

Hanley Carbon Neutral

Newsletter, Winter 2022

Despite Covid 19 disrupting our lives we were able to keep most of our original projects running. The HEAT team secured a grant for a feasibility study on ways to produce energy locally, 3,500 more trees have been planted and our wildflower sites continued to thrive.

'The Time for Action is Now' Event

In October members of the HCN steering group attended this event at the Malvern Cube. Several other local groups were there and we have since connected with Castlemorton Parish Council to share what we have achieved in Hanley Castle Parish. We have agreed to collaborate on future initiatives to help our parishes become carbon neutral. We all face the same challenges so it makes sense to work together to help address these.

Eco Churches

Both our churches have now achieved eco awards! **St Marys** church has achieved the Eco Church Silver Award and **St Gabriel's** has now been awarded bronze. Eco Church challenges churches and congregations in areas which are not simply about buildings, energy and resources, but also global social justice (where communities are most affected by climate change) and making individual behavioural lifestyle changes.

All our projects are run by volunteers. If you would like to take part, have ideas for new initiatives or need help, please email us : **carbonhanley@gmail.com**.

Open Meeting 25th November

There was an encouraging turn out to our two sessions, including children and parents from Hanley Swan Primary School. We received positive feedback on HCN work so far and gathered ideas for future community initiatives, which included:

Car scheme, an e-bike scheme, more allotments, more verges for wildflowers and set aside.

Ideas for future information events included E-bikes, E-cars, Heat Pumps, Tree Planting, and Home Composting.

Reducing the speed limit and building decent cycle lanes were also suggested; whilst we wholeheartedly agree these would be fantastic, unfortunately they are beyond our remit!

Sara Beadon was thrilled to win our raffle of a 'Green Johanna' compost bin.

Events for spring 2022

PLACES ARE LIMITED, SO PLEASE EMAIL US IMMEDIATELY IF YOU'RE INTERESTED:

Hazel Coppicing, Weds 26th January, 10-12 AM

Join a working party near Hanley Castle.

Hedge Laying, 19th February Session 1: 10-12 AM, Session 2: 1-3PM

You'll be shown hedge laying techniques and have a chance to practice these yourself.

Want to try out an Electric Bike?

You can now borrow an e-bike to give it a try. For more information, please contact Sue Adeney on 01684 310440.

What is the HCN Steering Group?

The Steering Group has been set up to recommend HCN priorities to Hanley Castle Parish Council and organise projects, events and info sharing on its behalf. There are currently six members, all local volunteers, with an interest in helping the Parish become more environmentally friendly. Its members are: Steve Gogerty, Jackie Bass, Malcolm Fare and Jane Jordan along with two parish councillors, Sue Adeney and Alan Rogers, who update HCPC on HCN projects every month. We meet as required to keep work on track and send out newsletters biannually. If you would like to come along to a steering group meeting, please let us know.

What lifestyle changes have you made?

Cut down on flying? Reduced meat and dairy consumption? Planted trees or a wildflower area? We'd love to hear what changes you've made to help reduce your carbon footprint. We'd like to publish these (anonymously if you prefer) to illustrate that change is possible. Please email us with your stories

Home Composting, Saturday 2nd April, 2-4.30 PM

Led by Worcestershire's very own Master Composter, Cyrus Baria, you will learn about the different composters available and how to achieve best results.

Transport

Malvern Hills Car Club

Do you have a second car maybe used only 3-4 times a week?

Do you want to save upwards of £500 per year?

If so, the Malvern Hills Car Club is for you.

Membership of the club allows you to retain one car for daily use but have access to another for those occasions when a backup or specialist car is needed.

If you use a car less than 3 times a week you will make considerable savings, even compared to running a small 5 to 8 year old car. When you consider insurance, road tax, depreciation, repairs, servicing, and the other costs of running a second car, membership of a car club quickly delivers large savings. And you'll get cash back from selling your old car as well. With the cost of living expected to rise in 2022, membership offers an easy way to reduce your costs without reducing your lifestyle.

Online booking is easy, you will be able to pick your car up and return it to a nearby location. You would have access to a pool of cars that includes a seven seater and a pick-up.

It costs much less than hiring a rental car; after a small monthly fee of £7.50, you only pay for what you use. The club takes care of everything else, including insurance and repairs.

Interested? To explore the savings that you can make send an email to carbonhanley@gmail.com and we will send you more details or visit <https://malvernhills-carclubs.org.uk>

Trees



Thanks to our volunteers, over the past two years, an amazing 2000 saplings (with guards and canes) have been planted in the parish and a further 1500 were distributed outside the parish, most donated by Steve Harvey's Malvern-based tree-planting organisation **Let's Plant**. Species have been mainly oak, hornbeam, rowan, hawthorn, cherry, sweet chestnut and whitebeam, plus some alder, birch, hazel and lime.

If you've planted any trees, please let us know so we can build up a more accurate picture of tree planting in the parish.

To make a donation to Let's Plant, go to: <https://letsplant.co.uk/>

Habitats



Growth was quite vigorous this year due to lots of rain in May and generally the trial areas did well. We will shortly be reviewing progress and planning for the year ahead. If you have suggestions for suitable sites for wildflower establishment, please let us know.

New Verge Warden: Nigel Hawthornthwaite, resident of Hanley Swan, has kindly offered to act as verge warden. This is a new role set up to help protect and maintain the wildflower areas in our verges.

N.B. we have had some waterproof and UV resistant signs made for wildflower areas. If you would like one, email us at carbonhanley@gmail.com.

For more information on any of the items, please visit the website at the address below.