Selected bibliography on sustainability, climate change and the environment

Chepstow Library/Transition Chepstow 2016

The first fourteen titles have been donated by Transition Chepstow. We are grateful to the Chepstow Town Council for their generous support.

The Transition Handbook: from oil dependency to local resilience, Hopkins R; Green Books 2008. And: The Transition Companion: making your community more resilient in uncertain times, Hopkins R; Green Books 2011. Both at Shelf: 333.7913:

Two of the formative and most influential books on the Transition Towns movement. The Handbook set the scene for how communities could become more resilient, while the Companion, a few years later, shows what communities have been doing to face the impacts of climate change.

This changes everything: capitalism vs. the climate, Klein N; Allen Lane 2014, Shelf: 363.7387.

Argues that climate change is as much an economic and political issue as an environmental one. Klein says that it is our addiction to capitalism and growth that is fuelling global warming.

The world we made: Alex McKay's story from 2050, Porritt J; Phaidon 2013, Shelf: 333.72.

This is an optimistic view of the world looking back from 2050, by a fictional character Alex McKay, and what we had to do to get there.

How bad are bananas? The carbon footprint of everything, Berners-Lee M; Profile Books 2010, Shelf: 363.738.

Just what are the environmental impacts of our lifestyle, our decisions and everyday items?

The post carbon reader: managing the 21st century's sustainability crises, Heinberg, R and Lerch D (eds); Watershed Media 2010, Shelf: 338.927 Collection of short essays by experts speculating what our post-carbon society will look like.

Ill fares the land: a treatise on our present discontents, Judt T; Allen Lane 2010, Shelf: 909.831.

Something is profoundly wrong with the way we live today, notes the well-known historian and social commentator Tony Judt.

What nature does for Britain, Juniper T; Profile Books 2015, Shelf: 333.7094. Juniper argues that putting a value on nature can affect the way we care for her. See also his earlier book: What has nature ever done for us? 2013, Shelf 333.95

How did we get into this mess? Politics, equality, nature, Monbiot G; Verso 2016, Shelf: 909.83.

Monbiot, well-known for some controversial views, analyses and dissects our current environmental and social issues in this thought provoking book.

In time for tomorrow? The carbon conversations handbook, Randall R and Brown A; Surefoot Effect 2015, Shelf: 363.

Why do so many of us ignore or deny climate change? The authors guide us through personal stories of change and hope.

2052: A global forecast for the next forty years, Randers J; Chelsea Green Publishing 2012, Shelf: 330.9001.

"Limits to growth" author Randers updates the 1972 Club of Rome classic on our ecological footprint to look forward to the next 40 years.

Visualising climate change: a guide to visual communication of climate change and developing local solutions, Sheppard S; Earthscan 2012, Shelf: 363.7387. Imaginative and new ways of conceptualising the impacts of a high carbon society and climate change

The top fifty sustainable books, Visser W; Cambridge University Press 2009, Shelf 016.3389.

Read detailed synopses of many classic texts on the environment, then order the original from the library!

Demystifying sustainability: towards real solution, Washington H; Earthscan 2015, Shelf 338.027.

Describes the environmental, social and economic issues of that very misunderstood term. What does sustainability mean to us now?

A small selection of related books in the Chepstow Library

The second life of Sally Mottram, Nobbs, D; Harper 2014, Shelf F NOB

Possibly the first novel about a Transition Town and its list of characters, by a comic master.

Low carbon nation: urban and regional transition to green capitalism, Hodson, M and Marvin S; Earthscan 2013, Shelf 307.1216

Describes what a transition to a low-carbon economy could mean for us by looking at examples throughout the UK.

Sustainable Stockholm exploring urban sustainability in Europe's greenest city, Metzger, J and Olsson, AR (eds); Routledge 2013, Shelf 307.7609

A detailed look at how Stockholm built in key environmental and sustainability concepts into its development.

Sustainability [Polity Key Concepts series], Thiele, LP; Policy Press, 2013, Shelf 338.927

Thiele argues that we don't have the right to burden our descendants with economic debt, resource depletion and ecological degradation. Sustainability requires innovation and adaptation.

The no-nonsense guide to: green parenting, Blincoe, K; Green Books 2016, Shelf 338.927

This book is subtitled – How to raise your child, help save the planet and not go mad, which pretty much sums up this step by step guide to celebrating nature and living sustainably as a family. See also: A green guide to bringing up your baby, Gillman, C; Cico 2009, Shelf 649.122

The smallholders handbook: keeping and caring for poultry and livestock on a small scale, Baldwin, S; Kyle Books 2015, Shelf 636

Full of practical advice for a smallholder on all aspects of animal husbandry. Before sustainability was the buzz word, we often aimed for `self-sufficiency'. Chepstow library has a number of books with this in the title, including: The **new complete book of self-sufficiency 2009**, by the grandfather of self-sufficiency, John Seymour. **See Shelf 640**.

Remember to check out other libraries in Monmouthshire when doing research. Staff can get most titles, not available in Chepstow, via inter-library loan.