

Councillor Jacqi Hodgson  
Totnes Town Council - Member for Bridgetown – Town Mayor

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Totnes Town Council - Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Planning Week  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November (3pm) – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November (5pm)

*Welcome to an exciting week of activities and sessions to stimulate your thinking and gather your views ideas and creativity towards...*

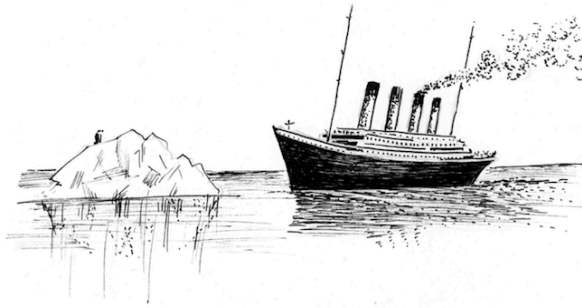
## Totnes Community Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Plan

Dear Residents and Friends of Totnes,

You are cordially invited to participate in the creation of a community response to the Climate and Ecological Crisis. This November, the Town Council is hosting a week of sessions, workshops, discussions and an exhibition to provide opportunities for everyone who wishes to be involved, to learn about and put their ideas forward to address the climate and ecological crisis we face.

The news about global warming is frightening and very real, but as this is a man-made crisis, it's up to us and within our abilities to change our ways and stop polluting our world. We face uncharted times and challenges, but if we work together we can think this through and make a plan to help ourselves, our families, our town and the wider world. Together we can find a way forward that will bring about the changes we need to make in our lives and the way we live to reduce our impact on the natural world.

The attached schedule for the *Week of Action Planning* has a series of events that everyone is welcome to pick and choose to participate in and share their ideas. If you are unable to attend a session but would like to contribute ideas, please put them on individual postcards (or similar size piece of notes paper) and post or drop them into the Guildhall and we will pin them up with the rest of the material for that session (please ensure you indicate which session the idea is for).



The week will start on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 3pm in the Civic Square where we invite the young people who are the future of our town to assemble in the Civic Square with their placards and posters for the changes they seek. We will welcome soapbox speeches. We will then proceed to the Guildhall for the official launch of the week when the posters and placards will be placed around the rooms to remind and inspire the week's deliberations and ideas. The week itself has sessions and discussions on all the themes identified so far in the work to date. The intention of the sessions and workshops is to gather and put ideas around different topic themes into timelines or pathways over the next few years to help us see the wood from the trees. There will also be sessions where groups and individuals can sign up for specific actions they would like to do as part of the work going forward.

The week will close on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November at St. John's Church with a day of celebration and public scrutiny of the outputs from the week. The young people who brought their placards and posters to the Guildhall will be invited to come and collect them and proceed down to St John's Church where the Exhibitions and all the work of the week will have been moved to. We will invite the young people to look at the timelines for actions that we will have produced during the week and check if we have answered their questions and responded adequately to ensuring a safe future for them. We will be joining in with a wonderful Bridgetown Big Community Lunch, and during the afternoon we will be hosting some live performance and music. We will close with a celebration and cake.

## Totnes Town Council - Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Planning Week

### *Summary of how we got to where we are with this Action Plan*

As many people are aware there has recently been a series of international scientific reports that have led to Local Authorities across the UK and further afield Declaring a Climate & Ecological Emergency. Totnes Town Council took a first step in December 2018 and Declared a Climate Emergency and earlier this month amended this to include Ecological Emergency in response to further reports about major losses of wildlife and biodiversity.

Since January this year the Town Council has been hosting monthly meetings to discuss how to take this forward and create a plan with the community. We are very fortunate in this area to have a large number of people with good experience and many with expertise in the skills and knowledge needed to make such a plan. A wide number of different people attended the early meetings and this led to a number of themes and ideas for actions being put together as an outline draft plan.

In July, we partnered with Transition Town Totnes and Extinction Rebellion Totnes to host a *Community Conversation* which resulted in a *People's Climate and Ecological Action Plan*, full of ideas and visions for taking us forward. In August the Town Council hosted a further 2 hour public session to invite more ideas for actions around the themes identified. Both these events were well attended and led to a much more enriched set of proposals for actions we could take in Totnes. The outputs of the August session were circulated as the *Totnes Town Council Climate Emergency draft Action Plan – version 6*.

The week of Action Planning in November is the next stage in creating this plan which we hope to bring to the Town Council meeting in December for approval. It will then go out for further public consultation over December '19 and January 2020. There will be nothing stopping anyone from taking up any of the actions within their capacity at any stage of these approvals, but any actions the Town council itself will be taking within its own remit (e.g. insulation, waste etc) will have to undergo due process as there are likely to be public monies involved.

Ten years ago, Transition Town Totnes commissioned Transition in Action; Totnes 2030 An Energy Descent Action Plan. A lot of the learning and findings that created that plan have informed this current work.

<https://www.transitiontowtotnes.org/groups/building-and-housing/energy-descent-action-plan/>

### *Briefing Notes for events taking place during Totnes Town Council Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Planning Week*

#### **Drop-In Exhibition**

Exhibition of ideas, useful reference, what is happening elsewhere, copies of the work carried out to date and interactive displays:

Totnes Guildhall Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> opens at 4pm,

Mon – Fri 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Nov: Totnes Guildhall opens every week day from 10am until close of day

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> St John's Church opens 10am until 5pm

#### **Young People's Gathering & Soap box**

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 3pm Totnes Civic Square. Proceed to Totnes Guildhall ~ 3.45pm

#### **Official Launch:**

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 4pm Totnes Guildhall. Join us to kick-off an exciting week

#### **Open Day at St. John's Church 10am – 5pm**

Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> Nov. Starting from the Guildhall at 10am, there will be a procession by the young people carrying their placards and posters to St. John's where they will give their feedback on the outputs from the week's workshops and sessions. All the outputs of the week will be on display for discussion and review together with the constructed timelines for the Action Plan from the workshops. There will be a community lunch, some performance and music all finished off with a celebration and thanks.

**Volunteering your skills and support:** We need volunteers to help with all these open exhibition times, workshops and sessions. Please email [jacqihodgson@gmail.com](mailto:jacqihodgson@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer stating the days / times / sessions you would like to help with.

*All are welcome to attend the exhibition & events which are free to attend*

## Totnes Town Council - Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Planning Week

### Workshops & Topic Sessions:

- Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Carbon Counting Workshop (1) 12.30pm – 1.30pm  
What it says on the tin. Come and find out how to work out your carbon footprint and the different choices you can make to reduce your impact.  
Carbon Counting Workshop (2) 6pm – 7pm (repeat)
- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Nov.** Arts, Culture & Engagement: 5pm – 6pm  
Wildlife Spaces: 6pm – 7pm  
Tree Planting: planning November 24<sup>th</sup> Town Wide Tree Planting events: 7pm – 9pm
- Weds 6<sup>th</sup> Nov.** Technology, Data, Security & Privacy: 6pm – 7pm
- Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov.** Bioregional Learning Journey-Feedback from the recent event: 10.30am – 12.30pm  
100 Climate Champions – Signing up for Actions: 6pm – 7pm  
100 Wildlife Champions – Signing up for Actions: 7pm – 8pm
- Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Nov.** Managing Values, feelings & grief around change and loss: 2pm - 3pm  
Sharing Session; for Outside Town and Parishes to discuss and use the work of Totnes

### School & Educator Sessions:

- Weds 6<sup>th</sup> Nov.** (4pm – 6pm see also Education Actions, Visions & Backcasting session listed separately)  
7pm – 9pm. United Nations Climate Change Teachers Accredited Course. Teacher's Workshop led by UN accredited Teacher to introduce the course and help aspiring teachers started on this very dynamic and popular 15-hour course.  
Please bring your own laptop.
- Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov.** 2pm – 4pm. Primary School Student Visits to the exhibition and workshop outputs. Opportunity for inputs, ideas and artworks  
4pm – 5pm. Secondary School Student Visits (as above)

### Actions, Visions & Back-casting sessions:

Instead of trying to randomly forecast what we can do to get to a better place, we will be working backwards (from B to A) in these facilitated sessions. Participants will go through a process of identifying visions and aims for key themes in the plan and build timelines of the steps and actions to achieve these visions. This will form the main body of the Action Plan. Many of the actions needed to be taken have already been identified but they need to be prioritised and ordered to enable them to go forward and ensure we take first the most beneficial steps that will open up further opportunities. We will also hope to fill the gaps we discover with more actions to assist the process.

- Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov.** Consumption & Waste: 10.30am – 12.30pm  
Migration & Refugees: 2pm – 4pm  
Housing, Building & Neighbourhood Plans: 4pm – 6pm
- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Nov** Enterprise & Economics: 10.30am – 12.30pm  
Food (optional - bring lunch to share): 12.30pm – 2pm  
Agriculture & Land-use: 2pm – 4pm  
Wildlife & Biodiversity: 4pm – 5pm
- Weds 6<sup>th</sup> Nov** Energy Demand & Generation: 10.30am – 12.30pm  
Air Quality: 12.30pm – 2pm  
Transportation: 2pm – 4pm  
Education: 4pm – 5pm
- Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov** Water: 12.30pm – 2pm
- Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Nov** Health & Wellbeing: 10.30am – 12.30pm  
Diversity & Inclusion (optional - bring lunch to share): 12.30pm – 2pm

**Film Shows:** During the week a number of short films will be shown at the Guildhall including,  
Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov at 5pm The Power of Community (60min) An inspiring film about the 'special period' in mid 90's Cuba, when they experienced an oil embargo.

## Schedule for Totnes Town Council Climate & Ecological Action Planning week

Times/Days	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov
10 AM		Open / Exhibition. drop in Totnes Guildhall	Open / Exhibition. drop in Totnes Guildhall	Open / Exhibition. drop in Totnes Guildhall	Open / Exhibition. drop in Totnes Guildhall	Open / Exhibition. drop in Totnes Guildhall	Open / Exhibition drop in. Plus draft Action Plan & more @ <b>St. John's Church</b>
10.30am		Actions, Visions & Backcasting session CONSUMPTION & WASTE	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session ENTERPRISE & ECONOMICS	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session ENERGY DEMAND & GENERATION	Building Resilience across South Devon – a BIOREGIONAL LEARNING JOURNEY – adding to the timelines	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session HEALTH & WELLBEING	All assemble at Guildhall – incl Young people and set off for Bridgetown – carrying the placards
11.30am	Review of Action Plans – YOUNG PEOPLE RESPOND						
12.30pm		CARBON COUNTING workshop (1)	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session FOOD (bring lunch to share)	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session AIR QUALITY	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session WATER	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session DIVERSITY & INCLUSION	BRIDGETOWN BIG LUNCH
2.00pm		Actions, Visions & Backcasting session MIGRATION & REFUGEES	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session AGRICULTURE & LAND-USE	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session TRANSPORTATION	PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS – young people give their feedback and add some thoughts	MANAGING VALUES, FEELINGS AND GRIEF AROUND CHANGE & LOSS session	Stalls & discussions on each of the different climate & ecological action topic themes, pathways & plans. WHO IS DOING WHAT? Signing up for actions and involvement - everyone
3.00pm	<b>EVENT STARTS</b> Young people et all assemble in Civic Square with placards & soapbox speeches						SHARING session FOR OUTSIDE TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS to discuss Totnes work
4.00pm	Arrive at Guildhall and launch the week with invited guests and others Fizz, juice & nibbles	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session HOUSING, BUILDING & NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session WILDLIFE & BIODIVERSITY	Actions, Visions & Backcasting session EDUCATION	SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS session – feedback and adding to the action plans	Finish 4pm	Music, singing.  Celebration & thanks.  Fizz & Cake
5.00pm	Finish 5pm		ARTS, CULTURE & ENGAGEMENT session				Film Show – The Power of Community
6.00pm		CARBON COUNTING workshop (2)	WILDLIFE SPACES workshop	TECHNOLOGY, DATA, SECURITY & PRIVACY session	100 Climate Champions – signing up for Actions		
7.00pm		Totnes Town Council – FULL COUNCIL monthly meeting	TREE PLANTING– get together to plan events on November 24 <sup>th</sup> plus other tree planting	Teachers Workshop: UN CLIMATE CHANGE TEACHERS ACCREDITED COURSE info & get started	100 Wildlife Champions – signing up for Actions		
8.00pm					Finish 8pm		
9.00pm		Finish 9pm	Finish 9pm	Finish 9pm			