



ENVIRONMENT PLYMOUTH

FEEDBACK AUGUST 2020

GREEN RECOVERY

My thanks to everyone who logged on to our meeting on the 11th August. It was a turning point...with our Climate Emergency Declaration adopted in principle and some great ideas for our Green Recovery Plan.

The meeting was recorded and can be found at

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/3PFwMKz-2ROZ43f5UrQVod-G5r9T6a81SAZ-Jcyj_gSMcEUDDKJRQK-y8rea0

Password: x&2hnXp#

This edition has copies of the Declaration (we'd encourage anyone leading a group to consider adopting it), the latest draft of the Green Recovery Plan and a whole load of events and actions that can be taken without even leaving your sofa !

Our next meeting....on pesticides....will be at 6pm on the 3rd September and will look at the possibility of working with the Devon Wildlife Trust on becoming a 'pesticide free' city. Invite links will be sent out closer to the date.

Great to see everyone.....stay safe !

Climate Emergency Declaration

Our Green Recovery Plan – still
time to have your say (draft
inside)

Future Events

Please note that Environment Plymouth does not produce formal minutes. The proceedings of meetings are reported in the Feedback Newsletter which is ratified at the following meeting. Environment Plymouth is the city's independent, strategic network for those interested in all things environmental and sustainable. Membership details available from Co-ordinator, Jackie, at info@environmentplymouth.org or by calling 01752 672537

With thanks to : Chris Kemp, Caroline Blackler, Hugh Janes, Ryan Huws, Sheila Evans, George Wheeler, Dave Curno, George Middleton, Judy Harington, Nicky and Paul Hatherell (and Chloe), Penny Tarrant, Richard Sroka, Ricky Lowes, Ron Wheeler, Alan Ramage and Jenny Floyd.



FUTURE FUNDING

The following will be open to all members and not just Environment Plymouth as a whole...although collaboration would be welcomed !

GREEN RECOVERY FUND

The National Lottery will be launching this new fund in early September and, as with many funds at the moment, it will be looking at actions to recover from lockdown. Not a great deal is known at the moment but we are aware that it will favour projects that involve biodiversity and landscape management and that the proposals put forward must include the opportunity to create employment. We think bids must also have the support of a registered charity but we'll circulate full details as soon as we get them...not sure at this stage how much the bids can be for and exactly what the criteria for grants will be.

POP FUNDING

From early September there will be two levels of funding.

Groups will be able to apply for under £250 and under £3,000.

To access **£250 a POP**, it will be very easy. All you will have to do is register with us and once registered you will be able submit an expense claim at any point.

To access the **£3,000** will require you to attend an intro session at our new Tech Tuesdays. Sign up here <https://bit.ly/poptechtues>.

Nature Premium

From David Curry

Now retired as a local government ecologist and living in Plymouth, my home town I have spent most of my working life working with children, helping them to reconnect with nature. I believe that the Nature Premium proposals will address children's mental health, physical well-being and behaviour decline problems in education resulting from COVID 19. Research from Natural England and academics has demonstrated that time in nature;

- improves children's mental and physical well-being.
- results in happier and healthier children.
- builds resilience and sets the children up ready to learn.
- actively engages the next generation to build nature-centric communities.

The Nature Premium, will engage children and young people in protecting and promoting biodiversity, supporting the development of the UK's natural capital for future economic gain.

Whilst this campaign is designed to benefit all children and young people, making them happier and healthier, there are many additional benefits for other stakeholders. Learning outside in nature will help schools and teachers, adding value to the work of conservation, play and health charities and, promote outdoor education. The knock-on effect will be better care for our countryside, for our world environment and lay the foundations for future Green Industries.

This campaign is independent of any organisation but is underwritten by the Forest School Association, it is managed by volunteers who have seen how children benefit from playing in nature.

For more information please take a look at the website www.NaturePremium.org .Support welcomed !

ACTING ON CLIMATE CHANGE



The recent focus on Covid 19 has drawn attention away from the urgent need to take action on climate change.....the climate emergency has not gone away ! Having looked closely at the gaps in local action, and agreed a supportive partnership through our website and activities, with Climate Action Plymouth, Environment Plymouth now feels the time is right to ramp up the emphasis on local, individual and collaborative action.

The meeting on the 11th adopted the Climate Emergency Declaration below.....a statement that has already gained the attention of the Chamber of Commerce as it can easily be edited to cover a myriad of circumstances.....you can adopt it as an individual, a family, a group, a community or a business and together we can take positive steps to reduce Plymouth's footprint.

In early September, we will make a pledge document (similar to the plastics pledge) available together with an idea of what the carbon savings of common, every day actions might be. This will take a little more time to set up as the subject is complex and there doesn't seem to be just one website for this information. Keep an eye on our webpage for the pledge and the details....we'd welcome your contribution to reducing the city's footprint.

We will be briefing Chamber members on the 10th September and we are also preparing a couple of online workshops on the city's carbon footprint.....as well as, hopefully, supporting a Climate Awareness Walk with Climate Action Plymouth as soon as dates can be secured. Everything we do will be with social distancing and risk assessments in mind !

So.....have a look at the Declaration and see if your group could sign up to it (we can help with edits if needed) and keep an eye out for the pledge documents.

OUR CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION

(Based on the Devon Climate Emergency Declaration signed in early 2020)



ADOPTED 11th August 2020

1. This Declaration reflects the commitment of Environment Plymouth; the city's network of public, private and voluntary organisations, NGOs and community interests who share concerns for the local and global environment and who strive to protect and enhance it.
2. It sets out our ambition to tackle the causes and impacts of the climate emergency locally and globally and for the benefit of those who live here, work here and visit.
3. We are aware of the significant implications of the climate crisis for Plymouth's communities where it is already affecting our environment, infrastructure, economy, health and wellbeing. If not addressed, the impact on future generations will be profound and the ability to deliver a more sustainable city will be severely compromised.
4. We acknowledge the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC's) advice that carbon emissions must reduce globally by at least 45% by 2030 from 2010 levels and reach net-zero by 2050 if we are to avoid the worst effects of climate breakdown by keeping warming

below 1.5 degrees. We also acknowledge how difficult this will be without national and local leadership.

5. Given the urgent need for action to meet these international targets, we also recognise the need to take action to meet Plymouth's adopted targets of net-zero by 2030.
6. We will commit Environment Plymouth to leading by example in communicating the severity of the impacts, in raising awareness, in educating and informing and in encouraging action, individually and collectively, within every sector.
7. Within 6 months we will introduce our own plans to reduce the carbon emissions of our own members; working with other local organisations to reducing the city's carbon footprint, leading by example with actions pledged by our Steering Group and encouraging others to adopt their own Climate Emergency Declaration.
8. We will include assisting in the delivery of the actions and targets set out in the City Council's Climate Emergency Plan in this commitment.
9. In collaboration with our partners we will engage Plymouth's residents, businesses and visitors in the active reduction of Plymouth's production and consumption emissions; openly reporting progress on its delivery. We acknowledge that this transformation will be challenging and will include:
 - a. Support for more renewable, decentralised and smart energy options.
 - b. The retrofitting of energy efficiency measures in to our existing buildings.
 - c. The planning, design and construction of zero-carbon buildings.
 - d. The promotion of improved facilities for walking, cycling and public transport and the provision of support for electric and, where possible, hydrogen vehicles.
 - e. The awareness needed to influence changes in consumption patterns to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options.
 - f. Support to enable all economic sectors to review their use and practices and the values and intentions of those they do business with.
 - g. Awareness of the benefits of divesting from fossil fuels.
 - h. Awareness of the impact of our dietary patterns and action on the reduction of food waste.
 - i. Awareness of changing agricultural practices, the sustainable management of soils and the replenishment of soil carbon.
 - j. Encouraging carbon storage through tree planting and management, the use of wood in construction and peatland restoration.
 - k. Empowering the people of Plymouth with the knowledge and skills they'll need to act collectively.
10. Additionally, we will work to understand the near-term and future risks of climate breakdown for Plymouth to enable the city to plan the adaptation of our infrastructure, public services and communities to a 1.5 degree or more warmer world.
11. In support of this we will monitor and review the annual CO2 emission estimates published by the Government and use the outcomes to report on local progress.
12. Members of the Environment Plymouth Network cannot do this alone and we will work with others, including Climate Action Plymouth and the Devon Climate Emergency Group, to call on the Government to take a more serious national role in delivering the policy areas vital to reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. We call on the Government to prioritise decarbonisation and adaptation within decision making and to work with us and the City Council by using its powers to provide the resources and funding necessary to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon and resilient economy and society.
13. We challenge every organisation, business, community group and individual to do the same and to work with us to be the change we wish to see.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

PLYMOUTH GREEN AND SCIENCE BOOK CLUB

#futuregen: Lessons from a Small Country by Jane Davidson (former Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing in Wales) : An account of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 - the first piece of legislation to place regenerative and sustainable practice at the heart of government.

Conference on Friday, 4 September 2020 at 6:30 -8:00 pm with the panel:

- **Luke Pollard MP**, Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- **Sue Dann**, PCC Councillor for the Environment
- **Dr James Gould**, lecturer in law at the University of Plymouth.
- Conservative politicians have also been invited.
- Chaired by Dr James Gould

Zoom host, Professor John Summerscales, Chartered Environmentalist at University of Plymouth. Join the scheduled Zoom meeting at <https://plymouth.zoom.us/j/91641518051>

Meeting ID: 916 4151 8051 with no password. One tap mobile:

+442034815237,,91641518051# United Kingdom

+442034815240,,91641518051# United Kingdom

The Welsh government short online illustrated **information document** for the general public, (Google [150623-guide-to-the-fg-act-en.pdf](#)) explains in an attractive, engaging format what the Act is, why the law is needed, how it works, Sustainable Development definition, Well-being duty, Well-being goals, Future Generations Commissioner, etc..

For further information contact: menzalan@blueyonder.co.uk

Global Book Club Plymouth

“Three Tigers, One Mountain: A Journey through the Bitter History and Current Conflicts of China, Korea and Japan” by Michael Booth

The Chinese, Koreans and Japanese are more than neighbours, they are siblings from a Confucian family. Yet still East Asia festers with a mutual animosity which frequently threatens to draw the world into a twenty-first century war. In this deeply researched, revealing book, Michel Booth sets off on a journey by car, boat, train and plane through all three countries experiencing the people and culture of these nations up close. Join us to discuss the battling Asian tigers.

Free Event Open to All on Wednesday 9 September 2020 7:00-8:30 pm

Meeting online – for joining instructions please email s.kay@blueyonder.co.uk

Global Book Club Plymouth Global Book Club Plymouth is an initiative of Devon Development Education. DDE would like to thank Plymouth University for supporting the Global Book Club.

OUR GREEN RECOVERY PLAN

We hope to present the final version of this for adoption on 3rd September so if there is anything you feel we have missed out or there are any comments, questions or amendments, please let me know on info@environmentplymouth.org



Introduction

As we emerge from lock down it seems a very appropriate time to pull together a plan of action for the immediate future of the Environment Plymouth Network. In the last few months some things have stalled, some have changed completely and some options have been introduced that we can use to our advantage in the future. We have, for example, gained new members (in both the Environment Plymouth Network and Plastic Free Plymouth campaign), have established that online meetings using Zoom are (almost) more accessible than meetings at a particular location and identified a series of topics that we can develop in partnership.

This Plan sets out what those topics might be, who the partners might be, suggests some actions we can take and some targets for outcomes and timescales.

At this stage please do not hesitate to let me know if you wish to add something you are working on or to suggest changes or amendments. This draft doesn't include the suggestions made on the 11th...yet...but we will be reviewing the term 'weeds' and adding a focus on the blue environment.

Overall Aims

“ Environment Plymouth will work towards a future for Plymouth that meets the needs of today's city without compromising the ability of future generations of Plymothians to meet their needs.

We will continue to use our overall aims, as outlined in our Terms of Reference, to guide the actions we take with particular reference to the value of knowledge exchange in both raising awareness and delivering a greener, fairer, more sustainable city.

Environment Plymouth will continue to offer a unified, politically non-aligned and independent voice for strategic environmental and sustainability concerns in Plymouth; providing a trusted repository of expertise, knowledge and support for the development and delivery of the city's plans, policies, and strategies, funding bids and projects.

Working inclusively in partnership with Plymouth's voluntary, community, business and social enterprise sectors Environment Plymouth will share its expertise with local decision makers relating, wherever necessary, to best practice for local, regional, national and global concerns, policies, consultations and events and creating a common voice for the city's environment and sustainable future”.

Themes for 2020 to 2023



Plastic Free Plymouth : Timescales : 2020 to 2023 (in line with the city's Interreg Project)

Key Partners : The Plan for Plastic's Task Group (including the City Council), the campaign working group, Plymouth's Pioneers, Ambassadors and Champions, Surfers Against Sewage.

In support of delivering the 'Avoid' section of the recently revised Plan for Plastics, an updated Action Plan was prepared in the Spring of 2020. This includes a series of actions designed to engage the public in taking action on the reduced use of single use/avoidable plastics. It supports partnership working with the other adopted themes and its delivery will, hopefully, be supported by Interreg funding (subject to tender). Copies are available if required.

Key Dates and Actions

By Dec 2020	Secure the Interreg funding required to deliver this plan.
Sept 2020	Support local Great British Beach Clean activities (postponed from Spring).
From Sept 2020	Renew efforts to recruit new Pioneers, Ambassadors and Champions (targets of 50 set for each in the Interreg Project)
From Sept 2020	Renew public awareness campaign – establish where support can be offered to PCC to boost recycling rates.

Theme Lead : Jackie Young



Food Waste : Timescales : From August 2020

Key Partners : Plymouth Food Waste Partnership, Plymouth City Council

Will support a renewed attempt to secure a household food waste collection for Plymouth and

to establish Pedal Bins as a means of collection.

Key Dates and Actions : To be advised.

Theme Lead : Penny Tarrant



Tackling Climate Change : Timescales : Ongoing from July 2020

Key Partners : Climate Action Plymouth and its members, PCC Climate Emergency Plan, Devon Climate Emergency Response Group, Low Carbon Devon Project at the SEI

Key Dates and Actions :

By Sept 2020	Adopt Environment Plymouth's own Climate Emergency Declaration.
By Oct 2020	Establish an awareness raising campaign/secure funding for this.
By Oct 2020	Establish the potential to work with businesses through the Chamber of Commerce Local Buying Group.

By Oct 2020	Establish where Environment Plymouth can assist in delivering the citywide Plan and identify where gaps in action might be.
By Nov 2020	Agree an ongoing Action Plan and begin delivery of local action.
By Dec 2020	Identify potential to assist in awareness on air quality improvements and continued support of local air quality strategies (DHM).
Annually	Maintain a watch on the city's carbon footprint (with Govt figs), raise awareness of any changes (good or bad) and encourage all to take action to reduce footprints. <i>Update planned on 2018's figs with CAP.</i>

Theme Lead : Jackie Young with Rick Lowes.



Habitats and Green Space

Timescales : From July 2020

Key Partners : Devon Wildlife Trust, Rebel Botanists, POSN, PTP, Street Services.

Key Dates and Actions :

By Sept 2020	Establish the extent of use of pesticides and herbicides in Plymouth. Support discussions on the potential to be a pesticide free city.
Sept 3 rd 2020	Online EP meeting on the theme of pesticide use.
By Dec 2020	Establish potential for a Hoe Your Own neighbourhood project to tackle street weeds.
By Dec 2020	Establish the need for and potential sites of informative signage.
For Spring 2021	Support awareness of bee and pollinator corridors, availability of 'bee bombs' and value of wildflower meadows; raising awareness of the value of commonly removed 'weeds'.
From March 2021	Promote No Mow May 2021.
Ongoing	Support for the protection of Plymouth's tree canopy and, if possible, ongoing tree planting within, and beyond, the Plymouth Plan for Trees.

Theme Lead : To be determined.



Managing Environment Plymouth : Timescales : Ongoing

Key Partners : EP Steering Group

Key Dates and Actions :

From Aug 2020	Establish 6 month diary of EP meetings (online if needed)
From Aug 2020	Agree and adopt Green Recovery Plan, update regularly.
Ongoing	Secure funding for EP management and its themed projects.
By Dec 2020	Complete website (J Young and M Leech)
Monthly	Complete and publish Newsletters.
From Aug 2020	Promote EP and increase membership.
Ongoing	Update Facebook pages as necessary.

- As required Maintain EP's support for the National Marine Park
- As required Develop partnership working (e.g. SW Rotary, Chamber of Commerce) in line with EP project needs.
- As required Establish a more robust way of challenging the lack of community voice in local decision making and how EP can act more effectively as a neighbourhood voice for local green concerns.
- If secured Deliver the Emerging Communities Project
- If secured Develop and deliver a bid to the National Lottery Green Heritage Fund.

Theme Lead : Jackie Young (as Co-ordinator)

CLIMATE ACTION PLYMOUTH

From Ricky Lowes

Dear friends,

10 months into Climate Action Plymouth, we are holding regular meetings, have organised a climate summit, grown our mailing list and have set an agenda for the future actions which includes increased collaboration with other local groups. We are so encouraged and grateful for the contributions of you all and like you, we want to do more but at the moment the bulk of the organisation - and the actions - is done by a handful of people, and this slows our progress and limits our ability to achieve! We are looking for a volunteer to help us progress by supporting the organisation of our meetings, specifically by taking notes during the meetings and typing these up for us.

The meeting dates are:

Date	Time	Focus
24 th Aug	7-8.30 pm	Workshop: Mapping Power and Influence (tentative)
7 th Sept	7-8.30 pm	Update on engagement with Council re Mobility Report
21 Sept	7-8.30 pm	Update on Art / education / awareness work
5 th Oct	7-8.30 pm	Update on Gary Streeter response

We estimate that this is less than one hour's work a fortnight in addition to attending the meetings. If you are able to commit an hour on a fortnightly basis please email climateactionplymouth@gmail.com we would love to hear from you!

Ricky and Jean on behalf of Climate Action Plymouth

PROTECTING OUR TREES FOR THE FUTURE



The Tree Council needs your help to respond to the latest government consultation on trees as the Government seeks to inform the new England Tree Strategy.

This public consultation is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the government to make real, lasting commitments to England's trees and hedgerows. The Tree Council welcomes the consultation and the efforts that have been made to publish it in good time for everyone to be able to contribute. But we want a strategy that pushes even further and faster, providing funds to establish and protect trees across the widest spectrum of our urban and rural landscapes, as well as thinking of trees as assets, not liabilities. At present, our chief concern is to ensure

that sufficient attention and funding goes into environments beyond our large-scale forests and managed woodlands. This includes hedgerows, street trees, community orchards, wood pasture, parkland and the landscapes which house our precious ancient trees.

Help us call for a tree-filled future by responding to this consultation. You don't have to answer all questions, and you don't need to be a tree expert.

** How to respond to the consultation

1. Take a look at our responses

(<https://treecouncil.org.uk/our-response-to-the-government-consultation-on-the-england-tree-strategy/>)

to the consultation principles and questions. You can draw on any of The Tree Council responses. If you reference our response, please mention The Tree Council.

2. Respond to the consultation directly

(<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/forestry/england-tree-strategy/>) on the government's website.

3. Write to your MP (<https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP>), sharing a copy of your consultation response and asking them to tell George Eustice MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, to oversee a strong strategy. You'll receive a copy of your response by email after you have submitted it online.

4. Share the consultation with your networks (social channels, friends & family) and ask them to submit a response themselves.

Remember - this is your opportunity to ensure a healthy, thriving tree-filled future. Thank you so much for taking action for trees

Team Tree Council

READ OUR RESPONSE AND TAKE ACTION

(<https://treecouncil.org.uk/our-response-to-the-government-consultation-on-the-england-tree-strategy/>)

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** Twitter (<http://www.twitter.com/TheTreeCouncil>)

** Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/treecounciluk>)

** Website (<http://www.treecouncil.org.uk>)

** Donate to The Tree Council (<https://treecouncil.org.uk/donate/>)

Our mailing address is:

The Tree Council

4, Dock Offices, Surrey Quays Road

London, SE16 2XU

United Kingdom

Future Parks



From Charlie McGuin at the Council

(charlie.mcguin@plymouth.gov.uk)

Hi, We wanted to write to you to give you some information on a really exciting campaign we are launching today. As you may know we are part of the National project called 'Future Parks' which is funded by National Trust and National Lottery Heritage Fund. This project is looking at new ways to manage and future proof parks for the whole community of Plymouth. We are working with 7 other cities on this to learn and enhance what we do here.

Now for the even more exciting part. We are launching a fundraising campaign for parks and greenspaces across the city. What's That Worth To You. This campaign builds on the important part parks and greenspaces have played for us over the last few months. Important for health and wellbeing, socialising, exercise and nature. We are asking people to pledge their support for parks nature and greenspaces. To Visit, Volunteer, Donate.

Pledge to Donate – we are asking people to support us by donating to our wildflower campaign. The funds raised will go directly to creating and maintaining new wildflower areas across the city delivery social, economic and environmental benefits to the city. If you donate you will be entered in to a draw to win coffee and cake for 4 people in a local park café.

Pledge to Visit / Volunteer – we are asking people to pledge their support to parks by helping us to care for them. People can pledge their visit by sharing with us where they have been and what they have done in their local park. Whether that's a nature walk, using the local café, spotting butterflies or licking up litter.

We want to hear about it. We are asking people to tag us on social media with an image of their visit and using the #myparkspledge. You can pledge your time too during this campaign, by filling out a volunteer pledge, sharing your pledge of social media or ticking a box when you donate to find out more about volunteering in parks. This could be joining a friend's group or formal volunteering session with us or our partners. Or this could be picking up litter on their daily walks, doing some citizen science surveys. It's completely up to each individual what they want to pledge.

If you pledge to visit or volunteer you will be entered in to a draw to win coffee and cake for 2 at a local park café. We would really love your support on this campaign, spread the word, support us, share our social media posts to help drive up support for the campaign and also take part yourself.

Visit the website for more information on the campaign and to get involved. <https://bit.ly/2XKRzxr> - posters are available. Make sure to follow us on social media @NaturePlymouth for more information, details and progress of the campaign.

Thank you for your support

It's been busy but we've still lots to do to catch up !

We have recruited three more Plastic Free Ambassadors (thank you Plympton and Saltash Rotary and Hazlenut Childcare) and over 15 new members of the Facebook page. SAS have also launched some new actions for Sept and the Precious Plastics project has been growing too.

Quick update from Precious Plastic Plymouth: From Kate Crawford

Since March we have gathered an amazing eclectic collaboration of Artists, Scientists, Engineers, Educators, Entrepreneurs and Environmentalists. By joining forces with the incredible Ursula from Precious Plastic Tavistock we have been able to make a giant leap forward so that we actually have machines which are ready to use. We have been experimenting with plastic re-creations and plan to share this with Plymouth in recycle week 20-27th September. In case you missed our newsletters you can view them at www.katecrawford.co.uk/ppp we would love to hear from anyone interested in joining us on this wacky and exciting project!

Ocean Activists Unite for Post-Lockdown Plastic Protest



From the 5th September to the 18th October 'The Generation Sea: Plastic Protest' will see communities take part in six grassroots actions designed to challenge the manufacturers of unnecessary, single-use plastics, change public perception and demand stronger legislation from the government.

Since lockdown has been lifted there has been an explosion of plastic pollution on our beaches and in our rivers. Our streets have become littered with PPE and Big Business has seen the pandemic as a loophole to revert back to their old ways of pumping out single-use and unnecessary plastics. In France alone, authorities have ordered two billion disposable masks and reports have stated that the Mediterranean will soon contain more masks than jellyfish. Our communities of ocean activists across the country are mobilising to fight this wave of plastic inundating our environment. The Generation Sea: Plastic Protest will see ocean activists everywhere stand up and fight for a better world, free of avoidable, excessive and single use plastic.

Images of popular UK beauty spots devastated by plastic pollution have become the norm, and whilst many try to use disposal facilities responsibly, bins are bursting at the seams. This has highlighted the pressure that waste and recycling systems are under to cope with the sheer volume of material needing to be dealt with.

Amy Slack, Head of Campaigns and Policy comments: "As a society, we must learn to deal with multiple crises at any one time. Now is not the time to go back on the great strides we have made in reducing plastic production and consumption. It's time to fight back and demand better policy, better business practices, and better systems that allow us to rid the ocean and natural environments of plastic pollution."

If anyone has a related event they'd like to promote...or if additional help is needed...please get in touch. The SAS commitments to reducing ocean-borne plastic is very much a part of our commitment to a plastic free Plymouth Sound so all ideas welcome ! Keep an eye out for dates for future plastics workshops....we will be recharging the campaign over the next few months !

Two Job Opportunities

PLA/1141 Natural Infrastructure Planning Manager



Plymouth City Council

Grade J (£43,662-£48,497) per annum

Located in Plymouth. Permanent. 37 hours per week.

Closing date: Wednesday 9th September 2020

Do you have the skills, knowledge and experience to lead on natural infrastructure planning in Plymouth, Britain's Ocean City?

Plymouth City Council's (PCC) Environment Planning (EP) Division are seeking a dynamic, solution focused, strategic thinker to lead the Natural Infrastructure Planning Team, one of four environmental teams within the EP Division.

For further information and to apply please go to [Plymouth City Council Recruitment](https://plymouthcitycouncil.engageats.co.uk/) (<https://plymouthcitycouncil.engageats.co.uk/>)

Closing date: Wednesday 9th September 2020

Anticipated interview date: 17/18 September 2020



OFFICIAL

PLA/1142 Natural Infrastructure Officer (Maternity Cover)



Plymouth City Council

Looking to recruit to Grade H (£32,878-£36,876) Located in Plymouth.

Fixed term for 12 months (maternity cover). 37 hours per week.

Closing date: Monday 6th September 2020

Are you a passionate and experienced environmental planner/ landscape architect / ecologist who wants to make a difference in Britain's Ocean City?

Plymouth City Council's (PCC) Environment Planning (EP) Division is seeking a specialist to provide environmental advice to planners; develop environmental delivery programmes and biodiversity net gain solutions; develop the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and to provide landscape design input for council projects.

For further information and to apply please go to [Plymouth City Council Recruitment](https://plymouthcitycouncil.engageats.co.uk/) (<https://plymouthcitycouncil.engageats.co.uk/>)

Closing date: Sunday 6th September 2020

Anticipated interview date: 16/17 September 2020



And another thing.....

Thanks to Nicky and Plymouth Churches Green Action Newsletter.....

General info and updates

- As suggested, Climate Action Plymouth are hoping to organise a Climate Awareness Walkabout within the next few weeks, possibly around the bank holiday weekend to raise awareness of the climate emergency, engage the public and share information. So far, they have about 8 people willing to be involved but would need about 20 to make it viable. The idea is for a socially distanced walk by people who would be willing to chat with the public and share information about one of various topics related to climate change / environment issues eg electric vehicles, rewilding, climate change, polar icecaps... or any of various other topics that you may feel comfortable discussing, or just be there to make up the numbers. Those who are willing to talk on topics would be clearly identified by placards or gilets stating **'Ask me about xxxx:** They don't want it to be preaching or protesting, but simply seeking to engage and respond to people's curiosity with facts. Members of other groups would be welcome to come along to promote their group and its actions too. They are hoping to have some simple information flyers to handout, highlighting the critical facts. **Anyone willing to walk, please [email](#) ASAP, and mention which topic, if any, you are willing to talk about.**
- Something that we discovered recently is that Devon Contract Waste (DCW) have a facility to recycle old CD's and DVD's including their plastic cases, but without the paper / card insert which would go into your recycle bins. Feel free to drop them to their Lee Mill depot which is at Unit 11 Strashleigh View, Lee Mill, PL21 9UH. Alternatively maybe you could set up your own collection point at church - they could probably arrange to collect them from you if you fill a big enough box. For more information feel free to contact [Mark](#) at DCW
- Have you heard of BCI - the Better Cotton Industry? Look out for its logo  on sustainably grown cotton items in our shops. Their standard also ensures that no child or forced labour is used in the production of cotton displaying their logo and they also focus on providing training and learning opportunities for farmers to adopt more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable production practices
- During the pandemic the 5p plastic bag charge was waived for food deliveries, the ban on straws, stirrers and cotton bud sticks, that was just weeks away from being introduced, was postponed, and delays in the Environment Bill are likely to result in yet further delays to the introduction of deposit return systems and extended producer responsibility. From 5 September - 18 October Surfers Against Sewage will be launching **'[The GenerationSea: Plastic Protest](#)'** whereby communities will take part in six grassroots actions.

Some good news:

- The humble house brick has been turned into a battery that can store electricity, raising the possibility that buildings could one day become literal powerhouses. The new technology exploits the porous nature of fired red bricks by filling the pores with tiny nanofibres of a conducting plastic that can store charge. The first bricks store enough electricity to power small lights. But if their capacity can be increased, they may become a low-cost alternative to the lithium-ion batteries currently used. Read more [here](#)
- On August 4th 2020, the fossil fuel giant [BP announced it will slash its oil and gas production](#) and ramp up its renewable energy business over the next 10 years. By 2030, BP says it will:
 - Produce 40% less oil and gas.
 - Generate 20 times more renewable energy.
 - Invest 10 times more in low-carbon technology.

Let's be clear: BP is still a fossil fuel company. Even if you ignore the troubling small-print in BP's plans, fossil fuels are still the problem. And given BP's history of making big green promises that never come to anything, you'd be right to feel sceptical about this. But this is the first time ever that a major oil company has committed to keeping oil and gas in the ground. There's loads more BP and the rest of the oil industry

still needs to change, but if we can hold them to these promises, this will be a real step forward in our fight against the climate crisis.

Some less than good news:

- The last fully intact ice shelf in the Canadian [Arctic](#) collapsed, lost more than 40% of its area in just two days at the end of July. The Milne Ice Shelf is at the fringe of Ellesmere Island, in the sparsely populated northern Canadian territory of Nunavut. "Above normal air temperatures, offshore winds and open water in front of the ice shelf are all part of the recipe for ice shelf break up," the Canadian Ice Service said in a tweet earlier this week. The Arctic has been warming at twice the global rate for the last 30 years, due to a process known as Arctic amplification. But this year, temperatures in the polar region have been intense. The polar sea ice hit its lowest extent for July in 40 years. Record heat and wildfires have scorched Siberian Russia. Summer in the Canadian Arctic this year in particular has been 5C above the 30-year average.

Upcoming events / dates for your diary

- September 6 2020 (and September 4 2021) [Climate Sunday](#) - Be part of the biggest mobilisation of churches for climate action ever and join 1000s of churches across the UK to address the climate crisis. Find out how your church can host a Climate Sunday anytime up until the start of next year's Season of Creation
- 11 - 27 September is the time [Keep Britain Tidy](#) have set for their Great British September Clean.... see their [website](#) for more details - maybe as a church you could organise a community clean up?
- 18 - 25 September 2020 Join thousands of people for the annual Great British Beach Clean, by running your own small, local, private beach clean with friends, families or 'bubbles', in line with Government guidelines. You'll be contributing to a national and global survey to help the Marine Conservation Society tackle litter at its source. See their [website](#) for more details, including local events.

Talking Points : This month I thought maybe we could talk about **toilet rolls**. Most of the major supermarkets have produced their own recycled toilet paper for years, and of course there are other companies such as Eco Leaf which is readily available locally but there are a few that go just that bit further - here are 4 of them:

[Cheeky Panda](#) - bamboo products available direct by mail order but also in some of our local shops and even delivered by the milkman ([Milk and More](#)). Not just toilet rolls but wet wipes, kitchen rolls, tissues, dry wipes and even bamboo drinking straws

[Who gives a Crap](#) - they donate 50% of their profits to help build toilets and improve sanitation in the developing world. Choose between 100% recycled paper or 100% bamboo; fun colourful individual wrappers (we use them as gift wrapping paper). They also do tissues and rolls of paper towels

[A Good Company](#) - bamboo toilet paper - 100% biodegradable, plastic-free, no scents or other chemicals - the bamboo it's made from is sustainably harvested. A choice between unwrapped and wrapped . Other ethical products also available on their website inc toothbrushes, phone covers and even pens made from old guns (beware - they are £152 each!) They also 'climate compensate their shipments'. A global company working with various partners in various projects across the world eg the pens from guns in El Salvador and a tree project in Zambia

[Naked Sprout](#) - claiming to be Britain's most sustainable toilet paper. Zero Bleach, Zero Plastic, Zero Chemicals, 100% Organic Bamboo. Each Naked Sprout box helps safeguard the environment and gives a child in Kenya safe water at school for 1 year, by actively supporting the charity [Just a Drop](#)

Nicky, on behalf of PCGA steering committee (nickyhatherell@aol.com)

Keeping in touch

Don't forget you can always get in touch by email, text, twitter (via Stuart or Ruth – thanks for your help by the way !!!) or phone.

Email : info@environmentplymouth.org or Twitter : @EnvironmentPlym

Text to 07970 909912 or phone Jackie on 01752 672537

If anyone wants to chat or email over the next few weeks please don't worry.....I will be at home and happy to talk or email !

Our New Website at : <https://environmentplymouth.org/>

Please stay safe.....hope to see you soon !