

Annual Report 2015/16



StrettonClimateCare

Think Global, Act Local

A message from David Howard, Chair



A recent re-visit to the Centre for Alternative Technology made me very aware of how much things have moved on in the last decades. Ecological concerns are no longer at the fringe, and the technologies continue to develop rapidly. Our lives have changed: Recycling is a normal activity; our homes are better insulated, our heating and other appliances are more efficient; large numbers of households generate their own power, and larger schemes continue to spread, despite the NIMBY lobby. We even see more electric vehicles on the road. Yet – the world continues to warm – dramatically so in the last year. We now have to deal with the reality of the striking changes which will impact on us all in the next two decades, as the climate changes more quickly than our response.

We must look again at how we make our lives and our communities more sustainable and more resilient. In this, Stretton Climate Care has a key role to play. So in thanking all who contribute so much to our work, I now issue a challenge to us all to take the next steps, and face the different challenges – personal, social, political, and economic - that confront us.

David Howard

Review: April 2015 to March 2016-Our Key Activities

- ◆ Held our autumn lecture provided by Professor Mathew Williams of Edinburgh University who set out the steps needed to De-carbonise the UK
- ◆ Volunteers spent a day in Carding Mill Valley with a teacher and students from Church Stretton School exploring hydro-electric power. Three teams experimented with home-made water wheels connected to a generator. The electricity produced was fed into an LED array, and the voltage was measured. This stimulated learning about efficient designs, and producing energy from renewable resources.
- ◆ Our volunteers have also worked with Rushbury School on a monthly basis to help pupils to monitor the weather station, take regular measurements of temperature, rainfall, humidity, wind and air pressure, and to interpret the results
- ◆ Organised, with the support of Sandford Hardware who hold the collection bin, the recycling of 400 compact fluorescent bulbs
- ◆ Held tariff switching sessions to assist householders to save money off fuel bills

....Continued overleaf



Mat Williams with David Howard



In Carding Mill Valley with School



Providing advice at Mayfair

Review: April 2015 to March 2016-Our Key Activities- (cont)

- ◆ Organised our well attended Spring lecture by rail historian and author Christian Wolmar on sustainable transport issues.
- ◆ Published and widely distributed our newsletter on 2 occasions together with publication of regular articles in Stretton Focus.
- ◆ Updated our lively website to ensure it is now easy to read on mobiles and tablets which has encouraged users to contact us
- ◆ Refreshed our use of Facebook and Twitter and increased our followers and improved our displays
- ◆ One of our trustees works with Shropshire Rural Community Council helping those in fuel poverty. Activities have included training new Fuel Poverty Champions and training for Officers who work for Housing Associations.
- ◆ Provided advice to households on energy efficiency issues, including new boilers, insulation and renewable energy, through Stretton Focus, home visits, email & telephone.
- ◆ Expressed our concern to government about cuts and policies which have led to a significant reduction in the installation of energy efficiency measures locally and nationally
- ◆ Promoted our joint Electric Vehicle Point at Lion Meadow car park and ensured it remained free to use after changes in the industry resulted in a brief period of fees.
- ◆ Organised our very successful 3rd Electric Vehicle Show. Church Stretton continues to develop as a hot spot for electric cars-See our YouTube video on our website!
- ◆ Promoted the installation of Electric Vehicle Charge Points outside of Church Stretton through advice and encouragement of many agencies and individuals.
- ◆ Held the eighth annual Duck Races at Carding Mill Valley with enthusiastic participation of children and their families.
- ◆ Held a Green Open Homes event with 8 participating households and a display with expert advice from our associated contractors at the URC Hall in High Street
- ◆ Supported a successful planning appeal for a Solar Farm near Acton Scott which would provide for a high proportion of the electricity used by households in Church Stretton.
- ◆ Organised an illustrated talk by local Company ESP Energy on renewable heating and energy which demonstrated the rapid progress that is being made with these technologies
- ◆ Publicised thermal images of Church Stretton commissioned by Shropshire Council in Climate Week, working with Marches Energy Agency
- ◆ Initiated discussions with other organisations on a Sustainable Strettons initiative which would take a wider perspective on sustainability than Stretton Climate Care could acting alone.



Philip Dunne MP at the Electric Car Show– with our Charge Point



Prize cheque awarded to All Stretton residents by Salop Energy following installation of PV Panels



ESP Energy ready to give advice at our Open Homes Day



Audience for Christian Wolmar



Thermal image display outside Co-op



Charity Name Stretton Climate Care (CIO)	No (if any) 1159816
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 1st April 2015	To	Period end date 31st March
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees	295			295	10
Donations & Fees	113			113	10
Local Fund Raising	433			433	90
Grants	280			280	
Bank Interest	5			5	1
Referrals				50	400
Refund re Printer					
Transfer of cash balances from Stretton Climate Care Charity No. 1123211 (Now Closed)					15,054
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,176			1,176	15,565
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sub total					
Total receipts	1,176			1,176	15,565
A3 Payments					
EVA Point					
Printing , Postage & Stationery	403			403	
Accomodation & Rentals	202			202	24
Green Open Homes Event	400			400	
Goods & Equipment				24	
Publicity	2,133			2,133	
Insurance	709			709	
Other costs & Fees	227			227	390
Sub total	4,098			4,098	414
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
		-	-	-	
Sub total		-	-	-	
Total payments	4,098	-	-	4,098	414
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,922			- 2,922	15,151
A5 Transfers between funds					-
A6 Cash funds last year end	15,151			15,151	
Cash funds this year end	12,229			12,229	15,151

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	TSB Current Account	-783	-	623
	TSB Deposit Account	13,012	-	14,528
			-	-
	Total cash funds	12,229	-	15,151
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			



	Details		Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
			-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Computer Equipment ,Screen etc	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
	Display Boards	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
	Exhibition Equipment	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
	Energy Meters	Gen Capital Fund	-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Christopher George	11-Jul-16
	Michael J Hymas	12-Jul-16



Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Form IER 152

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of

Charity Name
STRETTON CLIMATE CARE CIO

On accounts for the year ended

310316

Charity no (if any)

1159816

Set out on pages

192

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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;
 - 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

20th June 2016

Name

LAURENCE DAVID NEWBROOK

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any)

Dip. Chartered Institute of Bankers

Address

The Bank House
Loughills Road
Church Stretton
Shropshire

SY6 6DS

Stretton Climate Care: Organisation and other Facts

Charity Name and Number and address

On 4th March 2015, a Special General Meeting of Stretton Climate Care approved a new Constitution and formed a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered charity number 1159816, still called Stretton Climate Care. At the same time, the dissolution of the unincorporated association (registered charity No 1123211) was approved with transfer of its assets to the new CIO.

This Report therefore reports on the activities and operation of the first full financial year of the CIO.

Address: Yeld House, 3 Yeld Bank, Shrewsbury Road, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 6EZ

email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk Website www.strettonclimatecare.org.uk

Also on facebook and Twitter

Finance

We have adequate funds, although our reserves have continued to decline following expenditure on the renewal of our web site. This will be offset by a £500 grant received from the National Lottery via Green ShropshireXchange at the start of the 2016/17 Financial Year. Public funding through grants has generally not been available and the potential for commission through installation of energy efficiency measures has almost dried up as a result of government cut backs in support of such measures. 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 Committee receives a Report analysing expenditure and income at each of its meetings and controls expenditure accordingly. We do not undertake any significant fund raising and we are compliant with Charity Commission Fund Raising Guidelines. Please note that the Receipts and Payments for last year on Page 5 of the Report are for the period from 5th March 2015 when the CIO commenced until 31st March 2015 only.

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 includes information on the choice of transport modes and vehicles. And we have also supported the development of renewable energy in our area. Our services are provided free of charge to any household in the community and we do our best to give priority to households in fuel poverty. 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. Our activities also generate opportunities to advance education about conserving, protecting and improving the environment.

Trustees

The new Constitution provides for the election or appointment of up to 12 trustees. The current 7 Trustees are Michael Bourke, David Howard (Chair), Chris George (Treasurer), Jon Cooke (Publicity Officer) Mike Hymas (Secretary), Jamie Wrench (Vice Chair and Web Manager) and Jane Wrench. Meriel Blake served briefly as a Trustee but resigned some two months after election. David Gibbon was appointed as a Trustee during the year but resigned for personal reasons midway through 2016. 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 Climate Action England-the successor to the Low Carbon Communities Network- and the Green Shropshire Exchange Network of environmental groups in Shropshire.

Structure of Stretton Climate Care

We have a Trustee Board which makes the key decisions for the organisation. It has delegated many of its responsibilities to the General Management Committee. All Trustees are members of both Committees.

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:

John Annetts, Noel & Suzanne Beatty Meriel & Wally Blake, Liz Bourke, Alison & Brian Bradley, Isabel Carter, Rob Chapman, Richard Clements, Ann Cooke, David Gibbon, David Edwards, David Haigh, Trish Howard, David Jandrell, Wendy Lee, John Lloyd, Valerie Morris, Ken Smith, Bob Welch, Ken White, Margaret and Robert Wright plus many other occasional volunteers who make our services happen.

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.
- ◆ Some funds arose from commission received from referrals to carefully selected companies, in respect of renewable energy
- ◆ We also received funds and/or support from a number of companies and organisations, including Agilent Technologies, Ambercouch, Burway Books, Chocolate Haven, Church Stretton Council, Church Stretton School, ESP Energy, Ginger & Green, Green Shropshire Xchange, MidCounties Co-operative, Entertaining Elephants, Jemima's Kitchen at Victoria House, Kaboodle, Kate Johnson, National Lottery, Rainbow's End, Salop Energy, Salts, Sandford Hardware, Stretton Focus, Stretton Print and The National Trust

Our Mission Statement:

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

Aims and Objectives

- To raise awareness of issues concerning climate change and the need for action
- To promote a culture of climate care through reducing energy consumption, encouraging the generation of local renewable energy, and advancing a more sustainable lifestyle;
- To support local people in reducing emissions, and eliminating fuel poverty
- To provide a free home energy survey service
- To assist households and others to implement any recommendations on energy saving measures by giving them suitable and impartial advice and introducing them to appropriate agencies and suppliers
- To train a team of volunteers in surveying techniques, and energy saving and reduction technologies
- To run an education and training programme to promote a local culture of climate care
- To inform the community of national and local policy, and to influence debate
- To work with other agencies and local groups: a) to bring about a reduction in carbon emissions b) to address fuel poverty c) to promote a sustainable life style
- To campaign on issues in support of the above aims and objectives.

