

## Minutes of KTC Climate Change Working Group – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021

### Meeting summary

- Initial ideas were shared on priorities on which the Kettering Town Council should focus
- Key themes were drawn out and common ideas, the most common theme being recycling
- Actions were suggested and agreed by group. These included improving the Kettering Town Council's website offering on the topic of recycling (full list of actions at end of document)
- Full list of ideas from each team member is below

### James:

- Energy savings and hacks eg. Lids on cooking pans! / Using clothes driers
- Water saving tips
- Waste management - reducing purchasing and improving recycling
- Education - more courses in our colleges on Zero Carbon industries and tech
- Refill schemes/avoiding single use plastics
- Smart meter promotions
- James also sent an excel sheet of ideas to Emily via email

### Bev:

- Improving recycling efficiency – potentially working with schools for this
- Litter education
- Eco Kids project – learn more about this and promote. Seemed to think this was something those at the Grange school are already aware of
- Re-using and fixing existing things
- Adopt a grot spot! An idea for communities to adopt a 'grotty' area and make it their own
- Set up more and promote existing Terracycle schemes
- Green Alchemist – promote program: <https://greenalchemist.co.uk/>
- Community composting - composting at schools/care homes/flats
- Cycling proficiency - for whole families not just kids
- Bicycle maintenance workshops/classes/sharing of information

### Martyn:

- Traffic and parking at schools as an issue - school streets would be a good solution, potentially a good first area to try would be in his ward at Thurston Drive & Boston Way
- Recycling collection - discourages recycling when recycling bins are not collected, and people aren't given the help/leeway they need, whereas binmen could start checking black bins more than blue bins and if people are binning recyclable materials they should have a consequence (eg. recycling info plastered to bins instead of them not being taken)
- "Check locally" packaging and other packaging labels can cause recycling confusion – we should work to solve this

Keli:

- New poster for recycling information
- Lots of recycling FAQs from members of the public – we should better answer these
- Recycling is not people's priority - how do we help them?
- Sainsbury's recycling bank is flytipped/bad condition – we should ensure that these are taken care of and owners such as Sainsbury's are held accountable for the service they offer
- More recycling banks around town
- Community skip for streets where flytipping is an issue (Emily didn't get to mention at this point about Happy Hands Recycling, a new local start up that collects big items for free to upcycle them)
- More bins around town - and recycling bins in town centre
- Poor recycling processes at the hospital & lots of waste, plastic cups used, plastic medical equipment (gloves, aprons) – Keli is working to find out how this is being reduced and improve the recycling processes at KGH

Clark:

- Recycling bins in town centre are needed, with slots for cans, plastics and the other side for general waste – more slots help make recycling clearer for people
- Lack of bins in certain areas, and these are usually worse for littering as a consequence eg. no bin down Alban Rd
- Eco bricks – create an eco-brick project with the community
- Seed bombs – promote idea, how to make them and where to plant them
- Educating young people around growing fruit and veg and more general green education – the Green Patch is great tool for this but we need to develop it more
- Litter is bad outside schools, so more bins here would likely help (Emily did not get to suggest also that we could also potentially utilise cameras to catch more people in the act and prosecute. Increasing prosecution levels will help shift poor litter culture.)

Emily:

- Encouraging active travel and public transport/reducing use of cars
- Encouraging eating less meat and dairy (or more locally produced meat, when people do eat it)
- Reducing waste sent to landfill (lots of CO2 producing carting around all that waste and produced as it degrades in landfill)
- Promoting green jobs and helping people get into green industry
- Supporting businesses to be greener/produce less waste & CO2
- Growing allotments and interest in these, acquiring land to convert etc.
- Vegan festivals – something Lloyd Bunday is already making excellent headway on

- A big fun-run/bike ride based in Kettering (this could be paid entry and produce revenue for the council, while promoting active travel and encouraging the use of the town centre)
- Regular ward litter picks and encouraging biodiversity projects

#### Actions:

- Install more bins in key areas – ask all councillors to consider their wards and anywhere where litter issues are bad and a bin may assist. For those wards that possibly require more bins, a small business case should be put together for these and we should pursue obtaining a couple of additional bins in the areas of highest priority. This would link in with anti-littering messaging from NNC and support our bid to improve the town's recycling.
- Request recycling bins in town centre as part of NNC's review of recycling across the county.
- Create a page on the KTC website around recycling – add to it content around what can be recycled and in which bins, recycling FAQs from constituents (all KTC CCWW councillors find 3 and answer them), list problems with recycling, education on different types of plastic/recyclable materials, how to prepare materials for recycling.
- Consultation – all councillors to start the conversation about recycling with their constituents, be that in person, on social media, in newsletters or otherwise to find out (a) about common issues with recycling, (b) what information people want to see and (c) find out about unusual recycling in their area such as Terracycle schemes, ROAR, bread bag recycling at Coop, supermarkets in their wards and what recycling they offer & return knowledge for next meeting. Consolidate knowledge to Kettering Eco Map (map of Kettering recycling schemes, refill stations etc.).

#### Future actions:

- Action for next meeting is to discuss how we promote this gathered recycling information with our constituents
- Schools and setting up Terracycle schemes - action for Sept
- Improve the NNC Recycling page – later action once we've improved KTC's website offerings

AOB: 14th Aug Charlotte place playing field & 15th Aug entrance of Weekley Glebe playing field