

BARBY & ONLEY CLIMATE CHANGE CRISIS MEETING

Saturday 12th October 2019 - Barby Village Hall 2pm – 3.45pm

Present: Chairman – Councillor James Wood

Daventry District Councillor Ken Ritchie

Clair Saxton from “Rugby Unwrapped” – a retail outlet selling loose products by weight to reduce single use plastic wrapping.

33 Members of the public.

MINUTES of MEETING 12TH OCTOBER 2019

1. WELCOME:

Cllr Wood thanked everyone for attending to discuss the Climate crisis. There are things that we can all do at every level – Internationally, Nationally, personally and as a community.

The aim of the meeting is to meet as a community and find practical ways to make a difference to reduce the climate crisis. It is hoped that people will get involved and help discover what is possible and viable as everyone can help, even if it is in a small way.

2. CLIMATE CHANGE VIDEO setting out the current affects of Climate Change on the World around us was played <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOctIuyVfnA>

3. Cllr Ken Ritchie – Daventry District Council.

Councillor Ritchie reported that Daventry District Council has set up a cross-party Task Panel to look at Climate Change in Daventry District. This panel will report in Feb 2020. Any actions will need to be taken forward by the Shadow Unitary Authority which will be appointed following elections in May 2020. The District Council will cease to exist by 31 March 2021 when it will be replaced by a Unitary Authority.

The District Council has looked at statistics showing domestic emissions, emissions from commerce and industry, and emissions from travel in the District. They have also looked at case studies for reducing emissions in other Councils.

The M1 motorway is the largest producer of harmful emissions in the District.

Daventry District Council produces 1/500th of the emissions across the District.

The District Council cannot alter planning regulations to ensure that all new housing is more environmentally friendly as policy is set by Central Government.

Daventry District Council are promoting Energy switching and are seeking to purchase energy from renewal sources at cheaper prices for residents who sign up.

4. Clair Saxton – “Rugby Unwrapped” 66 Church street, Rugby CV21 3PT.

Clair is an owner of a small shop in Rugby opposite HSBC.

This is a reduce waste, refill shop, where you take your own container and fill it with food or cleaning products, thus reducing single use plastics. They sell both liquids and food products by weight.

They try to keep their products affordable, so that everyone can make a small change to the way they buy things without it costing significantly more. Organic products are still very expensive so they have chosen to stock affordable options. The ethos of the shop is to reduce waste and become more sustainable. If everyone makes a small change can make a huge difference.

Clair encouraged parishioners to make small changes as a village:-

- Use of “Home Compostable” bags that will degrade in a domestic compost heap. (made from plant based starch and can be purchased from Rugby Unwrapped)
- Use of mesh re-usable bags for loose vegetables (these can be purchased at Rugby Unwrapped, or in large supermarkets)
- Try to use products from Local suppliers (Rugby Unwrapped use local suppliers)
- Make use of local Markets (Rugby Market is on Fri, Sat and Monday)
- St Andrews Church is one of only 6 “Gold-Awarded Eco Churches” in the country. They have collection facilities for Crisp Packet recycling. (So does Daventry District Council)
- Recycle and source clothes to Charity shops.
- Consider providing a community composting area.
- Become a tetra recycling point within the village.
- Set up an Environmental Page on the Village website
- Share surplus Fruit and Vegetables within the community (Rugby holds “Sustainable Saturday once per month where sustainable products are available)
- Set up a Repair Café by pairing up practical people to fix things that are broken.

5. Catherine Camp – Barby & Onley Parish Clerk

The Clerk reported on positive steps that the Parish Council has already taken;

a) Trees -Parish Councils can obtain free trees from the Woodland Trust, and has sourced trees that were planted at Camps Copse, and at Onley Park, and filled in gaps in hedges where ever possible. More trees can be obtained if there are volunteers willing to help plant them.

An offer from a local farmer has been made for trees to be planted in the corners of arable fields within the parish, which will allow sites for a large number of additional trees.

b) Litter Picks The Parish Council organises an annual litter pick manned by village volunteers, and also pays someone to pick up litter from the centre of the village on a weekly basis. They have also provided Litter Picking devices for people prepared to pick up litter regularly.

c) Street Lights – The Parish Council has converted all street lights in Barby to LED lamps which dim by 50% from midnight to 0600.

In 2016 - Barby had 72 Street lights

Lamp Types: 4 x 80W Mercury lamps + starter using 94W each

7 x 35W lamps + starter using 47W each

25 X 50W lamps + starter using 62 W each

36 x 70W lamps + starter using 82 W each

Total Wattage = 5207 W

By changing to LED bulbs we have significantly reduced the power used, and the cost to the Parish Council

In 2019 - Barby has 76 Street lights

Lamp Types: 76 x 22W LED lamps which do not need a starter and which dim by 50% from 0000 to 0600am

Total Wattage = 1254W

BARBY STREET LIGHTING UPGRADE - FUNDING

COST £45,145

£5,156 Funded from Parish Council Reserve

£15,489 funded by SALIX a Social Enterprise lender who will fund any project that is environmentally friendly at 0% interest so long as the financial benefit can be seen over a 5 year period.

£24,500 from the Public Works Loan Board (over 10 yrs) which lends to Local Authorities.

6. GENERAL DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS

- a) Qu – why are there no Solar panels on Warehousing at DIRFT? Cllr Ritchie responded that a change in the business model used is required.
- b) It was suggested that School Children from the Primary School should be involved with planting trees. This would help raise awareness with the younger generation.
- c) It was reported that Barby Gardening Club are keen to get involved with tree planting and environmental enhancement projects.
- d) It was felt that a web page for Climate Change/Environmental matters would be really useful. Ian Jelley is happy to provide links to the Wildlife Trust.
- e) Residents were encouraged to let their gardens become wildlife havens rather than being over-manicured. Perhaps the Parish Council could mow some areas of the village less often, and plant wild flower seeds?
- f) Residents were asked to contact their MP to influence the Government Agriculture and Environment Bill to ensure that the ban remains on nicotinoid sprays that kill bees and insects.
- g) It was suggested that local groups should lobby their MP to try and get subsidies on renewables rather than on fossil fuels.
- h) It was suggested that a feasibility study of the Solar potential of the village should be carried out.

- i) Could Daventry District Council run an Energy Day and hold an event so that people can find out about renewable energy options?
- j) Details of recycling points for various plastics to be publicised. It was noted that farmers do not have a way of recycling the black plastic that clads large round bales.
- k) It was suggested that Barby Village Stores should reduce the plastic bags they hand out. – The shop to be supplied with canvas alternatives for people to borrow and return.
- l) It was suggested that a Car Sharing / Lift scheme could be set up to reduce the number of car journeys in and out of the village.
- m) Litter – it was suggested that different community groups could sponsor different stretches of road into and out of the village and pick up the litter on a regular basis.
- n) An “Opt- Out” for the Parish newsletter was suggested to reduce paper copies, with copies left in the shop for those who are not on line.
- o) Order Milk in glass bottles rather than plastic and encourage the shop to stock milk in glass bottles too.

7. APPOINTMENT OF CHAMPIONS TO TAKE FORWARD IDEAS

Cllr Wood encouraged residents to come along to Parish Council meetings held on second Monday of each month to raise issues.

Cllr Wood asked for volunteers to join a small group to promote sustainability and take some of the suggestions raised forward.

The following were prepared to take part in a further meeting to put some of the ideas into action:

Ian Jelley, James Wood, Gavin Callard, Kate Wright, Jan Boneham

The Clerk to arrange a further meeting at a date to suit. This to be advertised in the newsletter and on the website.

Councillor Wood thanked all participants for attending and for their ideas.

“If everyone makes a small change can make a huge difference.”

Meeting closed at 15.45.