

Annual Report 2020/21

As a result of the Covid Pandemic we had to cancel our events in 2020/21.

Here are some highlights from the last 5 years:



StrettonClimateCare
Think Global Act Local

A Message from David Howard, Chair



One of the consequences of the pandemic has been to nudge us into thinking rather more about life and death issues which, previously, we have preferred to avoid. We have been pushed out of the comfort of our regular routines. Our hopes for the future, either of continuity or of improvement, are now shot through with uncertainty.

The immediacy of virus testing, of over-crowded hospitals, and, now, of vaccination programmes could easily lead a worried population to ignore, or at least put to one side, any concerns about an even bigger crisis: the looming threat of irreversible climate change.

We are one year closer to the deadline year of 2030 – the date by which the world has to change course if we are not to face the horrific consequences of global heating: extreme weather, droughts and floods, hunger, war and mass migrations. These are not the products of a febrile imagination.

Just as Science has enabled us to find vaccines against Covid, so Science gives us the forecast for a future world.

As narrow nationalism and blind populism increasingly dominate world politics, the chances of reaching a global agreement to meet our greatest challenge are 50/50 at best. The stumbling and disjointed approach of our own government, which is chairing the important COP26 conference in November this year, does not augur well for a successful outcome. Our ability to live in hope is being tested to destruction. Nor should we expect salvation from rich men such as Bill Gates, riding in on a white charger of new technology. Human ingenuity can do a lot, and we must use it - wisely - but it will not be enough.

As has been said many times before: Business as usual is not an option. While our minds have been focused on the pandemic, temperatures have continued to climb, with record levels of CO₂ recorded in March (despite the lockdowns); sea levels rise, forests burn and ice-sheets melt. We need a new normal. Locally, initiatives such as South Shropshire Climate Action and Zero Carbon Shropshire are mapping out alternatives.

Much will be required of politicians in the coming months, but it is we who elect them.

Much will be required of groups such as ours, as we continue the fight for a sustainable world.

But what is required of individuals is for each of us to look at ourselves, and how we live our lives. It is our reckless consumption that is driving climate change, and our politicians are either unwilling or afraid to challenge our bad habits. The hard message is that the future of our world depends on us learning to live more modestly – and sharing the resources of our planet more equitably amongst its peoples. These are the stark choices – both personal and political – that we must make. Are we brave enough to live with our eyes on the future of our children and grandchildren?

Review: April 2020 to March 2021- Our Key Activities-

We were not able to hold any of our planned events during the year as a result of the Pandemic. We considered holding Zoom talks but a survey of our members indicated that many would not be able to access them. All our Committee Meetings and Board meetings were held through Zoom video conferencing.

We actively promoted the Green Homes Grant introduced by the Government which was prematurely withdrawn at the end of March 2021. We provided extensive advice to Philip Dunne MP, as Chairman of the Environmental Audit Committee, on the problems with administration of the grant which affected both householders and installers. We also met with Philip Dunne MP to discuss climate change and energy efficiency issues.

Continued

Review: April 2020 to March 2021- Our Key Activities-Cont.

We were, nevertheless, able to offer advice to many people who were able to install new heating systems and other energy efficiency measures. We issued advice on our website about carefully selecting renewable energy companies to avoid future problems.

We continued to offer general advice by telephone to many callers and those who contacted us through our website. We expanded our online advice notes.

We contributed policies and proposals on climate change for the Community Led Plan.

We made representations on government consultations and that Energy Performance Certificates need updating to enable recommendations to include zero carbon heating systems rather than upgraded gas boilers. We welcomed long delayed government proposals to upgrade energy efficiency standards in the Building Regulations, although these are not yet in place. We advised government that the sale of fossil fuelled powered cars should end by 2030 but, regrettably, they have allowed these to continue until 2035.

We advised Shropshire Council that their strategy for net zero carbon emissions contained a significant inaccuracy which meant that their strategy does not achieve net zero emissions.

We have prepared a new set of events for when the Pandemic lockdown permits.

We made Representations on the Draft Shropshire Local Plan which does not include satisfactory policies to address climate change. There will be an Examination by an Inspector in 2021/22.

We encouraged Church Stretton Town Council to commission Maintenance on the EV point at Lion Meadow when it went out of service and we are pleased that this is now back in operation.

We conducted a survey of all our members, consulting about events and the establishment of new Groups to help take forward topic areas. Groups have now been set up including members on both Building Efficiency and Retrofit and Resource Management which is taking forward our work on recycling and preparing to set up a Repair Café.

We expressed our concern that new houses proposed by Connexus in Lutwyche Road will be built to current Building Regulations standards rather than the upgraded standards proposed for later in 2021. They responded that they would like to do more but are constrained by the finances available.

We purchased an infra-red camera which will identify poor areas of insulation in buildings.

We submitted articles and press releases on many topics.

We continued to improve our web site and grow the numbers of our Twitter followers. We had to make unforeseen payments as a result of including some photographs on our website without permission. We have now improved our procedures. We updated the strapline to our logo.

Many of our Trustees were involved supporting South Shropshire Climate Action with their Conference and to prepare a Report on achieving Zero Carbon emissions in the Ludlow Constituency.

Other Trustees played significant roles with Shropshire Climate Action Partnership in their Zero Carbon Plan and associated activities for the whole of Shropshire plus Telford and Wrekin.



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

STRETTON CLIMATE CARE (CIO)

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1159816

Set out on pages

1 + 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31.03.2021

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which 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:

26th April 2021

Name:

LAURENCE DAVIS NEWBROOK

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

Asip Institute of Bankers.

Address:

The Bank House

Longhills Road, Church Stretton

Shropshire

SY6 6DS



Charity Name Stretton Climate Care (CIO)		No (if any) 1159816	CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts			
For the period from	Period start 01-Apr-20	To 31-Mar-21	Period end 31-Mar-21

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	328			328	417
Donations & Fees	484			484	430
Local Fund Raising					756
Grants					
Bank Interest	74			74	121
Referrals	100			100	100
Gift Aid Refund	64			64	63
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,050			1,050	1,887
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sub total	-			-	-
Total receipts	1,050			1,050	1,887
A3 Payments					
Website	529			529	
Printing, Postage & Stationery & Misc	555			555	539
Accommodation & Rentals					276
Support for SSCAG Conference	500			500	
Goods & Equipment	444			444	128
Publicity					317
Other Costs & Fees	591			591	529
School Projects & Youth Council					40
Computer Software	214			214	
Sub total	2,833			2,833	1,829
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Sub total	2,833			2,833	1,829
Total payments	2,833			2,833	1,829
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,783			- 1,783	58
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	12,417			12,417	12,359
Cash funds this year end	10,634			10,634	12,417

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

Categories	Details	Unrestrict- ed funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endow- ment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	TSB Current Account	233	-	
	TSB Deposit Account	10,401	-	
			-	-
	Total cash funds	10,634	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

	Details		Restricted funds to nearest £	Endow- ment 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 re-	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 ap- proval
<i>M J Hymas</i>	M..J. Hymas	20 July 2021
<i>C D George</i> 6	C.D. George	20 July 2021

Stretton Climate Care: Organisation and other Facts

Charity Name and Number and address

Stretton Climate Care is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Registered charity number 1159816. It was established in 2015, replacing a charity of the same name which was established in 2008.

Address: Mayfair Community Centre, Easthope Road, Church Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 6BL
email: info@strettonclimatecare.org.uk Website www.strettonclimatecare.org.uk Tel 07528 493181

Finance

We have adequate funds although these have been depleting over the last few years and the Trustees intend to reduce our annual losses by raising more funds in a variety of ways. It is the policy of Stretton Climate Care to operate with a financial reserve equivalent to at least 9 months of our annual expenditure, and we exceed 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 and do not need to register with Fund Raising Regulator. We comply with Charity Commission guidelines for our financial controls.

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. We encourage reuse and recycling. 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 lectures and talks 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 to the duck race, 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 9 Trustees are Michael Bourke (Vice Chair), Marcus Cash, Jon Cooke (Publicity Officer), Chris George (Treasurer), David Howard (Chair), Mike Hymas (Secretary), David Matthews, Lorna Taylor and Jane Wrench. Our Trustees are normally elected annually at the Annual General Meeting which is held in Autumn each year but this was deferred because of the pandemic.

Other Information

We are dependent upon our dedicated and enthusiastic Volunteers who undertake all the functions of the organisation. There are no employees. We joined Green Shropshire Exchange a Network of environmental groups in Shropshire. We continue to review our data security arrangements in the light of the General Data Protection Regulation. Our Privacy Policy is on our website and we have registered with the Information Commissioner's Office.

We have reviewed our Organisation against the Charity Commission's Governance Code and will address a number of issues raised. In particular some Trustees have served for more than 9 years and our Board is not as diverse as it should be.

Structure of Stretton Climate Care

Our Board of Trustees makes the key decisions for the organisation and comprises all our Trustees. It has delegated many of its responsibilities to the General Management Committee which comprises all of our 9 Trustees and Rachel Foster and Valerie Morris.

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 last two years :

John Annetts, Wally Blake, Liz Bourke, Brian Bradley, Isabel Carter, Richard Clements, Ann Cooke, David Edwards, Trish Howard, Victoria Hurn, Andrew Middleton, Valerie Morris, David Newbrook, Helen Sansom, Mark Tocknell, Richard Walker, Ken White, plus many other occasional volunteers who make our services happen.

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

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.
- ♦ We also received funds and/or support from a number of companies and organisations, including Agilent Technologies, Ambercouch, Energy Zone, Marshbrook Print, Rainbow's End, Salts, Sandford Hardware, Stretton Print and The National Trust

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

Our Mission Statement:

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

Aims and Objectives

1. **To raise awareness of issues concerning climate change and the need for action**
 - 1.1 To deliver a programme of lectures on climate change & sustainability matter
 - 1.2 Continue "what to do about Plastic" campaign
 - 1.3 Improve engagement with children and young adults
 - 1.4 Provide updates on technology, policy and issues
 - 1.5 Develop effective communication of SCC agenda
2. **To promote a culture of climate care through reducing energy consumption, encouraging the generation of local energy, and advancing a more sustainable lifestyle**
 - 2.1 To provide a free home energy service
 - 2.2 Pursue a Sustainable Strettons agenda
 - 2.3 Organise an electric car day
 - 2.4 Organise Talk on renewable energy and heat
 - 2.5 Organise a Talk on vegetarian & vegan cooking
3. **To support local people in reducing emissions, and eliminating fuel poverty**
 - 3.1 Provide tangible support to fuel poor following Home Energy Check
 - 3.2 Provide regular advice sessions at the Health & Wellbeing Centre
 - 3.3 Develop practical relationships with other support agencies
 - 3.4 Provide Talks to Community Groups



StrettonClimateCare
Think Global Act Local

Annual Report Supported by
 **Agilent Technologies**