



Annual Report 2009/10



A message from Jon Cooke, Chair

In our second full year of operation, I believe we have consolidated our position as a trusted, resourceful and supportive part of Stretton's communities. A sample review has demonstrated that our clients have achieved an average reduction of 13% in their fuel use, which at a time of squeezed household budgets must be welcome.

We are also pleased to have been able to join in with the activities of a number of other like minded organisations including the National Trust and Marches Energy Agency. We encouraged Shropshire Council to install renewable energy measures in the new Leisure Centre and are very pleased that these have been incorporated.

We commenced a local campaign for individuals and bodies to sign up for 10:10 * and we were very delighted that Church Stretton Town Council agreed to join this.

We are very grateful for the significant support we have received from a large range of bodies and individuals, particularly our volunteers without whom we would not have been able to operate successfully.

We were disappointed that more could not have been agreed at the Copenhagen summit on climate change. We welcome the aspiration of the Shropshire Community Strategy that Shropshire will be recognised as a Leader in responding to climate change and will work with community groups to help achieve this. We look forward to positive steps by the partners to demonstrate this commitment.

** A Campaign to reduce carbon emissions by 10% in 2010, initiated by the Director of the film Age of Stupid*

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 2009 to March 2010-Our Key Achievements

- ◆ Trained a team of 12 volunteers to provide energy checks to local households and businesses
- ◆ We continued with our fortnightly Thursday market stall until December advising 339 people, but recognised that we needed to target a new audience after that.
- ◆ Carried out 98 Household Energy Checks providing personalised 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 too.
- ◆ Carried out 6 Business Energy Checks which demonstrated how minor changes can reduce overheads and save carbon emissions
- ◆ Held a Green Festival with some 2500 leaflets delivered by our volunteers and incorporating the showing of the film, The Age of Stupid followed by a lively debate; A Green Fayre in the Town Square with 20 stalls and followed by an Eco concert at Rushbury Village Hall with principal band Seize the Day.
- ◆ Maintained a membership of 85 members, although this is a slight reduction on the initial membership total
- ◆ Held a workshop for other community organisations to engage with climate change issues and a workshop for our membership to appraise our arrangements
- ◆ Organised 12 events ourselves with total attendance exceeding 700 persons including an address by Sir John Houghton, former Chairman of the IPCC and a joint meeting on wood for fuel with Stretton Tree Group.
- Attended and spoke at 18 events organised by other organisations with a total audience of 981 people.
- Launched a Top tips Leaflet jointly with the National Trust and the Household Energy Service
- ◆ Held the second of our annual duck races at Carding Mill Valley, followed by an Orienteering event showing that low carbon recreation can be fun!
- Participated in a Dragons Den project at Church Stretton School
- Published our newsletter on 6 occasions keeping our community informed about climate change issues



Green Fayre- Church Stretton,



Sir John Houghton with Jon Cooke and Jamie Wrench



Electric car at Green Fayre



Debate at Church Stretton School



Summerfest event at Parish Centre

Further Achievements in 2009-10

- ◆ Provided comments to local government bodies on various issues including the Local Development Framework, and the Community Strategy. Successfully campaigned for the new Leisure Centre to incorporate renewable energy
- ◆ Our electric bike hire scheme was well managed by Central Garage to encourage and support sustainable tourism in our area. However we had less hire use than we expected. We are proposing to make a new arrangement with a local business for 2010
- ◆ Initiated a local campaign to support 10:10 and were encouraged that Church Stretton Town Council signed up.
- ◆ Initiated a joint Project with the Energy Savings Trust to encourage the take up of renewable energy and this included the delivery of some 3000 addressed mailings by our volunteers
- ◆ 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 & featured on You Tube.

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 match any other grants available. This was supplemented by grants from Shropshire Hills AONB Sustainable Development Fund and a Grassroots Grant administered by the Community Council of Shropshire.
- ◆ We also received funds and support from a number of companies and organisations, including Agilent Technologies (formerly Varian), Acorn Café, Amber Couch, Berrys, Central Garage, Church Stretton School, Coop, Entertaining Elephants, Mayfair, The National Trust, Van Doesburgh's and The Bucks Head. We also received donations from a large number of individuals and commission from insulation companies.

We are grateful to all these bodies for their support



Agilent Technologies



Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of

Charity Name

STRETTON CLIMATE CARE

On accounts for the year ended

310310

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

12 July 2010

Name

LAURENCE DAVID NEWBROOK

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

Dip. Chartered Institute of Bankers.

Address

THE BANK HOUSE
LONGHILLS ROAD
CHURCH STRETTON
SHROPSHIRE, SY6 6DS.



Charity Name Stretton Climate Care	No (if any) 1123211
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1st April 2009	To	Period end date 31st March 2010
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees	399			399	472
Donations & Fees	2,486			2,486	1,143
Local Fund Raising/"Green Festival" (Gross)	1,527			1,527	995
Grants	7,350	4,196		11,546	35,910
Bank Interest	3			3	298
Referrals	385			385	43
Electric Bike Hire	171			171	46
Gift Aid	129			129	105
Sub total	12,450	4,196		16,646	39,012
A2 Asset & investment sales, etc.					
Total receipts	12,450	4,196		16,646	39,012
A3 Payments					
Project Worker	10,000	1,660		11,660	16,020
Printing , Postage & Stationery	789			789	3,243
Market Stall	341	150		491	736
Electric Bike Project	87			87	3,136
Local Fund Raising	10			10	452
Goods & Equipment	92			92	1,569
Publicity/"Green Festival"	354	2,196		2,550	1,323
Insurance	173			173	183
Film Hire	387			387	272
Training	212			212	450
Sub total	12,445	4,006		16,451	27,384
A4 Asset and investment purchases, etc.					6,676
Total payments	12,445	4,006		16,451	34,060
Net of receipts/(payments)	5	190		195	4,952
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	9,189			9,189	4,237
Cash funds this year end	9,194	190		9,384	9,189

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

Categories

B1 Cash funds	HSBC Current Account		3,396	- 96
	HSBC Deposit Account		5,988	9,285
			9,384	9,189

B2 Other monetary assets	Gift Aid Refunds		120	175
	Shropshire Council - Surveys		150	

B3 Investment assets				

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Computer Equipment , Screen etc	General Capital Fund		
	Display Boards	General Capital Fund		
	Electric Bikes	General Capital Fund		
	Exhibition Equipment	General Capital Fund		
	Plug - in meters	General Capital Fund		

B5 Liabilities				

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

<i>CGeorge</i>	Christopher George	24 .8 2010

Stretton Climate Care—Organisation and other Facts

Finance

It has been difficult raising funds during 2009/10 and our income was less than half that received in the previous year, and we expect these conditions to continue as a result of the recession and public expenditure reductions. 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. Our electric bike hire is another subsidiary service which is intended to conserve the environment and a charge to cover costs of ourselves and the operator is made. Our activities also generate opportunities to advance education about conserving, protecting and improving the environment.

Trustees

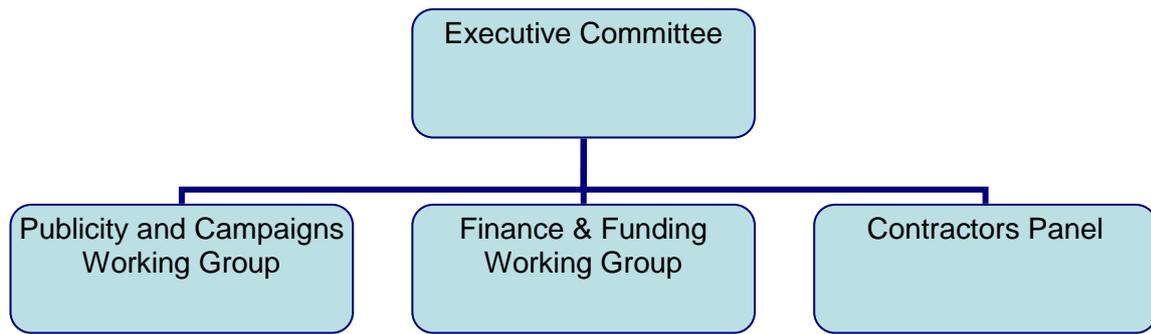
The current Trustees are Michael Bourke, Isabel Carter (Publicity Officer), Jon Cooke (Chair), , Chris George (Treasurer), David Howard, Mike Hymas (Secretary), Peter Ireland, Jamie Wrench (Vice Chair and Web Manager) and Jane Wrench. Our Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting which is held in October each year. A vacancy for a Trustee remained after the AGM and David Howard was appointed by the Executive Committee on 16th April 2010. Rachel Finch-Lees was a Trustee until October 2009 and remains Membership Secretary.

Other Information

Julie Mellors has been engaged as a self employed Project Worker and also serves as a volunteer. 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.

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



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, Neil Hall, Julie Mellors, Alison Wren, Jamie Wrench, Jane Wrench,	Brian Bradley, Chris George (Chair), Mike Hymas, John Lloyd	Brian Bradley, Jon Cooke (Chair), Chris George, Mike Hymas, Julie Mellors, Jamie Wrench

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, Julie Mellors, Liz Knowles, Pat Stokes-Smith, Alison Wren, Phil Yates plus many other occasional volunteers who make our services happen



Our Plans for 2010-11

We remain ambitious in our aim to assist our community to reduce carbon emissions and use energy more efficiently.

During 2010-11 we intend to:

- ◆ Continue to provide Home Energy Checks and give advice on cutting energy use and saving money
- ◆ Arrange other events including fun activities as well as talks and relevant films
- ◆ Expand our education work with young people
- ◆ Continue to work with The National Trust and other local bodies
- ◆ Provide Business Energy Checks and advise on energy efficiency
- ◆ Give priority support to households in fuel poverty
- ◆ Engage with government bodies on policy and other issues and developments
- ◆ Continue to seek the support of funding bodies to maintain and expand our services.
- ◆ Arrange for our electric bikes to be hired
- ◆ Continue to encourage our community to reduce its carbon footprint and in particular target our rural parishes

