



GreenTEA News

Climate Emergency – Promoted by Lucy, Tony and Sarah, a 'Climate Emergency Declaration' was proposed to Eynsham Parish Council, in line with about 40 other UK councils, including Oxford City and The Vale, in response to a [grass-roots movement](#) which started in Australia. The Council did agree to adopt a Climate Change policy, but requested more time to research and think about the more powerful Climate Emergency Declaration and will review at a later meeting. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR PARISH COUNCILLOR/S AND TELL THEM HOW IMPORTANT THIS IS!

Third WODC Community Forum – several members of GreenTEA and other groups, with Councillors and experts were present on February 21st to discuss important aspects of the planned Garden Village. An environment subgroup mooted the idea of open space created by the A40 going underground... The Energy group promoted generation of renewable energy with the potential to power the whole area using a microgrid! A Health & Education subgroup discussed preventive health and delegation of medical functions. Lastly a housing group discussed interesting housing, with a competition to choose an architect. Other meetings are planned, but we still have major concerns about the process, and how our aspirations for low carbon and socially responsible building; energy positive technology; protection of open space for community use; green transport and wider community benefits will be incorporated into enforceable standards in the Area Action Plan.

Swap Shop – On Saturday March 9th at The Pavilion, Oxford Road, a large crowd of 87 gathered, bringing all sorts of interesting surplus 'stuff'. Much disappeared by 11 am and the remainder was taken to various charity shops and to Dix Pit. Huge thanks to Eleanor and her faithful henchwomen for a seamless setup!

AGM – After summaries of the year's events and election of officers, Professor John Whitelegg will give a talk on '21st Century Transport: A Vision for Oxfordshire', and from Councillor Laura Price a talk on 'Community and Co-operative Local transport: Opportunities and Problems'. Afterwards: a Bring & Share supper. If you would like to attend the supper, please bring a dish

(savoury or sweet) and possibly a bottle as well. It would help to [let Sue know](#). We hope to see you on Wednesday April 10th at 7 pm - see 'events'

Local News

Hope yet? – Professor Myles Allen of the ECI recently gave the annual lecture for the School of Geography and the Environment (SoGE). Entitled “Can we limit global warming to 1.5°C, and how?”, Prof. Allen, a world authority on Climate Change, defined his terms carefully and decried mass-media hyperbole. He gave four areas in which action could help, the main stumbling block being the government. The money to bring about changes, he suggested, could come from a carbon tax on the fossil fuel firms, who can certainly afford it! After an animated reception as well, we were left feeling optimistic but with a definite sense of **urgency**...

Towards a Zero Carbon Oxford – On 4 May Oxford Friends of the Earth will be running a workshop / ‘teach-in’ (with Oxford University’s Environmental Change Institute) on the role of local action in moving towards a Zero Carbon Oxford. There’ll be some excellent speakers and workshop sessions. One key aim will be to identify the policies we should be pushing for and developing a strategy to enable us to get those policies agreed and implemented. [Book a place here](#).

National News

Emissions wobble! – Carbon Brief analysis shows the UK’s CO₂ emissions [fell for the sixth consecutive year in 2018](#), BUT, there are signs the recent run of reductions could be coming to an end, with 2018 seeing the smallest fall in the six-year series....

10:10 – announce world-leading project to [connect solar panels directly into electrified rail routes](#) to power the trains!

Scottish Power – .has said it will [invest a record £2 billion in clean energy in the UK this year](#) as it plans to build more windfarms and to install electric vehicle charging points across Scotland ... not just PR we hope!

"End of the gas hob by 2025"– [Proposals from the Government's official climate advisers](#)would call time on new gas radiators, boilers and cooking hobs.

The heating revolution is finally firing up – The way in which we heat our homes is ripe for modernising, Dr Jonathan Marshall [writes in 'City AM'](#). One possibility is heat networks, where hot water is pumped around a number of homes from one centralised source. Common in other countries, this is a great way to modernise our heating systems, saving both energy and carbon emissions in the process.

Coal capped! – The world's biggest coal exporter will cap production. Investor pressure forces Glencore to cap output to comply with the Paris Agreement temperature goals. (Financial Times 20.2.19)

Fossil fuel investment – Ban Ki-moon has [urged Britain to stop funding fossil fuel projects overseas](#), in what he said would mark a test of Theresa May's commitment to act on climate change.

We've 'Arrived' !! – [Protests erupted at London Fashion Week](#) on Sunday afternoon as environmental activists called on organisers at the British Fashion Council to use its platform to tackle climate change and declare a "climate emergency".

High court – rules that government's [fracking guidelines are 'unlawful'](#). The court finds that the government failed to consider scientific evidence against fracking! A ray of hope?

International News

Jeremy Leggett says – "The Norwegian government has just mandated its sovereign wealth fund, the world's biggest such wealth fund, to divest from pure oil and gas explorers. This is a significant landmark in the global battle to abate global heating. If oil and gas companies can't see this particular piece of writing on the wall, they will deserve the bankruptcy that will ultimately face them." - HURRAH!

Methane levels – [Dramatic rises in atmospheric methane](#) are threatening to derail plans to hold global temperature rises to 2°C, scientists have warned. "What we are now witnessing is extremely worrying," said one of the paper's lead authors, Professor Euan Nisbet of Royal Holloway, University of London. "It is particularly alarming because we are still not sure why atmospheric methane levels are rising across the planet."

Children force Trump – A group of [children are suing the US government](#) for failing to protect them against climate change, in a case which could force the authorities to rapidly decarbonise the American economy.

Climate and National Security – The White House plan to challenge that [climate science is a threat to national security](#), warn former military top brass.

Big business calls for European net zero emissions! – Unilever, Tesco and Heathrow Airport are among a coalition of 16 big-name corporates calling on the European Union (EU) to set a [legally binding net-zero carbon emissions target for 2050](#), which would see the bloc achieve carbon neutrality within the next three decades!

Australia – [breaks weather records with 'hottest ever summer'](#). Climate analysts say it falls into a pattern of human-induced global warming.

U.S. – [faces fresh water shortages due to climate change](#). Water shortages would result from

increased demand by a growing population, as well shrinking rainfall totals and greater evaporation caused by global warming.

New Books

"[There is no Planet B](#)" by Mike Berners-Lee ('Little brother' of Sir Tim) 'A comforting handbook for those frozen into inaction'.

GreenTEA Events

April 6th: GreenTEA Café at The Market Garden/Emporium, 32-34 Mill St., Eynsham. 10.30 am -12 noon

April 10th: GreenTEA AGM at The Scout Hall 48 Back Lane, Eynsham, OX29 4QW at 7 pm - Bring & Share food.

Other Events

April 27th: Population Matters 'Biodiversity' 173 Euston Rd., London 2pm Register at <https://populationmatters.org>

May 4th: Friends of the Earth teach-in '[Zero Carbon Oxford](#)' at ECI South Parks Rd. 10 am-4 pm

May 16th: 'Biodiversity UK, 2020 and beyond' 10.15am-4.30pm London - <http://www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk>