



# **TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

## **An evening workshop**

**Boniface Centre  
CREDITON  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

<b>Gerald Conyngham</b>	Sustainable CREDITON
<b>Paula Mossman</b>	Sustainable CREDITON
<b>Simon Tytherleigh</b>	Bradninch Climate Action Group
<b>Mary Ryan</b>	Bradninch Climate Action Group
<b>Gill Westcott</b>	Transition Exeter



## Contents

1. Overview of Seminar
2. Next Steps
3. Summary of the presentation by Simon Tytherleigh
4. Report from interactive sessions
5. Conclusion
6. Appendix 1                      Full transcript of presentation
7. Appendix 2                      Delegate list
8. Appendix 3                      Feedback from participants
9. Appendix 4                      Actions list

## Overview

- The seminar was a joint venture between representatives of Sustainable CREDITON, Bradninch Climate Action Group and Transition Exeter. It was attended by 81 people, with very broad representation from local businesses and organisations, CREDITON Town Council and Sustainable CREDITON ( Appendix 4)
- The workshop started with a presentation by Simon Tytherleigh (Appendix 1) Simon began with a detailed and informative analysis of the challenges the world faces from Peak Oil and Climate change. This was followed by a short break for questions and comments before the final part of Simon's presentation, in which he asked delegates to consider how we might meet these challenges. The presentation concluded with a key question "What are the changes we need to make to enable us to live well without ruining the planet?"
- During supper working in tables of about 10, delegates were asked to look forward to 2030 and imagine that we had successfully managed to make the transition to a more sustainable way of life and think how that might have come about, in relation to key areas of
  - Retail Development
  - Work and Employment,
  - New Buildings
  - Raw Materials and Waste
  - Water
  - Transport and Accessibility
  - Leisure and Holidays
  - Energy
  - Food and FarmingPlus a new topic of Interconnectivity proposed and discussed by one table
- Delegates were then asked to work individually for a few minutes to identify actions that will be needed to bring about the necessary changes at
  - An individual level
  - Within their own organisation or business
  - By Mid Devon Council
- In a short final plenary session, delegates were asked to give their suggestions for one thought, idea or action that they felt to be most important to take forward



## Next Steps

1. We will send this summary of the workshop to all who attended and to those who sent their apologies
2. We will send an electronic version of the presentation to all delegates who requested it
3. The Action list (Appendix 5) indicates those individuals wanting to get involved or take an idea further. Please contact each other or one of the members of Sustainable Crediton to help make this happen!
4. We are keen to roll out the workshop to other groups and organisations and so ask delegates to contact one of the presenting team if they would like to take up this offer
5. We have held a similar workshop with staff and officers of Mid Devon District Council on 3 occasions since November 2010, although we hope that the format has evolved and improved since the first one. We will let MDDC have a summary of the suggestions you made for actions that the Council should take and ask them for a formal response to your suggestions.
6. We recognise the need to build on the excellent work that you all did in helping making the workshop a vibrant and enthusiastic event, which gave much grounds for optimism. We all have a responsibility for taking action at a personal level and working to effect positive change within our own organisations or businesses
7. Sustainable Crediton welcomes anyone from the local area who wants to get involved and learn or do more. Please come and join us. You will be very welcome!
8. After all, as.....said "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. It is the only thing that ever does"
9. Our contact details are

Gerald Conyngham	<a href="mailto:gerald@eclipse.co.uk">gerald@eclipse.co.uk</a>	01363 773000
Paula Mossman	<a href="mailto:paula.mossman@lineone.net">paula.mossman@lineone.net</a>	01363 866106
Simon Tytherleigh e-mail	<a href="mailto:tythers@uwclub.net">tythers@uwclub.net</a>	01392 881825
Mary Ryan	<a href="mailto:mary@highbag.co.uk">mary@highbag.co.uk</a>	01884 38283
Gill Westcott	<a href="mailto:gillwestcott@googlemail.com">gillwestcott@googlemail.com</a>	



Summary of PowerPoint presentation

Full transcript in Appendix 1

Full presentation available from Simon at [tythers@uwclub.net](mailto:tythers@uwclub.net)

- Slide 1: A Challenging Future in a century of rapid and accelerating change
- Slide 2: A triple whammy Energy, Environment and Economy, all part of one crisis
- Slide 3: Oil is incredibly powerful and incredibly cheap
- Slide 4: Oil is in pretty much everything, even an essential part of food production
- Slide 5: Hubbert's peak demonstrates that oil is finite and we will run out of it
- Slide 6: Oil production is falling and for every barrel we discover we consume six
- Slide 7: Likely tipping point in 2015 when demand outstrips supply
- Slide 8: The US military thinks that we will reach 'Peak Oil' in 2012
- Slide 9: The oil age a tiny blip in human history
- Slide 10: Complacency is completely misguided
- Slide 11: The discovery of oil is tailing off rapidly
- Slide 12: Huge problems with coal, tar sands and gas as alternatives to oil
- Slide 13: Carbon capture and storage is expensive, slow to develop and risky
- Slide 14: The energy crunch is the gap between future energy needs and production
- Slide 15: We are just beginning to see the consequence of pumping out CO2
- Slide 16: Atmospheric CO2 has increased massively in the last 100 years
- Slide 17: We need to act now if we are to restrict warming to less than 2 degrees
- Slide 18: Sea ice volumes reached a record low in 2011
- Slide 19: The before and after picture of a South American glacier. The risk to Lima
- Slide 20: Severe floods in Pakistan in 2010 are a consequence of an unstable climate
- Slide 21: The worst floods in Thailand in 2011 affected a third of the country
- Slide 22: The wildfires in Australia in 2009 were its worst ever natural disaster
- Slide 23: The drought in Kenya and the rise in human population to over 7 billion
- Slide 24: We are near the tipping point for the Amazon rainforest
- Slide 25: A comparison of national and regional CO2 emissions. Mid Devon is high
- Slide 26: In the UK we take from the past and the future and as if we had 3 1/2 planets

BREAK

- Slide 27: The triple whammy revisited and the challenge of prosperity without growth
- Slide 28: We face a low energy future whether we plan for it or not.
- Slide 29: Use less fossil fuels, consume less resources and increase local resilience
- Slide 30: UK and local examples of resilience including the Crediton Solar Project
- Slide 30 Samsø and Isey and renewable energy generation
- Slide 32: The need for a more decentralised model of electricity generation
- Slide 33: The challenge for mid Devon and some of its vulnerabilities
- Slide 34: The optimism of the transition movement's hope for a better future
- Slide 35: "What are the changes we need to make to live well without ruining the planet?"



## Report from the interactive sessions

### WORKSHOP

Participants were invited to work together in tables of 10 or so people. The task was to imagine life in 2030 in relation to 10 specific areas of concern and assume that we had managed to successfully to make the transition to a low carbon and more sustainable way of life. Groups had to come up with their own ideas of how that transition had been made and thus to think of what we need to do now, if the optimistic imagined 2030 of the workshop is to become a reality. The ideas from all the groups were displayed on poster sized sheets. The collated ideas are given below:

### Energy

Legislation needed to make sure poor and vulnerable will have access to power – radical shift in society  
Make localism a meaningful reality

#### How will we generate enough?

Wind power will be 'allowed'  
Use waste to produce power e.g. incineration, biomass  
Planning rules have changed - even High St has solar panels  
Solar Power, solar power, solar power!! – Repeated theme  
Every suitable building has solar panels  
Biomass – too expensive on a small scale – oil is still cheaper  
Local sources of energy – solar, hydro and geothermal  
Direct the waste heat from factories to use for energy  
Build our own Nuclear Power station

#### Changes to our homes

Zero energy heating homes becoming common  
Replace old houses with new energy efficient ones  
Volume of energy available will decrease and cost will increase therefore people will share accommodation/live in bigger households  
Homes have electric keys and smart meters to know how much energy we are using  
Balance between low energy light bulbs and being able to recycle them

#### Changes to business and employment

We will be nurturing local businesses & renewable energy schemes  
More small businesses and recycling therefore more opportunities for young people – youth unemployment will decrease  
Decentralisation – get rid of supermarkets/use local shops/ shops back in villages

#### Travel impacts

More public transport of the energy efficient kinds  
More working at home and working closer to home  
Electric cars and scooters powered by solar panels on people's homes

#### Lifestyle Impacts

Have a simpler diet – seasonal food/less meat



We use less 'stuff', wear more clothes in cold weather, are more efficient in our use of power and have fewer gadgets – change in philosophy

#### Changes in the way we think about energy

Change in perception e.g. now everyone expects to have a mobile phone, will we all expect to have unlimited access to energy?

In a time of austerity – is this an opportunity to change?

Reduce use of energy – a lifestyle change

Accept higher bills

## Food and farming

### Education

The issues of scale of production and its effects on landscape, infrastructure etc should be explained to consumers

School gardens

Help people to understand the reasons for buying local food

Help people to understand why supermarkets can sell food so cheaply

### Farming

Ration use of energy in farming

Encourage the support of local farmers and producers via Farmers' markets, a Food Festival and on the High Street

### Supermarkets

Charge for parking spaces at supermarkets

Supermarkets should price food according to the true cost including hidden transport costs etc.

### Allotments

More allotments

Better use of allotments

Training to make best use of allotments and gardens

Share expertise in food growing and preparation

### Change attitudes to food

Respect it more

Waste less

Use food in season

Eat Less

## Interconnectivity

This was a topic one table wanted to discuss and highlight

More manual labour

Creativity

Change in philosophy of living

Stop population explosion – extended life span creates demand

Mixed economy – more barter and exchange



## Leisure and Holidays

### Travel

Take the train across continents  
High speed/low energy trains  
Fly much less or not at all  
Take holidays closer to home  
UK based 'Staycations'

### Tourism in the South West

Renewable energy supported leisure  
Safer cycle routes, fully accessible to all  
Ability to take bikes on buses  
Improve footpaths

### Types of holidays

Camping, walking and cycling holidays  
More adventure type holidays: Kayaking, mountain climbing, camping, star gazing, cycling using long distance cycle ways, sailing  
Working holidays and volunteering  
Community/shared holidays  
House swapping  
Get to know your local area – visit stately homes, gardens, beauty spots etc on your doorstep

### Create attractions in Crediton

Markets  
Foraging holidays  
Stag hunting  
Live music  
Yoga  
Boules in the town square  
A centre of excellence for arts & crafts

### More leisure time

Local choirs, sports, bands, film shows, volunteering  
Gardening – grow more of own food /flowers  
Make own bread  
Take part in community activities – Fayres etc.  
More time on essentials for living eg. wood chopping, gardening  
Meals at home with friends instead of in restaurants  
2 hours TV per day max!  
Pedal powered TV  
More creativity, practical lifestyles and trades



### The Local Leisure Centre

Used more as foreign travel decreases

Use more solar energy and P.V.

Water re-use systems and use water more efficiently

Stationary bikes and treadmills adapted to generate power

Better connections to it by public transport

## New Buildings

### Low Carbon

Solar panels, solar tiles, solar hot water

Super insulation

Waste heat (CHP) to heat houses and businesses

Use of local materials such as thatch and cob

The use of affordable local and traditional materials creates jobs

### Potential Local Government Actions

Planning legislation for low carbon buildings: Building regulations and MDDC planning guidelines to make energy and water conservation mandatory and to include a requirement for the generation of energy

Use brown field sites first, taking wildlife considerations into account

### Learn from English Heritage

### Community Initiatives

Co-operatives

Derelict, abandoned or empty homes to be purchased and done up to be affordable homes

Community sharing

## Raw materials and Waste

### Crediton a Zero Waste Town by 2030

Producing less waste

Deal with waste locally/in Crediton area to save on transport

Anaerobic digestion

Combined heat & power plant

### Towards Zero Waste

Producing goods for the community in the community

Training more people to repair goods – apprenticeships

Swap shops, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Shops, Exchanges

Hiring and sharing equipment e.g. camping equipment

Shoe maker and mender

Have street swaps – put goods out in street for others to take away

Buy clothes from charity shops

Make vehicles last longer





### Spread the word

Education about what happens to waste (2) – there is no ‘away’

### Lobby and take action

Lobby for/buy white goods/electrical goods/electronics that are repairable/upgradeable rather than disposable

Lobby against incineration of waste and the waste of resources

Campaign to return packaging to supermarkets/ for deposits on packaging

Buy quality/fair-trade clothing and keep it longer

Buy locally produce food- less waste, less transport

### The 3 R's

More emphasis on Reduce and Re-use, less on recycling

Clear bags for waste so recyclable goods can't be hidden in black bin liners

Make more use of the Punchbowl recycling centre

Reward people for recycling

Composting in all community centres

Wormeries

### Buildings and Waste

Change of building regulations to encourage use of local materials

Building materials from old buildings reused/recycled

Use cob and straw bales for buildings

## Retail Development

### Potential Local Government Actions

No more out of town developments

Reduce/abolish business rates for small businesses

Impose business rates on supermarket car parking spaces (punitive)

### Attitude Change

Encourage more positive view of work other than university

Pride in local work

Forget about consumerism

### Skills & Training

Encourage local business training- skills for jobs suited to local economy, apprentices etc

### Building Local Supply Chain

Buy local campaign (shoppers and shops) focussing on local suppliers, local products

Develop local networks for food and products (directories, websites, Crediton High St “departmental store concept”)

More village shops

Shopping for neighbours

More local markets

Deliveries made by local shops



## Water

### Better Use of Water in Homes

Water Meters in every home

More water meters

'Smart' water metering

Water pumps in every house

Retro fitting existing houses with water saving measures

Use the water from our roofs

Install grey water systems in all new builds

### Increase our water efficiency

Using rainwater to flush toilets

Reduce 'hard' landscaping of drives etc so rainwater is absorbed and does not run off

Plant more trees to stop run off

### Water and Cars

Remove or surcharge car washes/don't use them

### Agriculture

Research and farm crops that need less water

Promote lower intensity agriculture

Sustainable, organic food growing on a small scale

Communal gardens

Accept GM crops as a necessary reality?

### Simple Ideas We Can All Use at Little/No Cost

Install appliances that use less water when our existing ones break down beyond repair

Practice sensible control of toilet flushing

Non Flush Toilets

Compost toilets 'down the garden'

Save the 2 litres 'until it comes out hot'

Reduce obsessive personal hygiene – wash less - both clothes and bodies!

Have 3 minute showers – use a timer

Recycle grey water e.g. bath water to water garden/flush toilet

Pee on the compost heap!

Everyone to have and use water butts

Stop drinking bottled water – buy a re-usable water bottle

### Education

Educate people better about the amount of water we use in homes, for farming etc.

Promote water butts and water collection



## Work and Employment

### How

How do we make all this happen realistically?

Need to know population mix in Devon – probably be older, who will provide for them?

### What should be encouraged nationally?

Encourage local economy with more realistic carbon costs on products that produce more carbon

Regulate food production, realistic food expectations, ban unnecessary imports

Rethink our business model – not for profit but co-operative with people's rewards being the products and services produced

In schools - more practical choices in education

### What will work look like?

Need to have a different approach to work

Our goal – local workers happily co-existing

We should be aiming to work locally or move closer to our work

Live near work

A slower pace of life

Take longer weekends

People may be materially poorer – but happier?

Trust one another – bartering systems

Trends – back to local manufacturing rather than service industries

Localised work only

### Travelling to work

Will we need to travel so much if more business is local?

Make public transport better and cheaper

Decrease in private transport/increase in public transport to work

Better local transport including 'out of hours'; more reliable and lower cost

How local is local? – walking distance is unrealistic

Use horses–less chemical transportation – compost/manure

Get canals back in use – transport and jobs

### Working in agriculture/on the land

Make agriculture less intensive

More people employed in agriculture

More people working on the land out of necessity (2)

Alter eating habits

Change in expectations about food supply – more seasonal

Guerilla gardening

Forest school site for Crediton



### Specific to CREDITON

Will CREDITON become self sustaining or die because people go to megacities?  
CREDITON needs to attract businesses to survive but how and what?  
How can we bypass Tesco's? - bring in laws that certain % of stock must be local  
Community owned shops in town and villages  
Job opportunities in energy efficiency e.g. solar panels  
Apprenticeships in the town  
Create local sustainable businesses e.g. shoe repair, appliance repair, bicycle maintenance  
Creation of resource hubs – sharing resources and equipment  
LETS schemes

### Home Working

More home working (2) – business people can be productive without travel every day  
Good infrastructure needed e.g. broadband  
Social enterprise – people create their own work using and developing skills & using the internet.  
Rural on-line business

### General

More local services provided and provided more efficiently  
Working in the voluntary sector does not cover cost of living

## ACTIONS

Participants were then asked to work individually and write down actions that might be taken in order to make progress towards the future society they had just described, actions that can be taken now. These actions were divided into individual actions, business or organisational actions and actions that Mid Devon District Council should take, both internally and in its public role.

### Individual actions

#### Energy use

- Reduce energy consumption
- Reduce thermostat/ turn heating down
- Improve insulation
- Use/install solar panels +/- PV
- Put in a heat pump
- Install secondary glazing
- Improve draught proofing
- Switch off everything on standby
- Convert wood burner to put in a back boiler and reduce oil use
- Wear woolly sweaters
- Chop logs



### Water

- Conserve water
- Reduce use of water
- Put in (more) water butts
- Fix the dripping tap
- Use a plug in the sink or basin

### Food

- Grow own vegetables
- Grow more of my own/ grow more effectively
- Stop eating out of season fruit and veg
- Buy more local food at farmers markets
- Buy food with less packaging
- Get a slow cooker and use solar power from the roof
- Eat less
- Drink less alcohol
- Buy more local fruit and veg
- Grow veggies on my patio and use rain water to irrigate
- Make the produce at Farmers markets more affordable for everyone
- Use old skills like bottling, drying and salting to use the freezer less for gluts from the allotment
- Give away the things I have grown that are surplus to my needs

### Retail

- Buy more from local businesses/in Crediton
- Support/ encourage local shops
- Use the car less for shopping trips
- Plan shopping trips better and make less of them by car
- I won't shop for a month then maybe extend it
- I won't buy any new clothes this year

### Transport

- Use the car less
- Use public transport if at all possible
- Walk more
- Car share/ give lifts more/whenever possible
- Stop using the car for short journeys
- Drive less fast/ won't but a fast car
- Cycle to work in the summer
- Get rid of second car
- Invest in an electric car
- Live in the town
- Plan journeys better



### Recycling

Recycle more

Use recycling centres for rubbish that is not collected

Produce less waste for landfill

### Leisure

Take more local holidays

Stop flying abroad for holidays

Have fewer holidays

Never go in an aeroplane!

### Community

Give time to local organisations

Give time to improve my local environment

Get involved in Sustainable CREDITON

## Organisation or group actions

### Schools

Develop awareness of sustainability issues in school

Turn off school computers overnight & especially during the holidays

Plant a 15 tree apple/pear orchard at Landscope Primary School

Solar panels in local schools – CREDITON Learning Community working together

### Community organisations

Pass on information about sustainability to all folk who use C.A.B.

Installations to help village halls/community building with insulation, PV panels, solar water systems etc

Boniface Centre – we have installed solar panels, can we reduce other energy costs, especially gas.

Encourage others in community to shop less as well

Encourage wood fuel use

CREDITON Transport Action Group – encourage reduced car and HGV use in High Street

Continue to run our annual CREDITON Food Festival – we need your support

Transition networks should look at what is already there and work with it rather than reinventing the wheel

Historical Society to collect memories and skills of the oldest generation with view to sharing skills

The Methodist church to install a computer system which monitors all electrical usage and highlights wasteful area

The Garden Club to share more produce among neighbours and members

Greenhouse will try to source more local produce and encourage customers to eat 'in season' food

Greenhouse would like to become an information hub for sustainable CREDITON

### Sustainable CREDITON



Start more skill sharing events/training  
Involve all generations  
More networking with other likeminded groups  
More fun leisure events (and see below)  
Start a food waste reduction: apple pressing  
Work more with local business

#### Businesses

Solar panels used more widely  
Remove restrictions on solar panels on the High Street  
Use large business roofs where solar panels could be installed to produce cheap energy for the community  
Create more parking so people do not travel out of town for shopping  
Local retail/High Street businesses to join together to create a town incentive scheme for shoppers  
Develop market, including farmers market, which whole community can access and afford  
Make a success of the Community Market  
Businesses to look for local skills first  
Business to get involved in apprenticeships  
Tanglewood Project – Establish viable social enterprise, connecting people and sharing knowledge

#### Health Care

Foster lower tech, sustainable, personally responsible health care, supported by the “mainstream” of doctor and the NHS, while utilising skills of non-NHS professionals and the community at large

#### General

Aim to source resources locally & from sustainable sources  
Share all of CREDITON's challenges with community (beyond environmental)  
Maintain awareness of issues  
Review our energy use  
Target solutions to most vulnerable and deprived  
Support anyone willing to improve access for all  
Develop better ways for people to work from home  
Campaign on reducing plastic packaged food  
Continue to find ways to reduce waste  
Don't panic! There may be hardship, but also improved community cohesion  
Share more, cars and lots of other things  
allow Bradninch in coming together to celebrate- creates thriving community spirit.  
**Really** engage whole community in CREDITON Vision (developing).  
Get more involved with community. Listen to people



## Mid Devon District Council Actions

### Transport

More accessible footpaths  
Make the roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists  
Cycle track along railway line to Exeter  
Level cycle paths to Exeter and Barnstaple  
Create safe cycle routes through town  
More and improved cycle ways and paths  
Improve/ campaign for better/more public transport  
Improve rural public transport  
Subsidise public transport  
Reward use of public transport or car-sharing schemes  
Incentives for keeping things local – i.e. free bus from railway into town  
Use one bus on any route for all schoolchildren, not separate ones for primary and secondary schools  
Sort out the town bus so it is efficient for car owners too and not just for older people and those without cars  
Build link road and stop HGV pollution in High Street  
Make the speed limit through Crediton maximum 20 mph  
Open Okehampton to Exeter rail link instead of road programme

### Parking

Create more parking so people do not travel out of town for shopping  
Local authorities can levy business rates on car parking spaces, including out of town supermarkets  
Put back the road signs for loading bay and disabled parking. Fed up with parking tickets  
Use town square for parking and so encourage people to stay in the High Street

### Planning and Buildings

Planning policies to refuse commercial developments which (a) encourage customer car travel and (b) impact adversely on other local businesses  
Improve building quality for energy reduction  
Solar PV panels on public buildings  
Relax planning regulations so that proper double glazing is allowed on listed buildings  
Planning to be more supportive of sustainability and less led by money  
In planning guidelines “sustainable” housing should be zero net carbon, i.e. generate enough for their needs  
Relax planning laws to encourage more sustainable building practice  
Pass planning decisions and control back to Crediton TC

### Recycling and Waste

MDDC should ban black plastic bags for rubbish, so people can't fill them with recyclables What about transparent bags?  
Is it possible for black bags to be checked as you collect them and all recyclables left on the doorstep to be collected by the next recycling van?  
Black bags – check them as you pick them up and leave all recyclables on the doorstep to be collected next week by recycling van





- Use park clippings as fuel
- Expand kerbside recycling collections – more types of items
- Have proper re-use centres. At the moment, they are businesses motivated by profit not by reduced waste. Local tips charging loads for stuff not sold and refusing things they can't make lots of money from.
- Open tips – no fee
- Allow CREDITON to recycle more
- Make recycling simpler
- Plastic recycling in CREDITON
- Take recycling from shops for FREE
- Reward community for tonnage of recycling so people attach real value to what they recycle
- More commitment to recycling and re-use of materials.
- Public education and incentives to recycle

### Retail and Business

- Chamber of commerce to introduce a discount card scheme for use in local shops
- Encourage shopkeepers to recycle grey water and wash shop fronts more often
- Abolish business rates for small shops
- Create social enterprises – Education Co-op
- Prioritise spending on community projects/events that also support local businesses
- No more out of town stores like Tesco
- Fund market stalls for community market
- Close down out of town shopping areas
- Planning should favour small and local rather than support big business (Tesco)
- Support from council to create social enterprises and local businesses
- Don't give permission for any more out of town retail development
- Encourage shopping locally
- Encourage local business start-ups with reduced rates for initial period

### Specific to CREDITON

- Allow CREDITON Market Square to be used for parking on non-market days
- A weekly page in the CREDITON Courier informing people of the things Sustainable CREDITON are trying to achieve
- Post a Sustainable CREDITON leaflet through every letterbox in CREDITON
- Create a clear vision for the town (grounded in and representative of the whole community)
- Turn off street lights for longer at night, especially on outskirts of town
- Do not tax the energy CREDITON produces locally
- Tax supermarket car park spaces and use money to reduce town centre car parking charges
- Investigate local wasting of energy, especially at the leisure centre
- Remove 'listed' status for solar panels on High Street
- Community Cafe to function as a hub for local food
- More 1 hour free parking on St Saviour's car park to encourage people to shop locally
- Solar power on roof of leisure centre and fewer lights on there all day
- Help community groups with high insurance charges in Town Square
- Have a label on all CREDITON-produced goods saying 'local from CREDITON'
- Encourage High Street properties to be used and affordable
- More trees in the town square and a fountain



Close down the milk factory

Use the library for lending other resources than books, e.g. camping equipment

### Energy

Positive rewards for energy savers, i.e. reduction in council tax

Local councils should support more green energy

Ask Westinghouse about having a containerised nuclear generator

Improve street lighting by solar panels on each lamp post and motion sensors so they only come on when needed; better reflective shades so they can use less energy

Turn off the street lights earlier, i.e. midnight

Encourage renewable energy production. Legislate, not oppose

Research possibility of micro-generation for the town (there are precedents!)

### Council Activities

Turn down the heating at Phoenix House in Tiverton

The Localism Bill requires all councils to act as a catalyst to emerging local businesses/social enterprises

Make MDDC more efficient

Fewer meetings at MDDC

Cut down on 'jobs worth' activities at MDDC

Councillors to do more work online rather than travel to meetings

Council should install PVCs (double glazed windows?) on all its properties

Delegate a meaningful budget for the town

Provide more allotments

Support more local energy production

MDDC/DCC spend less on 'bads'

Encourage younger people to take up positions in town and county councils

### Education

Schools to educate about the importance of reducing CO2

Schools to encourage young people to be imaginative and take risks

Support the setting up a local, sustainable environmental education for the future generations of Crediton people

Education, education, education! Improved information on what to do about climate change

School meals sourced locally and cooked on site

Local food for schools and canteens

'The children are our evolving truths'

### General

All councils to prioritise spending on low-carbon transition projects

Sort out house wood supply

Taxation polluters very heavily

Don't be influenced by the anti climate change lobby

Use empty housing

Promote more activities for young people



## Conclusion

Crediton is a vibrant community with many representatives from local businesses and organisations attending the workshop. Many excellent ideas arose out of the group work and plenary sessions. Some of these require individual action. So don't delay. Mend that dripping tap!

We encourage every delegate to be an effective agent for change within their own business or organisation

We will send all of the suggestions for actions or changes to be made by Mid Devon District Council to the Council Chairman and let you know their response

We all face a very challenging future but with the energy, commitment and enthusiasm of the people of Crediton, our town can flourish with minimal reliance on fossil fuels, a better quality of life for its residents and thriving local businesses. Being physically active, connecting with the people around us, contributing to the wider community and having trees, bushes, flowers and birds around us are the foundations of well being and these will expand in a low carbon society, if we act now and we act together.

