



Registered Charity No. 1159816
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Dear Member

Despite the pandemic impacting on our physical meetings, our Committee members have continued to make progress with a number of issues. Firstly, I would like to thank all those members who responded to our questionnaire. We had about a 25% response rate which means that it represents a reasonable sample of our members. Some headlines:

- There was general support for the approach we are taking to global heating.
- There was general support for our **subscription** increase although a few single members expressed some concern. We have decided not to bring in the increase this year and will review our needs next Spring. Please pay your **subscription renewal**, which is due from 1st October, now if you have not already paid as we do have fixed outgoings and not many other sources of income at present. Forms are attached/enclosed.
- A number of Members volunteered to join the **Topic Groups** we hope to establish. At present we are progressing just 3 which are: the Buildings/Energy Efficiency/Renewable heat and power Topic group; The Transport (Walking/Cycling/Public transport/motor vehicles Topic Group; and the Waste management (Reduction/Re-use and Re-cycling) Topic Group. Although we would like to be able to progress the Young Persons and education Topic Group, we have to accept that this is not possible during a pandemic. We are not in a position to be able to progress the Agriculture, Food and Rural Land use group either at present. We would need to meet virtually at present through Zoom Video Conferencing and exchange information by email.
We would like to have further volunteers for the Groups we are progressing. Please do get in touch if you would like to help us decide how to progress these issues to help reduce Church Stretton's emissions. You might not be an expert, we need help with communications, contacts in the community and ideas.

- We asked if members could join us in a meeting on Zoom. About three quarters said yes or maybe. We have concluded that we may be able to hold a Conference like that and we may be able to attract a speaker who might not normally travel to Church Stretton. However, we don't think we can hold an Annual General Meeting in these circumstances. We will hold an AGM as soon it is safe to do so. If anyone would like to join our Committee we are able to co-opt new members. Please contact us if you are interested.

Several of our Trustees are supporting South Shropshire Climate Action Group who are drawing up a Handbook setting out how the Ludlow constituency can achieve net zero emissions. See <https://shropshireclimateaction.co.uk/>

A Shropshire/Telford and Wrekin County wide Partnership has recently been established. You can keep in touch by joining as a Member or Supporter. See www.zerocarbonschropshire.org

The Green Homes Grant scheme went live at the beginning of the month. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-green-homes-grant-scheme> Have a look at the website for details of what energy saving measures are eligible and how to apply. The scheme closes at the end of March and we are already aware that local approved installers are VERY busy so don't delay if you are interested in making an application.

We are of course unable to run our "Drop In Advice Service" at present. Advice on energy efficiency; insulation; renewable heat and power; electric vehicles; tariff switching;/ smart meters etc. etc. is available by telephone and email and we continue to expand the range of advice sheets which can be found on our website. The website has been updated and our Twitter feed is being regularly fed! Take a look!

Shropshire Council have received a grant for installing on street electric vehicle chargers. If you have any suggestions for where one may be needed please let us know.

We have responded to the draft Local Plan by making representations on a number of Policies. We were particularly concerned about the half-hearted approach adopted towards climate change and have condemned the current draft policies in the strongest terms. If you want to see our Responses which are set out Policy by policy as required by the Council they are on our website. www.strettonclimatecare.org.uk If you can't access that, please contact us.

We are in the process of purchasing an Infra-Red camera so we can offer a thermal survey to local homes. The camera will help to identify areas of heat loss: roofs, doors, windows, the sides of dormer windows etc. We will update you when training in the use of the camera has been completed.

Stretton Climate Care