

CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

Newsletter No 19

27th Sept 2022

'OUR FUTURE'

Learning and Planning

A REVIEW OF CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS

In Oct 2021, we explored the need for a 'Climate Conversation' learning activity. The idea was first proposed at U3A AGM. After one year of experience, what's our legacy? How do we build from here? Please read on.

IS THE NEED COMPELLING TO DEVELOP?

There is no doubt, we have discovered, local people of all ages that 'Climate Change' is probably No 1 world priority. Recognition of importance is both local and global.

HAS A VISION OF U3A & CC BEEN CAPTURED?

'Net Zero by 2030' has been accepted. That level of ambition is regarded as inspirational by some and pessimistic by others. However, vision is a concept around which we coalesce.

ARE WE LIVING UP TO OUR VALUES?

Original U3A values are perfect for our needs. Sharing; New Horizons; Capabilities; Pleasure; Partnerships; Self-supporting; Collaboration - are recognised and practiced at every step.

HAVE WE DELIVERED OUR 1ST YEAR PLAN?

24th Nov 2021 plan has been delivered with minor change. 10 group and, at least 30 street conversations have yielded actions involving partners from whom we could learn and act.

ARE WE MAKING BEST USE OF RESOURCES?

As U3A members, we have enjoyed time at The Yew Tree, the scout hut; school canteen; Silvester Horne Institute; & street pavements. People are the most important resource.

LEADERSHIP ON SUBJECTS AND PROCESS?

On specialist subjects, members took an equal share of deciding topics to test. On learning methods, the process was designed and enabled by one member after consultations.

EFFECTIVE TEAMWORK AND PARTNERSHIPS?

Spirit & cooperation has been productive from regular attendees, also during street chats. At least 71 participants shared stories and ideas on how to address climate change.

COULD COMMUNICATIONS BE IMPROVED?

Style of learning activity was shaped by an SCC 'Climate Conversation' workshop, led by Helen Fairweather, as a SCC guest leader. 19 newsletters & U3A websites play a vital part.

WAYS AND MEANS OF WINNING SUPPORT?

Methods deployed have attracted attention from U3A Climate Surgery; U3A Inter-generational Group; U3A Third Age Matters; Stretton Focus; South Shropshire Climate Act ... plus ...

LEVELS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST?

Guests from Allotment Association; Ornithological Society; Rotary; Climate Care; -with a desire to collaborate is evident. CS voluntary organisations are conscious of climate change.

PROPOSAL TO BUILD A PLAN FOR 2023

Each member of U3A Climate Conversation is consulted on an individual basis in Oct 2022. Based upon views of progress and ideas for the future, a 2023 plan will be agreed at the next Climate Conversation full meeting on the 21st November at 2.45 pm in the Yew Tree.

For further information: Barrie Oxtoby, 8 Yeld Bank,
Church Stretton, SY6 6EZ barrieoxtoby@gmail.com