



Annual Report 2011/12





A message from Jon Cooke, Chair

When, back in 2008 we first began to raise awareness of the need for increased energy efficiency and tried to encourage a culture of climate care in the community, we met a certain amount of derision and sometimes a strong anti-climate change lobby. "It wasn't happening; there wasn't a problem; we were seen by some as a bunch of "eco warriors" outside the mainstream of the community.

It's interesting to observe how gradually the scene has changed. Having provided hundreds of free home energy audits, organised films and lectures by high profile speakers and been a constant source of non-biased and sensible advice, Stretton Climate Care has become a respected part of the community. We are often the first port of call for advice on energy efficiency and increasingly invited to work alongside other organisations that are seeing "sustainability" as an important part of their remit. We continue to be asked to talk to community groups about the work that we do and our volunteers in their blue fleeces are a familiar sight around the town.

Nationally it has been a frustrating year with Government indecision and backtracking on Feed in Tariffs and courageous policies for carbon reduction watered down. Locally we have plodded on with our free home energy audits, encouraged dozens of households to take advantage of free loft and cavity wall insulation and worked with others on an exciting external insulation project with the Town Council. We value our volunteers and loyal membership who have stayed with us and encouraged and supported the work that we do.

We look forward to the opportunities presented by The Green Deal which is expected to be launched in October 2012.

Our Mission Statement:

To advance environmental protection and improvement by reducing the carbon footprint of the local area.

Our Aims within the local area:

- To encourage a culture of climate care
- To encourage low carbon, sustainable lifestyles
- To raise awareness of and reduce emissions of other climate change gases
- To encourage households and businesses to reduce energy consumption
- To encourage waste reduction generally and increase recycling
- To reduce fuel poverty
- To encourage local trading
- To encourage carbon offsetting by local people who cannot avoid having higher carbon lifestyles

Review: April 2011 to March 2012-Our Key Achievements

- ◆ We encouraged the fitting of loft & cavity wall insulation to many properties together with a number of solar photo voltaic installations
- ◆ Our volunteers carried out 50 Household Energy Checks providing advice on energy efficiency which has led to an estimated average of 13% reduction in carbon emissions for our previously assessed households. Held drop in advice service at Jemima's Kitchen at Victoria House and carried out targeted campaigns in Little and All Stretton
- ◆ Maintained a membership of 82 members
- ◆ Initiated a special project in the Battlefield area encouraging the three similar streets to compete to reduce their energy use. We have held local meetings and workshops and commissioned a report from Redbox Research on the local attitudes to energy efficiency and climate change
- ◆ Held the fourth annual duck races at Carding Mill Valley showing that low carbon recreation can be fun!
- ◆ Published and widely distributed our newsletter on 4 occasions keeping our membership & community informed about climate change issues, worked with local schools and maintained a lively website and frequent coverage in the press
- ◆ Established a low energy bulb recycling point with the support of Acorn Cafe
- ◆ Held our second Low Carbon Homes Trail where 8 local householders and two community buildings opened up their properties to explain what they had done to reduce their fossil fuel energy use and costs. Specialist contractors were on hand to give advice on renewable energy and insulation
- ◆ Organised a joint photo competition with Long Mynd camera club on the theme of responding to climate change in Shropshire
- ◆ Held a 1940's theme dance, participated in the Summerfest, held a joint lecture on the ethics of nuclear power and showed a film on The Economics of Happiness
- ◆ Worked in partnership with Church Stretton Town Council on the government grant aided project to insulate the Town Council offices by publicising the proposals in the community
- ◆ Responded to consultations deploring the excessive reduction in support for solar PV installations
- ◆ Kept our carbon footprint and running costs low by reducing our travel and using electronic communications.





Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name STRETTON CLIMATE CARE		
On accounts for the year ended	31 st MARCH 2012	Charity no (if any)	1123211
Set out on pages	1 and 2 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below *)~~

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:  Date: 27th April 2012

Name: LAURENCE DAVID NEWBROOK

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

Acc Chartered Institute of Bankers



Charity Name Stretton Climate Care	No (if any) 1123211
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1st April 2011	To	Period end date 31st March 2012
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Last year £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees	373	-	-	373	379
Donations & Fees	674	-	-	674	1,492
Local Fund Raising (gross)	514	-	-	514	1,682
Grants	2,840	-	-	2,840	8,200
Bank Interest		-	-		6
Referrals	3,244	-	-	3,244	997
Sale of Books	354	-	-	354	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	8,006	-	-	8,006	12,756
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Electric Bike sale		800	-	800	800
Sub total	-	800	-	800	800
Total receipts	8,006	800	-	8,806	13,556
A3 Payments					
Project Worker	600	-	-	600	6,800
Printing, Postage & Stationery	660	-	-	660	1,550
Accommodation & Rentals	154	-	-	154	27
Local Fund Raising	232	-	-	232	111
Goods & Equipment	1,290	-	-	1,290	1,274
Publicity	1,327	-	-	1,327	398
Insurance	174	-	-	174	172
Other costs & Fees	428	-	-	428	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	4,865	-	-	4,865	10,332
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	4,865	-	-	4,865	10,332
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,141	800	-	3,941	3,224
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	11,808	800	-	12,608	9,384
Cash funds this year end	14,949	1,600	-	16,549	12,608

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC Current Account	1,548	-	-
	HSBC Deposit Account	15,001	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	16,549	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
			-	-
	Commission on Referrals		-	-
	Grant re "Solid Wall" Publicity Leaflets		-	-
		-	-	-
	-	-	-	
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Computer Equipment ,Screen etc	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
	Display Boards	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
	Exhibition Equipment	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
	Energy Meters	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	<i>C George</i> 6	C George	24-Jul-12	

Stretton Climate Care: Organisation and other Facts

Finance

We were successful in gaining income from a variety of sources including commission on solar PV installations. We managed our expenditure accordingly so that we continued to grow our balance during the year. It is the policy of Stretton Climate Care to operate as far as possible with a financial reserve equivalent to at least 9 months of our annual expenditure, and we comfortably exceeded that. The Executive Committee receives a Report analysing expenditure and income at each of its meetings and controls expenditure accordingly.

Charity Name and Number and address

Stretton Climate Care registered charity number 1123211 is an unincorporated association governed by a Constitution adopted by the Steering Group on 21 August 2007 and amended at Special General Meeting on 23rd February 2008 and at the Annual General Meeting on 15th October 2008.

Address: Yeld House, 3 Yeld Bank, Shrewsbury Road, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 6EZ
email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk

Summary of Charitable Objects

for the benefit of the public in the Church Stretton area:

- a) the conservation, protection and improvement of the environment
- b) education about use of energy to reduce or eliminate carbon dioxide emissions
- c) the relief of fuel poverty by promoting the efficient use of energy

Public Benefit

The Trustees of Stretton Climate Care have had regard to providing public benefit in delivering our services in accordance with advice from the Charity Commission. In particular our main service is to assess and advise on the carbon footprint and energy use of households and provide advice where appropriate on reducing this. This service is provided free of charge to any household in the community and we do our best to give priority to households in fuel poverty. This is in line with our Charitable objects which provide public benefit. We provide subsidiary activities and services, such as environmental films that are either free or subject to a small charge to cover costs. Other activities such as the duck race are intended to attract additional households to our service and although there is small charge for entry, our household advice service is free. We have also provided fee paid advice to other bodies establishing similar services to other communities. Our activities also generate opportunities to advance education about conserving, protecting and improving the environment.

Trustees

The current Trustees are Michael Bourke, Jon Cooke (Chair), Chris George (Treasurer), David Howard (Publicity Officer), Mike Hymas (Secretary), Jamie Wrench (Vice Chair and Web Manager) Jane Wrench and Margaret Wright (appointed by the Executive Committee in April 2012). Isabel Carter and Peter Ireland retired at the Annual General Meeting in October. Our Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting which is held in Autumn each year.

Other Information

We are dependent upon our dedicated and enthusiastic Volunteers who undertake all the functions of the organisation. There are no employees. We have joined the national Low Carbon Communities Network and the Green Shropshire Exchange Network of environmental groups in Shropshire. We have carried out a comprehensive audit of risks and taken steps to minimise any significant identified risks.

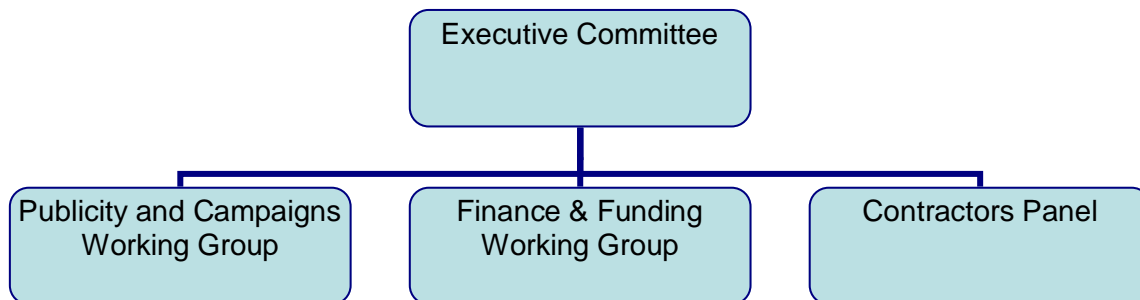
Our Volunteers are an essential element of our organisation. Without them we could not deliver our services. So here we list the names of those who are not Trustees who made Stretton Climate Care effective during the year:

Meriel Blake, Wally Blake, Alison Bradley (Membership Secretary), Brian Bradley, Richard Clements, Virginia Clements, Anne Cooke, David Gibbon, John Lloyd, Julie Mellors, Pat Stokes -Smith, Alison Wren, plus many other occasional volunteers who make our services happen

We are very grateful for their actions, support and dedication.

Structure of Stretton Climate Care

The Executive Committee is made up of Trustees and makes the key decisions for the organisation. It has delegated some of its responsibilities and is also advised by three Working Groups as described below.



Main Role	Main Role	Main Role
To devise, deliver and publicise projects and oversee media and member relations	Prepare and control budget, seek finance, monitor and maintain relations with funders	Advise Executive committee on contractual arrangements with companies
Membership	Membership	Membership
Mike Bourke, Jon Cooke David Gibbon, David Howard (Chair), Jamie Wrench, Jane Wrench,	Brian Bradley, Chris George (Chair), Mike Hymas, John Lloyd, Jane Wrench	Brian Bradley, Jon Cooke (Chair), Chris George, Mike Hymas, Jamie Wrench, Margaret Wright

Our Supporters and Funders

- ◆ We are very grateful to the numerous individuals and bodies who helped achieve our work, especially our volunteers, funders and donors.
- ◆ Shropshire Council awarded us a grant for our work in the first part of the financial year ,particularly related to our Battlefield project. We also received funds from Shropshire Hills AONB relating to a project in the rural area completed in 2010-11. Our main funds arose from commission received from referrals to carefully selected companies, particularly in respect of solar PV installations.
- ◆ We also received funds and/or support from a number of companies and organisations, including Acorn Café, Acton Scott Historic Farm Museum, Agilent Technologies, Amber Couch, The Bucks Head Hotel, Chocolate Haven, Church Stretton School, Coop, Entertaining Elephants, Jemima’s Kitchen at Victoria House, Kaboodle, Kate Johnson, Long Mynd Camera Club, The National Trust, Stretton Outdoors & Camping Supplies,. We also received donations from a large number of individuals.

We are grateful to all these bodies and people for their support



www.strettonclimatecare.org.uk
 email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk
 tel: 0752 849 3181