

Zero carbon counties: a conversation – anonymised chat from the webinar

00:27:16 From **** : ****, Architectural Technician - Interest in how zero carbon can be achieved in communities/local level.

00:27:40 From **** : ****, Managing Director, Scientists Warning Europe and Hazlemere Parish Council

00:27:58 From **** : Welcome everyone, very pleased you could join us

00:28:07 From **** : (Apologies) Currently residing in Edinburgh.

00:28:30 From **** : I am interested in any ideas how we can persuade HMG to give local councils real power and resource to make the massive changes we need to make.

00:28:31 From **** : Please do introduce yourself in the chat and/or drop into a breakout room of your choice to have a real chat!

00:28:38 From **** : **** CAT Sustainability and Behaviour Change student and interested in sustainability in rural communities

00:28:49 From **** : ****, member of Shropshire Climate Action Partnership, a community led partnership aiming for net zero 2030

00:28:59 From **** : The rooms were empty! Nice idea tho.

00:29:36 From **** : ****, Exeter. Retired energy manager (not that you ever retire from tackling climate change. Wrote a Zero Carbon Devon paper based on ZCB for the local authority Climate Emergency Action Group.

00:29:48 From **** : The rooms need people to go into them to not be empty :)

00:29:48 From **** : I am an Advocacy Manager at Somerset Wildlife Trust and also Chair Somerset Climate Action Network working closely with local councils, organisations and community group on the climate challenge

00:29:49 From **** : ****, Poole, Dorset here as one of the panel for Zero Carbon Dorset

00:30:33 From **** : Greetings from 3rd Age Hostelling and Housing/Sparkle Housing Co-operative, a start-up social enterprise/charity supporting walkers/cyclists hostels/community hubs and encouraging intergenerational housing <https://www.facebook.com/3rdager>

00:31:28 From **** : ****, Worcestershire, Green Party candidate and Transition Bewdley member

00:31:35 From **** : **** from South Devon, recent ecology graduate, interested in intersectional environmentalism and a zero carbon future

00:32:22 From **** : ****, I'm cabinet member for Climate Action at Lancaster City Council and I also run Climate Emergency UK.

00:32:42 From **** : ****, Transition Bewdley and Wyre Forest Green Alliance, Worcestershire

00:32:52 From **** : **** from Bath but currently studying Geography at Bangor University.

00:33:00 From **** : ****, Health and Sustainability Officer at Wyre Forest District Council in Worcestershire.

00:33:02 From **** : Hi everyone, I am **** from CAT's Zero Carbon Britain team

00:33:02 From **** : **** from Shropshire Climate Action Partnership

00:33:43 From **** : ****, Shropshire Climate Action Partnership and :)

00:33:58 From **** : ****. Bucks Climate Action Alliance.

00:34:29 From **** : Hi all, **** South Somerset District Council Environment implementing actions to support the council meeting its carbon neutrality by 2030 target. Also a director of Somerset Climate Action Network

00:35:06 From **** : Heh ****!

00:35:33 From **** : Hi all. Here for 30 mins only unfortunately... ****, Shropshire Councillor

00:35:52 From **** : **** Shropshire Climate Action Partnership (SCAP) zerocarbonschropshire.org

00:36:15 From **** : I wasn't able to open the attachments I received?

00:36:34 From **** : Hi all, **** from Crichton Carbon Centre. We work with peatlands a lot (restoration and restoration training) and supporting people to more sustainable living. Looking forward to this!

00:39:08 From **** : **** from Wessex Green Hub a sustainable & regenerative Community of Place, Practice & Inquiry based in Winchester and working across Hampshire and neighbouring counties

00:49:19 From **** : In order to house our future walkers/cyclists hostels we need to bring some derelict properties back into use and we want the properties to be carbon efficient: the properties are in Llanfairfechan in Conwy and in Stretford, in Trafford GM. For more information please take a look at our Fb page: <https://www.facebook.com/3rdager>

00:54:42 From **** : Have to go to a security meeting so going to put some notes here based on being a councillor and working with councillors in other ares in the green party: 'coalitions of the willing' can include an interface between community and corporate, and put pressure on others. Practically this could be: setting up a data base of retrofit coordinators (qualified); looking to gather Deliveroo riders to form there own zero carbon distribution network - perhaps with help from council economic development or a local green entrepeneuer; then pushing councils and others (uni, NHS...) to procure green and local. In Shropshire for example Council should ONLY take contract out units in the shopping centres if they sign up to decarbonisation and social value contracts...

00:57:54 From **** : We have set up an Oxfordshire COP26 Climate Alliance (OCCA). This has been launched by Oxford Friends of the Earth for one year (to COP26) initially - <https://www.oxfoe.co.uk/climate-action/cop26/>. So far we have 27 members including green groups, the WI, Youth groups, businesses, wider vol sector bodies, XR. Our approach is to invite our 6 councils to 'support' us rather than 'join' the Alliance. We have a simple form of words for all sign-ups to agree to. Member groups have varying approaches to engagement with our councils.

00:58:05 From **** : Currently Shropshire Council is not proactively engaging public. I've pushed them to use the commonplace tools (heat map and carbon action plan engagement tools)... and would be good for ZCS to push this too...

00:59:23 From **** : Let's all prototype how we can collaborate locally and with each other in new innovative ways, taking lessons from nature - I found this programme really useful - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m00060x0>

01:00:09 From **** : At SCAP we have a presentation from Commonplace this afternoon at our Comms and Engagement group meeting and I am hopeful that we will take this forward, with SC support in the near future. Looks like an excellent platform for engaging widely on our Zero Carbon Shropshire Plan. Please let me know if you have experience of it

01:00:30 From **** : This is what we are launching this year in Somerset. Tricky to post all the details in the chat!

01:00:32 From **** : We are proposing a project that will build a movement for change in the county, mobilising, empowering and enabling action so people can help their communities take action aimed at halting climate change and restoring nature. We believe that by deciding together and taking action together we can drive change in a far bigger, more widespread and impactful way.

To accomplish this, we will recruit two specialist posts, Somerset Local Nature Partnership Coordinator and Somerset Climate Networkers Coordinator who will work across the county to achieve the following;

1. Embed the natural environment at the heart of local decision making for the benefit of nature, people and the economy by establish the Local Nature Partnership as a powerful strategic coalition of conservation, business, farming and health, championing the county's important and valuable natural environment.

- 01:00:54 From **** : 2. Raise the profile and instil the value and importance of the natural environment and implementation of the Nature Recovery Network and strategy into all decision-making processes, planning and policy decisions. The Somerset Local Nature Partnership (SLNP) Board and Forum will together provide leadership and will coordinate delivery to achieve long-term strategic objectives.

3. Ignite community action and amplify community voices by recruiting and training climate and nature volunteers in each town or parish community.

4. Support individuals to make key decisions and employ practical solutions to save energy to combat climate change.

5. Boost community networks enabling them to communicate good environmental practice, a true grassroots movement for positive change.

6. Build the base data and resources needed to launch an online County Climate Action Data & Resource Base: A one stop shop to share experiences and knowledge; a directory of organisations, resources, and exemplar projects across Somerset

01:00:57 From **** : Dorset sounds exactly like Wilts - no urgency

01:01:03 From **** : 8. Link parishes and communities to organisations and other groups to learn from and support each other

9. Help establish local Nature Recovery Networks - using volunteer led community action groups, we will support SWT in linking up areas of good natural habitat and create new natural landscapes to allow nature to recover, move through the landscape and be more resilient to climate change

10. Share good practice and facilitate peer support through an interactive online resource that offers training and signposting to useful information and organisations.

11. Bring together communities, councils and businesses in recognition of the pivotal role they must play in helping Somerset reach its net zero target by 2030.

01:01:08 From **** : Engagement with the local Town and Parish Councils by identifying their nominated climate champion who will engage with the group like SCAP and promote matters through their channels of Clerks and local councillors. Councillors in the Shropshire Association of Local Councils are then able to distribute information about matters in their respective district areas. There is also NALC the National Association of Local Councils who are to promoting climate issues

01:01:25 From **** : Sorry for the huge message!

01:02:26 From **** : I am from Shropshire . are you **** involving **** ?

01:03:15 From **** : Hi ****! We met some time ago in the Council chamber at the Shirehall

01:03:24 From **** : South Somerset DC has also set up an Environment Champions Network with all the Town and Parish Councils in the district to share knowledge and projects in their communities.

01:04:10 From **** : As **** says the 'Bristol Green Capital Partnership' is really worth looking at. They had the advantage that it grew out of Bristol being awarded European Green Capital in 2015 - and they are doing some great stuff across the community, businesses and local authorities - <https://bristolgreencapital.org/>

01:04:33 From **** : Sorry got to go. **** - I'm sure others would love to see the one page graphic showing what needs to be done each year. think that appeals wider than the white middle classes! Bye

01:05:30 From **** : What makes a good action plan?
<https://www.climateemergency.uk/local-authority-checklist/>

01:05:34 From **** : Engagement with voluntary networks that are geared to supporting people with support from local authority i.e Age UK, Sustainable transport forums, Care and Youth services providers all need to be engaged to achieve the distribution of information and getting them involved is vital as they tend to service those that are not online

01:08:13 From **** : Hi all. Please visit us at <https://zerocarbonshropshire.org/> and sign our pledge. You can download a copy of our plan from the site and we will be really pleased to hear from you if you have any suggestions for improvements and other steps we should take

01:12:57 From **** : Shropshire and Telford have a business board. It would seem sensible to get them to have a climate champion on that board to focus on this element in their Strategic Plan and similarly on the LEP

01:13:46 From **** : Hi ****, yes I'm leading on that and will be in touch with them

01:13:56 From **** : Seven county level networks met last week (from Cumbria and Leeds down to Hampshire and Oxfordshire) with the national Climate Coalition to discuss action in

2021 with a focus on the COP conference. We will be taking this work forward - anyone who'd like information please email me - chrischurch@cooptel.net

01:14:00 From **** : SCAP are engaged with the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce

01:14:36 From **** : We are working with several councils and Shropshire Council in particular as a founder member of our community led partnership. SC climate emergency portfolio holder has offered strong statements of support

01:20:27 From **** : Breakout rooms are open for discussion with others if you'd like to join one

01:21:28 From **** : Sorry I have to leave now. Been really interesting to hear what is going on around the country. Bye

01:25:09 From **** : What would you say is your biggest takeaway from the work you've done so far?

01:25:12 From **** : Have you had any engagement with anyone from Hackney?

01:25:19 From **** : For **** Burrell. In what way has the council been supportive of your efforts ?

01:25:20 From **** : How do you see this work linking in to the building national work towards COP26?

01:25:32 From **** : I am interested to hear who is going to Glasgow and what you are planning to do there. The deadline to sign up for COP26 space is this friday

01:25:43 From **** : We were wondering how others are baselining their carbon footprint to understand when we get to net zero? has anyone got a neat route?

01:25:53 From **** : How crucial in carbon footprinting? Will it delay action?

01:25:57 From **** : Giki zero <https://zero.giki.earth/people/ae93531b-c718-4c42-8583-c520c9e1471a/actions?actionId=ac3555ee-05c3-4750-8d66-a661acaa12d6> is an excellent tool for measuring carbon footprint with small steps - would be a good way of getting people to think about what they can do.

01:26:11 From **** : We talked around finding case studies of action that has happened on the ground. As a new group, it would help people get started.

01:27:04 From **** : How to keep the community engaged in the long term (i.e. to 2030)- after initial meetings to create a climate plan have taken place and plan published. Being mindful of peoples' time and resources but wanting to ensure we are bringing people with us (****- Frome Town Council)

01:27:17 From **** : how are the different council dealing with the pressure of pushing zero carbon goals against the push of tourism/ transient communities like student populations against trying to get local communities / households achieving practical zero-carbon goals?

01:27:20 From **** : This site is great for case studies <https://carboncopy.eco/>

01:27:27 From **** : Is there a way we can all across all groups can keep in touch and have a forum for fostering teamwork across the country?

01:27:33 From **** : Our focus on COP26 is less about going there and more about building local pressure and engagement. The proposed national Climate Festival in September could be a valuable way to build local activity post Covid and pre COP

01:28:02 From **** : Q: How have you overcome the issue of balancing *action* (just getting on with it) with *monitoring and baselining* (making sure the action you're doing is actually having an impact)? There are lots of new tools becoming available to help councils, parishes, and businesses calculate their carbon footprint, but this can take a lot of time, be quite complicated and distract from the need to act *now*

01:29:42 From **** : <https://www.pawprint.eco/> by Mike Berners-Lea Author of How Bad are Bananas

01:30:15 From **** : There is lots of evidence over many years now that most local traders are against reducing car use and most local towns that implement such schemes see a huge boost for those same traders!

01:31:11 From **** : CSE and Exeter University have just launched a carbon tool for parishes across the country <https://impact-tool.org.uk>.

01:31:53 From **** : South Somerset DC are about to adopt their Open Space Strategy to support biodiversity improvements

01:33:41 From **** : I'm setting-up 'Bus Pass Adventures', initially in Manchester and supported by funding from the London Marathon's Walk Stride project; a free service, encouraging older people to use public transport instead of their cars. <https://twitter.com/3rdagers>

01:33:55 From **** : **** has just put the right tool for parish level carbon footprint levels based on BEIS data. Additional CFPing is an incentive programme to encourage engagement

01:34:56 From **** : Sorry, I need to go now. Thank you, this has been useful.

01:35:25 From **** : Also, Scatter tool is hard wired to 2050 and hard to represent total carbon footprint so we all need to rely on other tools

01:35:32 From **** : Great webinar - thanks folks

01:35:36 From **** : Thank you all. Very useful indeed.

01:35:50 From **** : Great session thanks CAT

01:36:07 From **** : Thanks

01:36:07 From **** : Thank you all. Very interesting and good to hear what other councils hare doing

01:36:08 From **** : Do you have a forum where we can keep in touch?

01:46:40 From **** : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YPJug0s2u4w>