction efforts.

Our method of delivering Home Energy Surveys is being used by other groups, not just in Shropshire and we have been able to draw in international names (John Hofmeister) to address members and friends.

The highlight of the past year was perhaps when a few of us were invited to have an exhibition stand at Sustainable West Midlands in Birmingham and meet H.R.H. Prince Charles. The low point was when we said farewell to Julie Mellors, our Project Worker who had done so much to help develop our organisation in our formative years.

The need for energy efficiency and reduced carbon emissions is greater than ever before and we will continue to strive to find innovative ways to encourage local households to have our free home energy survey and become more aware of the ever urgent need to live more sustainable lives. The climate, even here in Shropshire is changing and we all need to play our part help reduce carbon emissions.

Our team of volunteers have stayed with us and with their tireless support we have had a very successful year.

Our Mission Statement:

To advance environmental protection and improvement by reducing the carbon footprint of the local area.

Our Aims within the local area:

- To encourage a culture of climate care
- To encourage low carbon, sustainable lifestyles
- To raise awareness of and reduce emissions of other climate change gases
- To encourage households and businesses to reduce energy consumption
- To encourage waste reduction generally and increase recycling
- To reduce fuel poverty
- To encourage local trading
- To encourage carbon offsetting by local people who cannot avoid having higher carbon lifestyles

Review: April 2010 to March 2011-Our Key Achievements

We have:

- ◆ Provided & supported a team of volunteers to provide energy checks to local households and businesses
- ◆ Carried out 40 Household Energy Checks providing advice on energy efficiency which has led to an estimated average of 13% reduction in carbon emissions for our previously assessed households. Many made substantial savings in cash. Produced a new leaflet based on market research
- ◆ Maintained a membership of 81 members
- ◆ Organised 5 events ourselves including a stimulating talk by John Hofmeister, former President of Shell USA, who attracted an audience from all over Shropshire
- ◆ Conducted a Rural Outreach Project where we took round our displays & advice to communities all around Church Stretton and worked hard towards gaining more help for households in fuel poverty. Established an energy monitor loan scheme at Church Stretton Information Centre
- ◆ Held the third annual duck races at Carding Mill Valley showing that low carbon recreation can be fun!
- ◆ Published our newsletter on 6 occasions keeping our membership & community informed about climate change issues and worked with local schools
- ◆ Held a Technology Bazaar where renewable energy contractors were on hand to advise
- ◆ Held a Low Carbon Homes Trail where 7 local householders opened up their homes to explain what they had done to reduce their fossil fuel energy use and costs
- ◆ Made representations on the Local Development Framework Core Strategy and supported improved pedestrian and cycle facilities in the town centre
- ◆ Enabled Electric bike hire to recommence by Plush Hill Cycles who established a new business in Church Stretton
- ◆ Supported the 10:10 campaign to achieve a 10% reduction in carbon emissions in 2010, gave advice to Church Stretton Town Council and worked with other environmental groups
- ◆ Operated stalls at the cultural celebration at the opening of The Leisure Centre in April and at the Summerfest in June
- ◆ Launched a Climate Care Cook Book and held a cheese and wine party in the Pavilion at Cardingmill Valley
- ◆ Kept our carbon footprint and running costs low by reducing our travel and using electronic communications.
- ◆ Enhanced our web site and gained a high media profile in the press and on radio and finalist in Pride of Shropshire Awards.



Our volunteers in training



Our volunteers at Penwardine



Ready for the Duck Race



Technology Day



Low Carbon Homes Day



John Hofmeister signing his book



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Disclosure

Section B

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
STRETTON CLIMATE CARE

On accounts for the year
ended

31st MARCH 2011

Charity no
(if any)

1123211

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below*)~~

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met ; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

20 May 2011

Name:

LAURENCE DAVID NEWBROOM

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Dip. Chartered Institute of Bankers

Address:

The Bank House, Longhills Road, Chel, Stretton, SHROPSHIRE, SY16, 6AA



Charity Name:
STRETTON CLIMATE CARE

No (if any)
1123211

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start	To	Period end date
	1st April 2010		31st March 2011

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees	379	-	-	379	399
Donations & Fees	1,492	-	-	1,492	2,486
Local Fund Raising (gross)	1,682	-	-	1,682	1,527
Grants	7,700	500	-	8,200	11,546
Bank Interest		-	-	6	3
Referrals	997	-	-	997	385
Electric Bike Hire		-	-	-	171
Gift Aid		-	-	-	129
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	12,256	500	-	12,756	16,646
A2 Asset and investment sales,					
Electric Bike Sale		800		800	
		-		-	
Sub total		800		800	
Total receipts	12,256	1,300	-	13,556	16,646
A3 Payments					
Project Worker	6,800			6,800	11,660
Printing , Postage & Stationery	1,050	500	-	1,550	789
Market Stall	27	-	-	27	491
Electric Bike Project		-	-	-	87
Local Fund Raising	111	-	-	111	10
Goods & Equipment	1,274	-	-	1,274	92
Publicity	398	-	-	398	2,550
Insurance	172	-	-	172	173
Film Hire		-	-	-	387
Training		-	-	-	212
Sub total	9,832	500	-	10,332	16,451
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
		-		-	
		-		-	
Sub total		-		-	
Total payments	9,832	500	-	10,332	16,451
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,424	800	-	3,224	195
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	9,384	-	-	9,384	9,189
Cash funds this year end	11,808	800	-	12,608	9,384

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC Current Account	614	-	-
	HSBC Deposit Account	11,194	800	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	11,808	800	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK	OK	OK
Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Gift Aid Refunds	200	-	-
	AONB Grant		1,000	-
	Sale of Books	130	-	-
	Commission on Referrals	600	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Computer Equipment, Screen etc	Gen Capital	-	-
	Display Boards	Gen Capital	-	-
	Electric Bikes	Gen Capital	-	-
	Exhibition Equipment	Gen Capital	-	-
	Energy Meters	Gen Capital	-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>CT George</i>	Chris George	29-Jun-11

Stretton Climate Care: Organisation and other Facts

Finance

Our income continued its decline during 2010/11, and we expect these conditions to continue as a result of the recession and public expenditure reductions. We controlled our expenditure accordingly and more than maintained our balances during the year. It is the policy of Stretton Climate Care to operate as far as possible with a financial reserve equivalent to at least 9 months of our annual expenditure, to ensure that we do not commit ourselves to expenditure in excess of levels we can sustain. The Executive Committee receives a Report analysing expenditure and income at each of its meetings and controls expenditure accordingly.

Charity Name and Number and address

Stretton Climate Care registered charity number 1123211 is an unincorporated association governed by a Constitution adopted by the Steering Group on 21 August 2007 and amended at Special General Meeting on 23rd February 2008 and at the Annual General Meeting on 15th October 2008.

Address: Yeld House, 3 Yeld Bank, Shrewsbury Road, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 6EZ email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk

Summary of Charitable Objects

for the benefit of the public in the Church Stretton area:

- a) the conservation, protection and improvement of the environment
- b) education about use of energy to reduce or eliminate carbon dioxide emissions
- c) the relief of fuel poverty by promoting the efficient use of energy

Public Benefit

The Trustees of Stretton Climate Care have had regard to providing public benefit in delivering our services in accordance with advice from the Charity Commission. In particular our main service is to assess and advise on the carbon footprint and energy use of households and provide advice where appropriate on reducing this. This service is provided free of charge to any household in the community and we do our best to give priority to households in fuel poverty. This is in line with our Charitable objects which provide public benefit. We provide subsidiary activities and services, such as environmental films that are either free or subject to a small charge to cover costs. Other activities such as the duck race are intended to attract additional households to our service and although there is small charge for entry, our household advice service is free. We have also provided fee paid advice to other bodies establishing similar services to other communities. Our activities also generate opportunities to advance education about conserving, protecting and improving the environment.

Trustees

The current Trustees are Michael Bourke, Isabel Carter, Jon Cooke (Chair), Chris George (Treasurer), David Howard (Publicity Officer), Mike Hymas (Secretary), Peter Ireland, Jamie Wrench (Vice Chair and Web Manager) and Jane Wrench. Our Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting which is held in Autumn each year.

Other Information

Julie Mellors was engaged as a self employed Project Worker and also served as a volunteer. Sadly we gave fond farewell to Julie at the end of the financial year when she decided to relocate to Canada. She helped us create our current organisation. Many of her tasks are now being performed by our volunteers. There are no employees. We have joined the National Low Carbon Communities Network and the Shropshire Council liaison Group for low carbon groups in the county. We are also members of the Shropshire Environmental Association. We have carried out a comprehensive audit of risks and taken steps to minimise any significant identified risks.

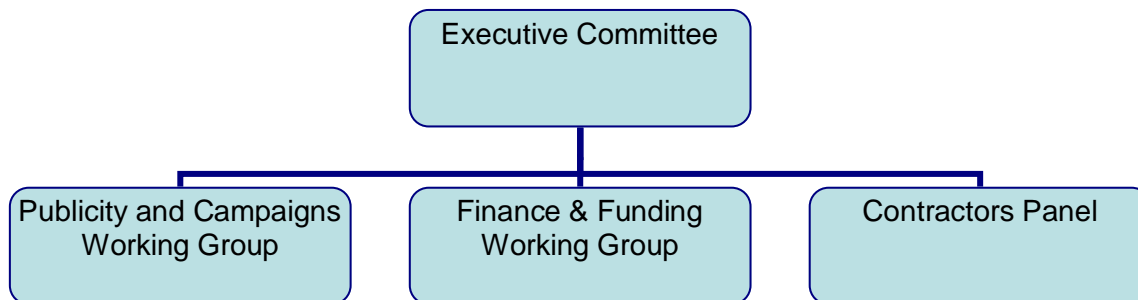
Our Volunteers are an essential element of our organisation. Without them we could not deliver our services. So here we list the names of those who are not Trustees who make Stretton Climate Care effective:

Meriel Blake, Wally Blake, Alison Bradley, Brian Bradley, Richard Clements, Virginia Clements, Anne Cooke, David Gibbon, John Lloyd, Julie Mellors, Pat Stokes-Smith, Alison Wren, plus many other occasional volunteers who make our services happen

We are very grateful for their actions, support and dedication.

Structure of Stretton Climate Care

The Executive Committee is made up of Trustees and makes the key decisions for the organisation. It has delegated some of its responsibilities and is also advised by three Working Groups as described below.



Main Role	Main Role	Main Role
To devise, deliver and publicise projects and oversee media and member relations	Prepare and control budget, seek finance, monitor and maintain relations with funders	Advise Executive committee on contractual arrangements with companies
Membership	Membership	Membership
Wally Blake, Mike Bourke, Jon Cooke (Chair), David Gibbon, David Howard, Alison Wren, Jamie Wrench, Jane Wrench,	Brian Bradley, Chris George (Chair), Mike Hymas, John Lloyd, Jane Wrench	Brian Bradley, Jon Cooke (Chair), Chris George, Mike Hymas, Jamie Wrench

Our Supporters and Funders

- ◆ We are very grateful to the numerous individuals and bodies who helped achieve our work, especially our volunteers, funders and donors.
- ◆ We received grant aid from a private charitable Trust which provided a firm foundation for our organisation and enabled us to match any other grants available. This was supplemented by grants from the Shropshire Hills AONB Sustainable Development Fund and Strettondale Local Joint Committee.
- ◆ We also received funds and support from a number of companies and organisations, including Agilent Technologies, Acorn Café, Amber Couch, Berrys, Church Stretton School, Coop, Entertaining Elephants, Ludlow Food Centre, Mayfair, The National Trust, Van Doesburgh’s We also received donations from a large number of individuals and commission from insulation and renewable energy installers.

We are grateful to all these bodies for their support



www.strettonclimatecare.org.uk
 email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk
 tel: 0752 849 3181