



Climate Action Stokesley and Villages

Annual report

July 2023 – June 2024

www.climateactionstokesleyandvillages.org

www.facebook.com/groups/climateactionstokesleyandvillages

Since July 2019, Climate Action Stokesley and Villages group has been working on a vision, and actions to realise that vision, for a net-zero carbon area by 2030 where we will have:

- reduced the use of energy in the area and increased the use of renewable energy
- saved the unique natural environment that is local to the area and planted more trees
- increased the availability of sustainable food
- reduced the use of petrol/diesel vehicles
- minimised waste

We have five sub-groups to undertake activities related to the following themes:

- Energy
- Food
- Nature
- Transport
- Waste

The group has held public meetings monthly with frequent meetings also being held by the Food, Nature and Waste sub-groups.

During the year we have:

Publicity

- Updated our [website](#), which had 2,160 visitors, slightly down on last year.
- Increased our mailing list to nearly 400, to which we send a monthly Update. The monthly Update provides diary listings of local and national events and causes to participate in as well as functioning as an online magazine with articles on seasonal gardening & eating, local zero waste businesses, low carbon holidays, upcycling & waste reduction ideas.
- Run an active [Facebook group](#) which has increased to 530 followers and had a presence on X (Twitter) and Instagram.
- Produced a range of easy to read leaflets covering 10 different aspects of how individuals can take action on climate change and biodiversity loss which have been popular at our events.
- Written a variety of press releases and provided copy for a monthly Climate Column for the Darlington and Stockton Times which we have now done for over 2 years.

Campaigning on the climate and nature emergencies

- Written to our local MP, and Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak on a range of climate related issues.
- Written to and met with local Councillors.
- Responded to letters in the Darlington and Stockton Times.
- Responded to national and regional consultations.
- Undertaken joint campaigning as part of the [North Yorkshire Climate Coalition](#)



Achievements

- Held meetings/stalls/events/visits/open houses and attended online seminars to educate ourselves and others on issues such as recycling, wildlife gardening, retrofitting homes, climate hustings and held events during Great Big Green Week 2024.
- Continued to run a Food Share scheme taking food surplus from: the local Coops, the new Premier store and a wedding venue, to those who are in need.
- Held 2 [apple pressing](#) sessions and lent equipment to other groups leading to a total of approx 725 litres of apple juice pressed from nearly 2,000 kgs of apples.
- Held a seed stall and supported seed share boxes to encourage people to grow their own food.
- 'Free' gardening around Stokesley.
- Run couple of walks from Bank Foot led by Anne Press and a Wildflower and Poetry walk round Great Ayton' [floodplain meadow](#).
- Held an open garden in Stokesley showing what you can do to help biodiversity
- Gave a gardening for wildlife presentation and discussion in Faceby village hall led by Helen Herring. This was well-attended by about 40 people
- Held a Dark Skies event in the Discovery Centre in Great Ayton. This was to stress the importance to both biodiversity and human health and well-being.
- The group also organised a trip to two areas of restored peat bog above Rosedale
- No Mow May continues to be a feature in a number of villages including Stokesley
- Maintained the [Bug Trail](#) in Great Ayton.
- Continued to press for 20mph speed limits within Great Ayton and Stokesley.
- Co-ordinated the team working on the proposed [Endeavour Way](#) active travel route.
- Run 12 Repair Cafes (6 in Stokesley and 6 in Swainby) with over 600 visits, leading to 618 items examined with 71% repaired. The monthly Repair Cafes regularly promote other climate related issues including United for Warm Homes, Climate Justice, Great Big Green Week, reduction of single use plastics and hosted the climate activism artwork the Coat of Hopes.
- Maintained a Refill Scheme with venues that are happy to accept reusable cups for hot drinks and refill water bottles.
- Worked with North Yorkshire Council to promote a Local Energy Advice Demonstrator (LEAD) project, meeting the target number of expressions of interest in a free audit in a few months.
- Used craft to engage more people by taking part in the Stokesley decorate a Christmas tree competition, running a draught excluder workshop, mending on the High Street and making a United for Warm Homes quilt.
- Liaised with local businesses, councils and organisations working on climate change and nature emergency e.g.: Rounton Coffee, Labman and Quorn; Great Ayton Parish Council's and Brighten Up Great Ayton's pollinator plan; Rudby Parish Council's Trees for Tomorrow campaign; Stokesley Town Council – No Mow May; Stokesley School's green group; Christ Church – an eco church, Great Ayton; The Globe and Discovery Centre- supporting recycling; Yatton House developing a community garden.



Report on behalf of CASaV steering group:
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