

# HadLOW CARBON Community

## AGM 2010

Report from the Chair

7-30 pm 01 Nov 2010

Since our last AGM on 19 October 2009 much has been achieved.

We continue to pursue the aims of the group which are as follows:

- a) *To build awareness of Climate Change and the necessity for sustainable use of finite resources.*
- b) *To bring together and foster understanding amongst residents of Hadlow and the surrounding areas and to promote sustainable activities.*
- c) *To foster dialogue with local and regional authorities, organisations and businesses about facilitating a sustainable lifestyle.*
- d) *To network with other local and regional environmental groups.*

### **Activities so far:**

#### **2009**

- 21 November. We had a stand at St.Mary's Church Christmas Fayre where the first edition of the Hadlow Calendar went on sale produced by Julie on behalf of the group.
- 5 December. Members of the group joined the blue Wave campaign against Climate Chaos in central London.
- 8 December. Climate Change Communities' net-working day at Lenham. Hildegard produced a power point presentation and with Stephanie gave a talk of the activities of the HCC to date.
- 12-13 December. Members of the group attended a permaculture course in Brighton.
- 17 December. Christmas Meal at the Rose and Crown and walking home in the first snow of the winter.
- 19 December. A group of us played in the snow and made HCC Snow People.

#### **2010**

- Dec- January DECC bid. A core group of HCC members and Hadlow College worked hard on putting together a bid for a share of the government's funding for local grassroots community groups to provide sustainable energy solutions for the village. Although we were unsuccessful because of the high number of countrywide applicants it was useful in making links with Russet homes the local social landlord, talking to Hadlow Primary School head-teacher on possible renewable energy solutions for heating the school pool and building up expertise on bid writing and providing a focus for the group on where to concentrate our efforts for 2010.
- The New Year got off to a good start on 2 January 2010 with the 'topping out ceremony' for the new shed on the grower group plot.
- January. The new notice board is installed and ready for use
- 13/14 March. Lambing Weekend. The group manned a stand with their new banner made from recycled materials and helped the younger visitors to make sheep inspired mother's day cards.
- 27 March. We held a very enjoyable and successful candle lit Quiz night to celebrate Earth hour in the Two Brewers.

- 25 April. Some of the group attended a seed swap and chicken keeping event in Sevenoaks and obtained a new supply of seeds for the grower group plot.
- March. Alison attended the Kent and Medway funding fair and made some useful contacts with organisations to approach for funding future projects.
- 21 April. We presented a report on our year's activities for the Hadlow Annual Parish meeting.
- 31 May. We had a stand at St.Mary's May fair; it was a cold windy day.
- 27 June. Eco-house Open Day: members of the group visit houses around Sevenoaks to view their renewable energy installations.
- 17 July. Members of the group ran the monthly market stall, to publicise our group, at St.Mary's Church combined with a swap shop.
- 20 July. Members of the group attended a meeting at Hadlow College to discuss the possibility of installing an anaerobic digester either in the village or the college.
- July. A planning application was made for three groups of bicycle stands and planters in the village centre.
- 28 July. A small group attended the very informative WI Fuel and Power day in Snodland.
- August. Alison is successful in receiving funding from B & Q for items to enable the roof of the grower group hut to be extended to conserve rainwater.
- August. A group member David Carey takes on the role of village Tree Warden.
- 15 September. Julie and Stephanie presented Hildegard's power point presentation about the HCC to Edenbridge town council.
- 3 – 4 September. The group assembles a display of produce from the grower group plot at St.Mary's Harvest Festival.
- September. Alison is successful in securing just under £5,000 from the Grassroots funding stream for the grower group plot.
- September. The group compile an Eco-reading list for the Hadlow Library.
- October. Hildegard sets up a new website for the group.
- 9 October. Members of the group visit the new woodchip/pellet production installation at Court Lane.
- 10 October. Members of the group plant bulbs around the car parking area of the Old School Hall as part of the worldwide 10:10 campaign.
- 19 October. Planning permission is granted for two groups of bicycle stands and planters in the village centre.

- **Looking ahead:**

- The second edition of the Hadlow Calendar is ready for sale.
- 23 November. We are hosting a talk at The Old School Hall, Hadlow by the Tonbridge and Malling Conservation Officer on how to make listed buildings more energy efficient.
- 20 December. The HCC join with the Save Hadlow Tower group for a Christmas meal at the Rose and Crown.
- Bicycle planters to be bought and installed in the village centre.

Stephanie Ingham – chair HadLOW CARBON Community AGM 1 November 2010