



TRANSITION CHEPSTOW

Acting today for tomorrow

May 2016 Newsletter



Transition Chepstow AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held on 22nd March 2016 at the Beaufort Hotel. The following officers were elected, as well as other steering group members:

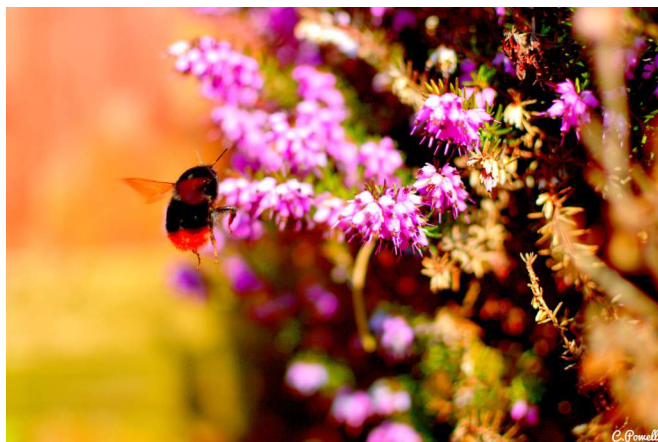
Coordinator : Tim Melville

Secretary: John Waters took over from Nigel Lees who was thanked for his excellent work as Secretary over the last few years.

Treasurer: Glyn Parkhouse gave notice that he would step down next year so anyone interested in getting involved is most welcome to contact and shadow Glyn.

Communications Officer: Zsófia Forró

We are organising a Members Meeting in September to allow members to interact and bring up questions and feedback - you are all warmly welcome!



Wildlife Group update

We will be working on a big project with the food group this year as a result of our successful grant application for our community orchards. There is a strong wildlife element to this project so it is our plan to continue with the wildlife agenda through the food group from now on. The wildlife group will therefore no longer stay as a stand-alone group, however we will continue to work in close partnership with other local wildlife interest groups, especially the Friends of Chepstow Meadows, Gwent Wildlife Trust & Bee Friendly Monmouthshire.

Sustaining local renewable energy

The government has imposed the new Feed-In Tariff conditions on renewables and as predicted installations have tailed off. Our energy group has had several lively meetings with a new member, Hilary Bown, who has made some very useful contributions helping us to make a proposal to Welsh Government to fund a battery storage tariff to encourage uptake. Our main project on battery storage for surplus solar power is making good progress. We have several systems installed, showing exceptional results on electricity bill savings for people.



Trellech installation control unit

Open Day

Friday, 17th June 2016, 10 am - 4 pm
New Grove Farm, Trellech

Visit a storage system that combines batteries, solar panels and a wind turbine.
Part of [Monmouthshire EU Energy Days](#).

Join us at an **Energy Group meeting** on the first **Wednesday** of every month at **7.30 pm** at **The Beaufort Hotel, Chepstow**. For more details you can contact Phil at:
energy@transitionchepstow.org.uk

If you would like to find out more about our projects or to get involved, please get in touch!

info@transitionchepstow.org.uk



TransitionChepstow.org.uk



Litter picks

We organised two litter picks this spring together with other local groups. Both events were well attended and dozens of bags of rubbish and recycling were collected in the local area, including on the Wales Coast Path. Thank you to all volunteers who participated. To find out first about upcoming litter picks, contact Paul to join the mailing list: litter@transitionchepstow.org.uk



The Environment (Wales) Act

The [Environment \(Wales\) Act](#) became law in Wales on 21 March 2016. We can expect this legislation to help strengthen our case with public bodies across a range of interest areas and projects. Amongst other highlights, the Bill includes provision for:

- reducing emissions of greenhouse gasses by at least 80% by 2050
- enhancing powers available to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to undertake land management agreements and experimental schemes
- changes to the law on land drainage and bylaws made by NRW
- establishing a Flood and Coastal Erosion Committee
- providing a requirement for public authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity
- extending 5p charges for carrier bags
- providing powers to Welsh Ministers in relation to waste recycling (including the separate collection of waste), food waste treatment and energy recovery in business



Education and Sustainability

There is a new page on our website that links to resources exploring the role of education in the transition to a low-carbon society: <http://www.transitionchepstow.org.uk/groups/education/>

Upcoming events

[Food Group Meeting](#)

Tuesday, 17th May 2016, 7:30 - 9:30 pm
Regency Room (Upstairs), The Beaufort Hotel,
Chepstow, NP16 5EP

[Woodland Management for Beginners](#)

Gwent Wildlife Trust
Wednesday, 18th May 2016
Monmouth

[Give it Away, Take it Away!](#)

Give and take items that can be reused.
Saturday 11th June 2016, 10am - 3pm
Chepstow Rugby Club, NP16 5NN

[Chepstow's Sustainable Futures](#)

A new collection of books for the community.
Saturday, 25th June 2016, 10 am - 1 pm
Chepstow Library

[Reporting A World in Crisis:](#)

[On the Problems and Possibilities of Today's Journalism](#)

Health & Consciousness Open Forum
Prof Simon Cottle, School of Journalism,
Media and Cultural Studies, Cardiff University
Tuesday, 5th July 2016, 7:30 - 9:00 pm
Methodist Church Hall, Chepstow

[Local Orchards, Cider and Perry](#)

Monday, 11th July 2016, 7:30 - 9:30 pm
Drill Hall, Lower Church Street,
Chepstow NP16 5HJ

[Trees and Their Stories - Guided Walk](#)

Sunday, 17th July 2016, 11 am - 12:30 pm
Tourist Information Centre, Chepstow

