



ENVIRONMENT PLYMOUTH

January 2022

Happy New Year

Hi, Happy New Year....let's hope that 2022 is a better year for all of us.

Just in case you're wondering....my apologies for the cancelled meeting. My laptop had a power issue (nothing to do with the IT) so I couldn't even get it to work. A week later and everything's back to normal but, during the hiccup, meetings were out of the question....and I've only just finished catching up with all the emails and updates (it's already a busy year).

Anyway...our meeting was going to look at the planned revision of our Green Recovery Plan so I have attached the original to this email. I will be updating this asap but if you've got any projects you feel should be added in...or updates on the actions already included....please let me know. This is important as the Plan acts as our Action Plan for events, action and for backing up funding bids to keep us going.

Our next meeting, on Tuesday Feb 8th (online at 6.30pm) will welcome Antony Jinman and Martin Holland to tell us more about the proposals for a city centre climate hub...a real step forward in community engagement. Having a public-facing venue will certainly help to review the recently adopted Climate Emergency Plan 2022 (details in this newsletter).

Stay safe and hopefully see you at the next meeting !

Green Recovery Plan updates,
topics for 2022's meetings,
funding and more.....

Job Opportunities

The CEAP 2022

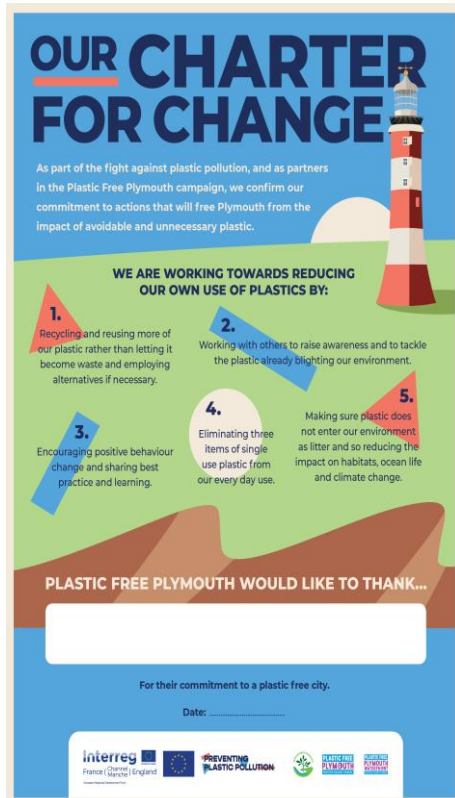
Please note that Environment Plymouth does not produce formal minutes. The proceedings of meetings are reported in the monthly Feedback Newsletter. Membership details are available from Co-ordinator, Jackie, at info@environmentplymouth.org or by calling 01752 672537

Updating the Green Recovery Plan

The original Green Recovery Plan has been sent out with this Newsletter and we would encourage you to have a quick look through and to add in any updates, progress and new projects that have emerged. This is beginning to look like a record of progress on greening the city so it is increasingly important...especially for funding opportunities.

For example, the Beebombs we purchased and distributed through this plan have enhanced wildlife spaces to the tune of 340 square metres in the last year and there are still 30 to send out. We have negotiated a phased withdrawal of the use of herbicides in the city (an update next month) and our support for Ellie Jackson's climate change books in every Plymouth Primary School was extended when she used the funds to support a Crowdfunder that saw them introduced in Primary Schools across Devon.

If you can let me have your ideas I can edit them in to a 2022 to 2024 revision that we hope to publish in March.



Actions past, present and future....

STILL RECRUITING !

We're still looking for new recruits...or existing pioneers and ambassadors who have taken their commitment to tackling plastic even further in the last two years.

The pledge forms are still available (from info@environmentplymouth.org) so if you'd like to join in please get in touch. There's lots going on !

If you work with a school (signed up or not) we'd particularly like to hear from you as schools are the most difficult sector to contact and we have a target of 50 to recruit by this time next year.

Waste – of our Time (the plastic sculpture) still needs your help.

Work is progressing on the plastic waste sculpture and both Kate and Judy are still collecting plastics to fill the wire baskets they are creating.

If you can help please drop them a message and see what they need.

HAVE FUN! Judy and Kate plasticsculpture@gmail.co

Litter Picks

Nathan (Phillips) from the University is working with Clean Our Patch on local litter picks and sent this in...

It looks like there will be a litter picking event on the 9th of February at 10am, meeting at the top of Apsley Road. Everyone in attendance will need to provide their own gloves.

Want to join in ?.....Local Job Opportunities

The Waste to Energy Plant with MVV at Devonport



Anyone who knows Jane at the Waste to Energy Plant at Devonport will no doubt be pleased to read this ! She has been promoted to a UK role and is currently working to recruit her replacement here in Plymouth. Luckily she will be based down here so we wont be losing her support !

Good luck in the new role Jane.....

Community Liaison Manager (Plymouth) Full Time (40 hours per week).

The Package: Competitive Salary, bonus and benefits package

The Role:

- Deliver communications and waste education to a range of audiences, in line with the South West Devon Waste Partnership priorities
 - Maintain the communications database and Devonport corporate website pages
 - Organise community events
 - Work with local education providers to maximise opportunities for work experience placements, internships and apprenticeships
 - Produce annual newsletter and other necessary mailshots
 - Some evening and weekend working will be required
- The Person:

- Educated to degree level or equivalent
- Experience of communications, education, conflict resolution and/or partnership working
- Passionate about environmental and sustainability issues
- Experience of event planning and delivery · Willing to learn new skills and develop the role

<https://www.mvv.de/en/about-us/group-of-companies/mvv-umwelt/subsidiaries/mvv-environment-ltd/careers-with-mvv>

Jane is more than happy to arrange pre-application visits for anyone who is interested so please feel free to get in touch.

T: +44 (0) 1752 393156 or email on jane.ford@mvvuk.co.uk

And....

PCA are currently re-advertising for the role of Project Coordinator for the Smart Citizens Programme, (with a slightly revised role description) See [job advert](#) for more detail but...

Plymouth College of Art is looking for a dynamic, highly-organised Project Coordinator to lead on the activities of the iMayflower Project's [Smart Citizens Programme](#) based at [Fab Lab Plymouth](#). The successful candidate will be coordinating an exciting range of training, tech and business bootcamps, creative hackathons events and outreach to support local participants to develop digital fabrication and enterprise skills, prototype products and set-up their business and/or employment.

The Smart Citizens Programme is an established and highly successful programme that works with citizens, communities and businesses in Plymouth and the region to provide access to digital fabrication facilities, training in digital design, and manufacturing and support with sustainable entrepreneurship.

Sophie Headdon, Communications and Events Officer (Skills & Outreach)
she/her/hers

Plymouth College of Art, Tavistock Place, Plymouth, PL4 8AT
T +44 (0)1752 203434
sheaddon@pca.ac.uk

Motions to Full Council

The 2022 Climate Emergency Action Plan was reviewed by Plymouth City Council on Monday 24th January and is now available to the public. As far as we know there was little or no public consultation on this so, as the city's environmental network, we are being encouraged to review this version and see if we can come up with something a little more realistic for the 2023 edition.

We are keen to work with the Council on this.....but will review it regardless as there is quite a lot missing from the 2022 version. See

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/PlymouthClimateEmergencyActionPlan2022.pdf>

We would welcome your initial views and hope to pull together some active workshops later in the year....especially if we manage to secure some funding from the Devon Community Foundation to help the process.

PLYMOUTH WILD CHURCH



Spring Events.....

January

Plough Sunday

Wassail

RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch

RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch

February

Storytelling week

St. Brigid's Day

Candlemas

A Rocha Green Communion

Fairtrade Fortnight

March

Tree Care Campaign – The Tree Council – March until September

Spring Equinox

The Great British Spring Clean

World Water Day

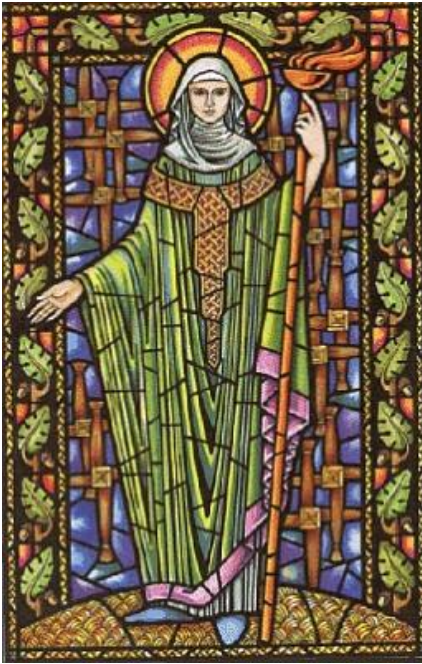
Earth Hour

April

Easter Sunday

Earth Day

John Muir's Birthday (his books are amazing)



PLYMOUTH WILD CHURCH

A Seasonal Outdoor

Celebration for Candlemas and Brigidtide with

St Brigid Fire, Seasonal Celebration,

Spiced Cakes and Wassail

Activities

Sunday February 6th 2022

2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Meet at the St Budeaux Parish Church Hall Car Park

Please bring a small evergreen branch (e.g. Leylandii or pine tree) and a candle

Wear appropriate clothing

Contact: plymouthwildchurch@gmail.com

Save the Bees..... sent by the Devon Wildlife Trust and supported by Environment Plymouth's aims....

Hello,

It is with sadness that once again we are asking for your help to challenge the Government's decision to permit the use of the banned pesticide thiamethoxam on sugar beet crops for the second year in a row.

A single teaspoon is toxic enough to kill 1.25 billion bees.

Neonicotinoids were banned for agricultural use in the UK and the EU in 2018 due to their devastating impact on bees. Even minute traces of these toxic chemicals in crop pollen or wildflowers play havoc with bees' ability to forage and navigate, with catastrophic consequences for the survival of their colony.

The successful application by British Sugar to use the banned pesticide was granted despite the Government's own advisors recommending against its approval.

While we challenge the Government on its decision, we need you to raise questions about this decision with your MP.

We believe that farmers should be given support to adopt more sustainable farming practices and reduce their reliance on toxic pesticides. The Government needs to support our farmers to do this and uphold its own ban on neonicotinoids. Granting 'emergency' use year after year is a very poor and short-sighted solution to a problem that is not going away. It is a decision that is bad for nature, bad for people and, in the long run, bad for farming.

Please stand up for nature by tweeting or emailing your MP. You can find and contact your MP using our online form in the link below and ask them to call on the Government to reverse this bad decision, by saying #NoToNeonics in Parliament.

[Read more here](#)

And from Pollenize.....

We have a long list of activities that we can share from Pollenize but this is just one. Please get in touch with them if you can help :

Pollenize 2022 · Seeds for schools Project The Seeds for School Project (S4S) is a crowdfunded project to equip every school child/student in Plymouth with a packet of rewilding seeds. 36,000 Children / Students from 82 Schools. The seed packets will be used across the city to increase forage and habitat for all pollinators. We will look to deliver this project before the children break up for Easter. (April 1st - 7th)

Environment Plymouth also has approx. 30 spare bee bombs that can be planted this season so please get in touch if we can send one or two to you !

Forthcoming Events.....

The Colonist and the Kiwiku: How wildlife conservation is shaped by colonialism and the patriarchy....a different look at wildlife conservation from the Plymouth Humanists.

<https://www.plymouth-humanists.org.uk/index.php/events-ic/240-rebecca-nesbit?date=2022-02-22-19-30>

Although nature conservation is essential for humanity, it still brings great harms to individual people and animals. In this talk, science communicator and author Rebecca Nesbit will explore contentious issues such as trophy hunting and indigenous land rights, all the time questioning our conservation goals. Some of our deepest held beliefs about wildlife protection may not stand up to scrutiny.

Rebecca is author of Tickets for the Ark, which tackles tough choices in wildlife conservation. Using case studies from around the world, the book challenges some of our deeply held views about what the natural world should look like.

The talk being held at The B-Bar, The Barbican Theatre, Castle St, Plymouth PL1 2NJ on Tuesday February 22nd at 10:30

A New Community Enterprise.....

Copy newsletter available

If you live in, or visit, Tavistock you'll be interested to hear more about Ramsham Farm.

About the Farm

When a series of ancient water meadows along the River Tavy southwest of Tavistock was put up for sale, a group seven mostly local folk joined together to buy Ramsham Farm and protect the rare ecology along this quiet valley from becoming a pheasant rearing unit. Its made up of 15 acres of flat alluvial agricultural fields running beside the river, along with another 10 acres of meadows which have substantially and naturally re-wilded, populated with willow wetland, alder and brambles. In the middle of the land there are a series of ancient buildings which most recently have been used to run a sausage-skin factory.

First steps

We will be fencing parts of the agricultural fields to protect them from grazing deer. This will open up a range of growing opportunities the first of which will be to plant a cider apple orchard. These fields offer a wonderful opportunity to supply food to Tavistock which is only two miles away, as long as we can find ways to deal with roaming deer and pheasant pests. As well as a food growing initiative, the intention is to support the development of other sustainable land-based livelihoods and to increase opportunities for people to connect with nature, through events and eco-camping on the farm.

Please get in touch if you would like to be involved or can offer suggestions of contacts, services and advisers for our group. Mobile: 07813939366 or Email: colin@trier.org.uk

Recommended Reading

The Plymouth Green and Science Book Club are looking for books to review at their meeting so is there anything that you've read recently that you can recommend. If so please get in touch with Alan at menzalan@blueyonder.co.uk by Monday if possible

From University of Plymouth Staff Bulletin Thursday 27 January 2022

Owl Sense by [Dr Miriam Darlington](#), considered by PG&SBC on 26 April 2018, has been re-released in an [hour-long Omnibus Edition on BBC Radio 4 Extra](#). It has also just been published in Germany, with positive reviews and a resultant interview with the country's biggest women's magazine, BRIGITTE. [See more about Miriam's work on the University website](#)

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Meetings for 2022 Online via zoom unless otherwise stated (hopefully we'll get to meet up at some point !). Always a Tuesday evening 6.30pm to 8.00pm unless otherwise stated.

Still on-line I'm afraid.....

February 8th : Plymouth's Climate Hub – Guest speakers Anthony Jinman and Martin Holland. Plus a short item on Shared Interest from Alan Ramage.

March 8th : Water Quality – discussions ongoing with SWW to secure a speaker.

April 12th : The new Community Forest – speaker invited.

May 10th : The National Marine Park – an update. Speaker invited.

Then : June 7th (something on the 30th anniversary of the Earth Summit), July 5th, Sept 6th, Oct 4th, Nov 8th and Dec 6th (five years of plastic).

If you have any ideas for topics for our 2022 meetings please get in touch...happy to make the arrangements ! We are already making enquiries about a socially distanced visit to the new water treatment works at Roborough.

Our Steering Group

We have sadly accepted the resignation of Richard Sroka from our Steering Group and would like to extend our thanks to him for all his support over the years. He will, of course, remain as a valuable and welcome Environment Plymouth member.

Getting in Touch

Don't forget you can always get in touch by email, text, twitter (via Stuart or Ruth – thanks for your continuing help by the way !!!) or phone.

Email : info@environmentplymouth.org or **Twitter** : @EnvironmentPlym

Text to 07970 909912 or phone Jackie on 01752 672537

Our Website at : <https://environmentplymouth.org/>

