

BARROW GREENER LIVING NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2023



Formation of Steering Group (SG)

Following an open meeting in the library in March 2023 a number of attendees volunteered to form a Steering Group and held their first meeting on 19th April with nine members present. The following project areas were agreed. Recycling, localisation of food production, transport, wildlife, insulation, sustainable energy and climate change. Individual members of the steering group agreed to lead on these projects, all supported by IT and graphics. The Group has subsequently met monthly to date.

Fund Raising

In view of the need to raise funds for some activities, for example, provision of a street stall requires public liability insurance also there is an intention to purchase an infra red camera hired out to monitor domestic heat loss, it was necessary to set up a bank account. The initial funding source is the S.137 fund held by Barrow Parish Council. We have been awarded sufficient funding to support the purchase of the infra red camera, CO2/ humidity monitors, both for hire and the cost of fees for carbon literacy courses.

Group Administration

To enable an application for a bank account the Steering Group agreed a Constitution with elected officers; chair, treasurer and secretary. A copy of the Group Constitution is available from the secretary.

BGLG now has a bank account and is developing a safeguarding policy and procedure.

Membership

A copy of the full membership policy is attached to the membership application form. Annual membership costs £5.00 for a full year and £3.00 for less than six months. Membership paid now will be valid until June 2025.

Actions

- Joined the successful campaign for the part reinstatement of the bus service for Leicester.
- Organised the monthly visit of Real Refills who supply ethically sourced, quality products at affordable prices, including food and cleaning products all without plastic packaging; Firstly visited on 1st August at the Soar Bridge Inn.

- In process of organising a poster competition for local school children ‘To celebrate walking and making our streets healthier and safer’.
- Provided articles to Barrow Voice – ‘Keep warm, save money’ and ‘Barrow Greener Living: membership, Event, Refill Van, Sustainable Christmas and Plans.’



Event

An informal evening of energy and insulation discussion took place on 4th October from 7 – 9pm at the Soar Bridge Inn. Local residents with experience of the following topics were available to offer their experience of secondary/triple glazing/insulation, electric vehicles and charging, solar panels and solar battery storage, air source/ground source heat pumps, electric powered cycles and the choice of energy supplier. This was not a commercial event. This successful event was well supported and a number of participants came forward to join the group and made generous donations.



Some Useful Links

<https://royalsocietyletter.co.uk/>

<https://medium.com/the-new-climate/why-individual-action-matters-4b9aa9447dd6>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jun/22/fossil-fuel-assets-loss-study>

Development

Ideas, views on related topics, suggestions for projects and contacts with groups with common interests are welcome. A number of suggestions for relevant topics were proposed at the open evening.

Please contact: info@barrowgreenerliving.co.uk

Barrow Greener Living Group Officers

Chair- Bob Johnson, Treasurer – Nick Thomas, Secretary- Alan Willcocks.