

VIEW FROM THE VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY SECTOR

By Transition Town Rugby



"THE VIEW FROM THE VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY SECTOR" ...

What Does That Mean?

Specific to climate/environmental action

Who is out there in Rugby and what sort of things are going on?

Our experiences of trying to protect our environment and fight Climate Change

Our view of the Council's Climate Strategy to date

What we believe needs to happen

What Does It NOT Mean?

We're NOT experts!

We DON'T have all the facts and figures

We DO have lots of opinions on what should be done, but we're NOT here to deluge you!

We're NOT claiming to represent the voice of all community groups

WHAT IS A TRANSITION TOWN? WHAT ABOUT OTHER GROUPS IN RUGBY?

- Grassroots community organisations
- Self sufficiency of local areas
- Local economy
- Fighting climate change
- Provide a supportive network
- Started in Rugby 2019

"The community garden has been a great way of meeting people on my street and we love that lots of people enjoy the garden even when we're not there. We've learned a lot about how to organise events and make things fun so people keep coming."
 Anna McIvor, Romsey
 Community Garden coordinator



Just 21 groups achieved this

RAISED OVER £13,155,104.88 FOR INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY

LED TO 131,049 MORE MILES BEING CYCLED

SAVED 1,352,277 MILES OF CAR TRAVEL

PRODUCED 17,800 MWH OF RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY A YEAR, SAVING 7,450 TONNES OF CO₂ ANNUALLY

LED TO 74,196 MORE MILES BEING WALKED

RUN 13 SEED EXCHANGE FAIRS A YEAR

WORKED WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN LEADING TO IMPROVEMENTS IN SCHOOLWORK AND HEALTH

FROM 21 STORIES OF TRANSITION

SUPPOR 19 FARM

SAVED TONNES OF FOOD FROM LANDFILL PER YEAR

Start a Seed Library
 Healdsburg, USA

LOCAL LITERARY PRODUCE

Start a Repair Cafe
 Pasadena, USA

USE IT UP! WEAR IT OUT

MAKE IT DO WITHOUT

Start a Repair Cafe
 Pasadena, USA

Invite community investment in renewables
 Lewes, UK

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RUGBY?



Small community groups are undertaking small projects.

We are limited by capacity, not ambition!



OUR VIEW...

Action at a community level can achieve great things, but this needs more people, more joined up; barriers need to be removed

When the issue is so big, most people don't even know where to start!

We can be part of the solution, but the missing ingredient is EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP from those with the power to make changes and influence people's lives.

Prevailing view of RBC's action so far is



FROM COUNCIL'S CORPORATE STRATEGY 2021-2024

Council declares climate emergency

Climate

Rugby Borough Council has declared a climate emergency and will adopt an action plan to address the council's impact on climate change within six months.

" Rugby is an environmentally sustainable place, where we work together to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change"

The Council has declared a climate emergency and formed a cross party climate working group to lead on this work. We will work with residents, businesses and partners to improve the environmental sustainability of the council and lead the Borough through a green recovery and into a greener future.

To do this we will:

- Rugby Borough Council as an organisation will have zero net carbon emissions by 2030.
- Work together to further improve the Borough's connectivity and encourage greener travel.
- Reduce residents' and businesses' impact on the environment and help them adapt to the consequences of climate change.
- Build environmentally sustainable homes, including within our own housing stock.
- Link places together with good quality Green Infrastructure and improve biodiversity across the Borough.
- Promote and encourage green and sustainable businesses within the Borough.
- Reduce the carbon footprint of our council housing stock by 2027.

Too vague!

No way to measure
progress

Several recent
events contradict
this statement!

THE GOOD NEWS IS...

Majority of people recognise there is a
need to change

If leaders can provide a CLEAR VISION and
the COMMITMENT behind it, people WILL
support!

We need to WORK TOGETHER

NO MORE TIME-WASTING, LET'S GET TO WORK

We cannot be effective working in isolation! Council, businesses and communities must all talk

There must be accountability - create a position of a Climate/Environment Officer and a Citizen's Panel

Get the right information - get experts in.

Create an ambitious Climate Action Plan with measurable targets

Find ways to INCENTIVISE people and businesses

COMMUNICATE - create a public space in town where people can find out. Signpost ways to help and act.

Don't do what is popular. Do what is EFFECTIVE.

Ask yourself - how would you like to be remembered?

Find out more about our group: www.transitiontownrugby.org

Upcoming events:

- 30th Sep - Steering Group Meeting
- 2nd Oct - Sustainable Saturday @ St Andrew's Church
- 9th Oct - working at Pleasance Herb Garden
- 20th Oct - Green Drinks at the Seven Stars

