

Addingham Environment Group
Zero Carbon
Meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2024
at the Hub

Present: John Sykes (chair), Rick Battarbee, Jackie Olive, Martin Ellis, Glen Thistlethwaite, Mareike Schmidt, Clive Brook, Ian Viner, David Bartlett

1. **Apologies:** Richard Walton

2. **Matters arising** from the meeting of 24 May 2023 – there were none.

3. **CAA Update**

Rick reported that, after a slow start, momentum is now growing with regular meetings established, a revised constitution in place and a good number of local groups fully engaged including: Addingham Allotments and gardens association, Golf club, Cricket club, Primary School and Garden Friends.

Rick also clarified the relationship between the CAA, AEG and the Zero Carbon group: The CAA has been set up as a joint venture between the Parish Council and the Civic Society with Addingham Environment Group advising the CAA and driving the agenda. Input to the four subject areas of “**zero carbon**”, “**zero waste**”, “**sustainable water**” and “**land and nature**” is provided by the four AEG subgroups of similar names. The role of the CAA is to engage with as many village groups and individuals as possible and together to spread the word and implement actions with the aim of developing sustainable living.

There was an encouraging attendance at the anniversary meeting of the birth of the CAA held on 16 November 2023.

The CAA has decided to replace the annual Environment weekends (which recently have been largely ‘preaching to the converted’) with four themed weeks in 2024 as follows:

Zero Waste	March 11 – 16
Wildlife (land and nature)	June (dates tbc)
Sustainable water	July 6 – 13 (tbc)
Zero Carbon	September 23 – 28

4. **Proposed Zero Carbon week 23 September**

The meeting discussed which topics to concentrate on during this week and methods of achieving outreach to those not yet engaged. Social media was seen as a key resource.

Topics discussed:

- How to get the message out and discover what people are interested in or worried about.
- Having an open evening
- The demographic of people likely to attend – people with young families and jobs are probably engaged mentally but do not have the time to attend meetings.
- Energy trends – examples of heat pumps
- Reducing draughts

- Increased traffic through the village
 - need to widen the 20 mph limit
 - modify signage to avoid directing traffic through the village (e.g. signs to Bolton Abbey)
 - advocacy: approaching Bradford Council (via the Parish council) with the causes and possible solutions to issues.
 - the effects of closing Golden Butts tip which reportedly sees 300 cars per day
- Signposting people to projects in the Dales e.g. Peat Regeneration
- Reducing our use of air travel – www.Byway.travel will calculate flight-free routes.
- Air pollution and the failure of building regulations to tackle the problem and even to exacerbate the problem e.g. in The Acres development. Introduction of Hepa filters in school classrooms.
- Wood burning stoves
- Increasing Plant-based diets
 - approach local pubs and suggest they add an additional vegan dish to their menus during the week
 - invite a chef to demonstrate vegetarian cooking
 - visit the Beck Hall plant based restaurant in Malham
 - approach local chef Loc # locstasteofvietnam.
- Producing a ‘Green Directory’ of suggested links to useful websites.

It was agreed for each of CAA’s objectives to be allocated to members of the group to brainstorm, answering the questions: Why? How? What are the obstacles? How urgent? Where can I find more information? The results to be sent to Rick before the next Zero Carbon meeting.

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| • Reducing personal carbon footprint. | Glen |
| • Decreasing dependence on fossil fuels for home heating | Martin, Ian
David |
| • Increasing renewable energy generation | Mareike |
| • Walking and cycling more | Clive |
| • Using public transport | |
| • Reducing air pollution | Clive |
| • Increasing plant-based diets | Glen, Mareike |
| • Sequestering carbon through tree and hedge planting | Rick |

6. AOB

Home visits and use of the thermal camera

David and Ian have completed 7 home visits since the last meeting and have three in the pipeline. These visits have often resulted in good discussions with home owners about various aspect of the zero carbon agenda. There have been occasional misunderstandings where home owners thought that we were charging for the visit. While all visits are free of charge, if a donation is offered AEG will always gratefully accept as outgoings tend to exceed income.

David and Ian were attending the primary school the day after this meeting. There is a great deal of interest among both staff and children in the objectives of CAA and it is hoped that they will contribute to the Zero Carbon week in September. It was noted that, being near the start of the new school year, it will be important for the school to plan their contribution before the summer holidays.

Ian and David have also visited Silsden Climate Action and Oxenhope Climate Action to demonstrate the camera.

They attended Ilkley's Heat pump day which was informative and highlighted a possible issue with disposal of condensation.

They are also paying a second visit to *Share Skipton* which is an enterprise similar to the Ilkley Thingery.

Martin's Energy Roundup

Martin produced a paper, 'Towards net zero 2023 year end Energy Roundup' comparing his home gas and electricity usage over several years with notes itemising the modifications he has made over the same period. It also showed the electricity generated by his solar panels during 2023.

7. Date of next meeting

**Tuesday 5 March 2024
6 pm in the Hub**