



A photograph of three children standing on a wooden balcony with a metal railing, looking out over a stone castle. The child on the left is wearing a red jacket and red boots. The child in the middle is wearing a blue jacket and dark pants. The child on the right is wearing a purple jacket and blue pants. The castle is made of large, reddish-brown stone blocks. In the background, there are more stone buildings and a green lawn under a blue sky with white clouds.

KENILWORTH CLIMATE ROADMAP

NEWSLETTER #7 SUMMER 2022



A photograph of a residential area that has been severely flooded. The water is murky brown and has inundated the yards and streets. Several small, dark-colored sheds and houses are visible, some partially submerged. A large, clear plastic greenhouse is on the left, and a black trash can is nearby. The water is flowing through the area, creating ripples and splashes. The background shows more houses and trees, some of which are bare, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting.

This is Kenilworth Town Council's Climate Emergency Newsletter.

It provides advice, tips, contacts and short articles on helping yourself and the community to deal with climate change.

The newsletter represents part of the town council's Roadmap (see also page 24) towards reducing carbon emissions.

It is compiled by the Climate Emergency group: volunteers that include councillors of the three represented parties and local residents. See pages 24 and 25 for more information about the group and its activities, and how you could get involved.

In this edition.....we focus on saving energy in the home...but there's more...

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Act on Energy for impartial advice

Housewarming Guides

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Section 1. Focus on Energy

Find out about grants and benefits to help you pay your energy bills



Citizens Advice consumer
helpline: **0808 223 1133**

Get money back if you pay council tax

Get a one-off payment from the government

Warm Home Discount Scheme

Check if you can get a fuel voucher

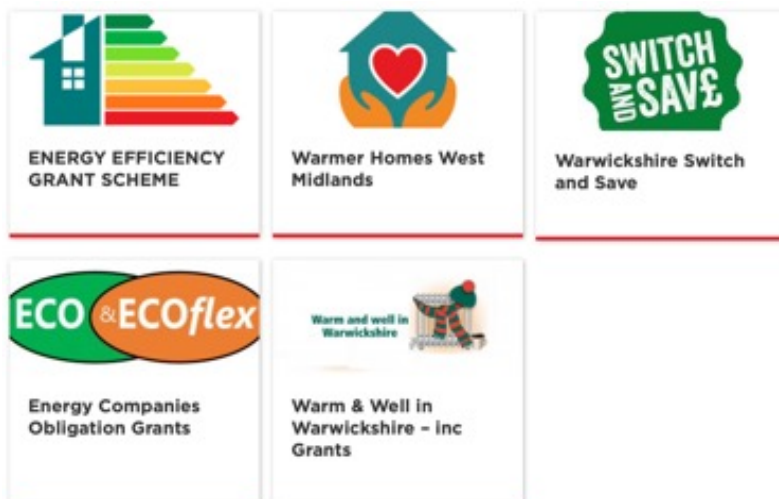
Winter Fuel Payment

Cold Weather Payments

Grants to help pay off your energy debts

If you're struggling with living costs

Online <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills/>



Act on Energy is a non-profit organisation and a registered environmental charity based in Warwickshire.

Act on Energy encourages energy conservation by providing free and impartial advice to householders and small businesses in Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and surrounding local areas.

Free call line 0800 988 2881

Online <https://actonenergy.org.uk>

Housewarming Guides

If you are considering how you can reduce the energy consumption of your home the series of six 'Housewarming' guides written by independent experts and published by a community group in North Oxford might be helpful.

The guides available so far are:

H1: Taking Stock (cutting energy use in our homes);

H2: Insulation;

H3: Draughts and Ventilation;

H4: Windows and Doors

H5: Heating and Controls

H6: Whole House Plan

These are all free and downloadable from:

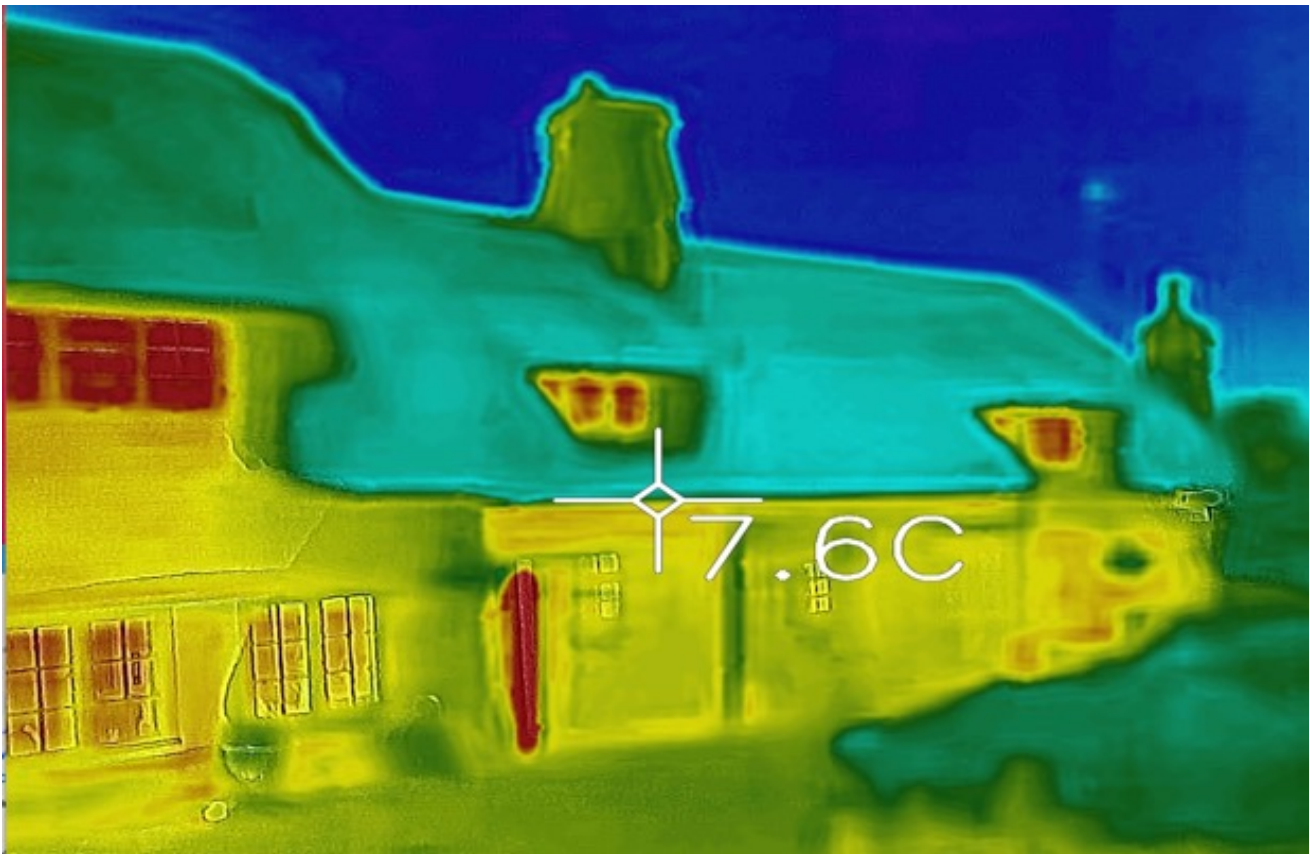
<https://lcon.org.uk/energy/housewarming/>



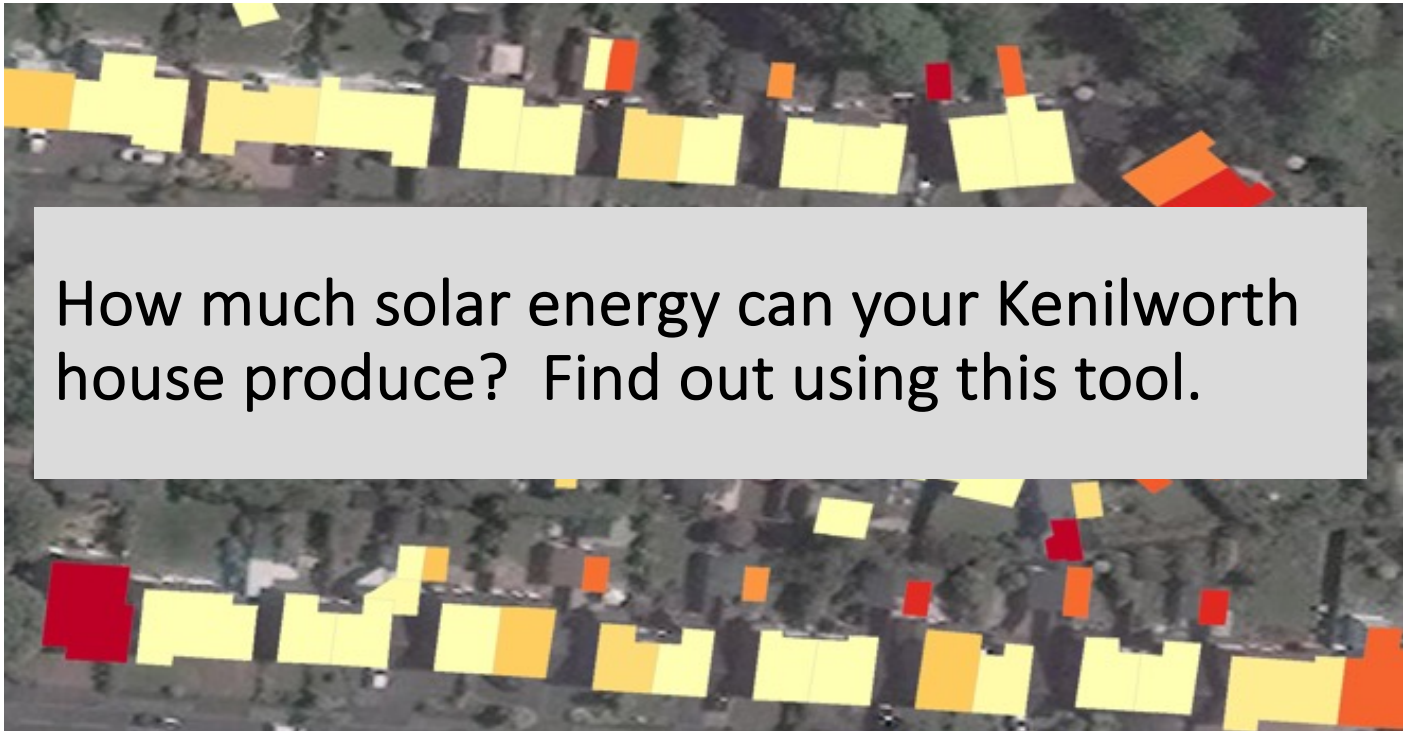
Tackling the climate crisis together through practical action

Where does your home lose heat?

British houses are notoriously draughty but it's not always easy to know where the biggest losses of heat are coming from. A thermal image survey which shows where heat is lost may help. The thermal picture below shows most heat coming from the red-coloured upper single-glazed windows, front door and the walls at the far end of the house. The less red coloured windows show the effect of secondary glazing and the yellow walls show the benefit of cavity wall insulation. The green thatched roof shows little heat loss.



This picture was taken using a FLIR ONE Thermal Camera attachment to an iPhone. You can also find surveyors on the web who will do this. See also Bristol's not-for-profit project called Cold Homes Energy Efficiency Survey Experts (CHEESE) thermal imaging service for useful information https://bristolenergy.coop/insulate-your-home-the-smart-way-with-cheese/?mc_cid=7947d75a7e&mc_eid=59b465a8e2

An aerial photograph of a residential area in Kenilworth, with numerous houses. Overlaid on the map are numerous colored polygons representing the potential solar energy production of individual roofs. The colors range from yellow (low potential) to orange and red (higher potential). A semi-transparent grey box with white text is centered over the map.

How much solar energy can your Kenilworth house produce? Find out using this tool.

A recent MSc research project has made a first stab at estimating the potential for solar energy production from roof installations of photovoltaic panels across Kenilworth.

You can find out the potential for your roof to generate solar power from this interactive web tool:

<https://arcg.is/1rXi8r1>

It shows the potential energy generation of each roof taking account roof size, shape and aspect. The hard bit is finding your house from the Google images used to make the map!

The study estimates that the average house can generate ~3500 kWh per year meaning that all the CO₂ emissions from electricity used across Kenilworth could be offset through residential solar panels.

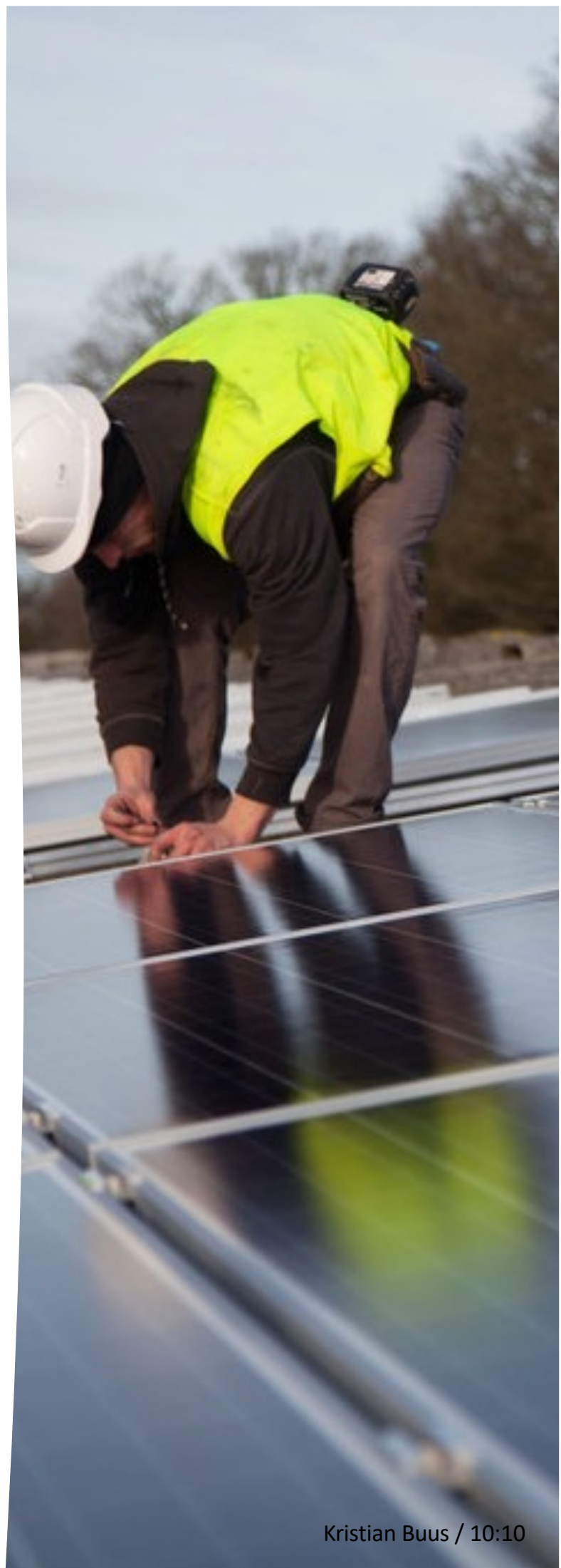
These results are from a student project. They should be used only as a guide to solar panel potential. Please seek professional advice before making any decisions about actual installations.

Local stories about energy

Jan Burnell says:

We have solar panels on the roof. Last year our new smart meter revealed to us that we were exporting considerably more than half of the electricity our rooftop solar panels were generating. Of course, it makes more sense for us to use home-produced power here and buy in less night-time electricity or gas, but we don't have an electric car or a battery, and while gas was cheap there was little financial incentive to switch our water heating to electricity. Now however, the economics have changed. So, a month or two ago we bought a Solic 200 diverter (other brands are available) and a local domestic electrician installed it for us.

It's basically a clever switch linked to a magnetic sensor which reports if our household grid connection is exporting power. When it is, then the immersion heater is switched on to use up some of the surplus. It works at every opportunity until the tank is hot and the thermostat turns the immersion heater off. Our pressurised tank is large and well insulated so we suspect that in future we won't need to run our gas boiler at all over the summer months. This new addition to the household cost less than £300, comes with a 10-year warranty, and we think we'll get our money back in two or three years.



Section 2. New items

Climate Emergency working group members out and about - Naturewatch, natural flood management, local newspapers, Jubilee Market, Talisman Square and the Lion's Show



Arden Farm Wildlife Network

Local farmer Henry Lucas reports on efforts to increase wildlife on local farms:

Warwickshire is fairly representative of the wider UK in that around 70% of the land area is agricultural. In 2018 when Warwickshire Wildlife Trust teamed up with Zoe Bell, a local Independent Agricultural Adviser, it was recognised that to bring wildlife back farmers were going to play a key role in nature's recovery. So, the Arden Farm Wildlife Network was established, a landscape area that includes Kenilworth. Initially 3 years' worth of funding was secured from Natural England and 16 engaged and passionate farmers and landowners formed the embryonic group. It was important that the project was farmer led, so that everybody understood what the farmers wanted to learn more about. A range of specialists were then engaged to arm them with the knowledge needed to help wildlife on their farms.

Fast forward to 2022 and the Arden Farm Wildlife Network has grown from 16 to 45 members, who now farm over 10,000 hectares. The group is hugely diverse from large estates to family farms and small holdings. Regular training events attract 20 people at a time and a real community has been established, sharing experiences and ideas whilst learning best practice from the specialist speakers. One of the real successes of the project is the foundation it has provided to attract further funding. The farm provides the platform for a landscape scale approach to project work and farmers are forthcoming with suggestions on the species that they would like to target.



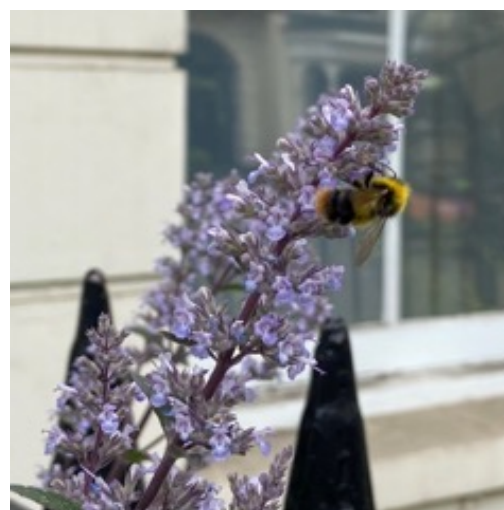
To date we've secured additional funds to support tree sparrows, barn owls, tree planting and our latest success was for recreating wild flower meadows. These mini projects within the farmer cluster have helped to foster better working relationships and deliver significant added value to the farmers participating, whilst also providing a lifeline to some of our most threatened species.

And so what for the future? The farmer cluster concept has been well received within the county and the impact the approach can have has been recognised. Inspired by the success of the project two new farmer clusters have just been launched with support from the Warwickshire Rural Hub. So the future looks bright for farmer clusters in our patch with farmers and land owners playing a key role in this. Land which supports nature's recovery can still perform key functions in terms of food production or amenity if managed in the right way and farmer clusters provide an excellent platform to achieve this goal.

<https://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/working-farmers-and-landowners/arden-farm-wildlife-network>

Fuel up your Front Gardens for Bees

Bee Friendly Kenilworth, together with Bee Friendly Leamington, Warwick and Cubbington launched an initiative on July 1st to encourage people to increase the amount of pollen- and nectar-rich flowers in their front gardens to create flower corridors for bees and other pollinators. From cottage gardens bursting with blooms, to a single pot of lavender on a step, each flower represents an opportunity for pollinators to recharge, and can literally make the difference between life and death for bees, which need to refuel at least every 40 minutes. A residential road devoid of flowers can thus easily be transformed into a nectar- and pollen-rich corridor while also bringing colour to our streets.



We were delighted to spot this EBee charge point installed on the steps of a Leamington business. It was covered in bees.



We love this garden, full of lavender, foxgloves and other pollen-rich flowers. Thank you to the owner for granting permission to take the photo

Busy Lizzies, begonias, lobelia, petunias and pansies may brighten up your borders and planters, but they are useless to bees, so avoid these. Equally, most double flowers make it too difficult for bees to get to the nectar and pollen, so are of little use, so always choose single blooms. When choosing plants and seeds, you can always check the “bee-friendliness” of plants on various websites, such as:

<https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/gardeningadvice/> or <https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators>.

Kenilworth was recently awarded Bee Friendly Town status, and the community group behind the bid, Bee Friendly Kenilworth, is keen to build on this achievement. While over 97% of our wildflower meadows have been lost over the past 50 years, this initiative recognises the important role that towns and villages can play in creating corridors of flower fuel for bees, which are vital for the majority of our food crops. It is also an initiative in which many people can get involved, and which will benefit us all. The groups are encouraging people taking part to take a photo of their ‘fuelled up’ front gardens and either post to Facebook (tag ‘Bee Friendly Kenilworth’), Instagram (tag ‘bee_friendly_ken_lear’) or email to bee.friendly.kenilworth@gmail.com for them to post for you. **Let’s fuel up our front gardens for bees!**

Warwickshire Cycle Buddies

With fuel prices at record levels, there is no better time to swap a few of your shorter car journeys to cycling!

If it's been a while since you've ridden and you want to build your confidence before going out then contact Warwickshire Cycle Buddies.

Warwickshire Cycle Buddies is a FREE service connecting novice adult cyclists with experienced riders to help more people get back on their bike to rediscover the joys of cycling.

Here's the link: <https://warwickshirecyclebuddies.co.uk/>



Other recycling opportunities in and around Kenilworth

The new 123+ Waste Recycling service starts August 1st. In the blue-lidded bins, you can recycle paper, card and cardboard, glass bottles and jars, metal tins and cans, aerosols, clean foil, plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays, and Tetrapak-type food and drink cartons. For some other items, there are locally organised recycling initiatives:

Item	Scheme run by:	Local collection points	Notes
Biscuit wrappers	Terracycle	Morrisons Leamington Spa?	
Candles and wax	Recycled Candle Co. Exeter	Box inside St John's church	2 Kg box costs to £3.35 to post
Coffee pods	Dolce Gusto podback	Shell garage	Look on product website
Contact lens products	Terracycle	Boots opticians Kenilworth & LS	
Corks	Lions Furniture Store	Box at Farmer Ward Rd site	Recycled in aid of Cancer Research
Cosmetic containers	Boots	Local branch, opposite entrance	Can obtain Boots points for each item
Crisp packets	Terracycle	Clinton School box by bike racks	
Low energy light bulbs	Robert Dyas	Local branch	NOT strip lights
Mobile phones – old	Council recycling centre	Special bin at Cherry Orchard	
Plastic bags	Larger supermarkets	Sainsbury's and Waitrose	
Plastic flower pots	Dobbies Garden Centres	Dobbies Stratford or Rugby	
Printer cartridges	Empties Please Terracycle	Box in entrance hall of Kenilworth Methodist Church Waitrose bin collecting for Clinton School	Proceeds to Uyogo Friendship Group
Spectacles	Spec Savers Boots Opticians Lions Furniture Store	Local branches Farmer Ward Road	Open Saturday mornings only
Tablet blister packs	Superdrug Leamington Lions Furniture Store	Box inside St John's church Box at Farmer Ward Rd site	
Tools, sewing machines	Tools With A Mission	TWAM Kabin, back of St John's	

Understanding food labels saves food and reduces waste



USE BY labels refer to safety. **Don't eat food after the 'use by' date.** You can't always smell the bacteria that causes food to spoil, so it could still lead to food poisoning.

Top tip: you can freeze food right up to and including the 'use by' date. If you're not sure you will eat it in time, freeze it for another day!

BEST BEFORE labels refer to quality - not safety. After this date, your food might not be at its best, but it will still be safe to eat. Use your senses to make a judgement.

If stored correctly, it may still be good to eat a long time after this date. Here are some examples:

- Crisps – one month
- Biscuits and cereals – six months
- Cereals – six months
- Canned food, confectionery, pasta sauce – 12 months
- Dried pasta – three years!

DISPLAY UNTIL / SELL BY labels are dates for the retailers – not for us at all. They just enable the shop to rotate stock.

More info at:

<https://lovefoodhatewaste.com/article/date-labels-%E2%80%93-what-do-they-mean>

Section 3. Other Items



Repair Café Kenilworth is a free meeting space that's all about repairing things together, be that clothes, toys, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles ... there's very little that can't be repaired by the team of expert volunteers.

Repair Café meets at the United Reformed Church every third Saturday in the month, between 2PM and 5PM.

There is free parking outside the Church, but it can get quite busy. If your item is particularly heavy or large, the team will always try to assist you as best as possible. Look at the website to see how it works.

<https://www.repaircafe-kenilworth.org>

Kenilworth Electric Vehicles Group



Whether you're an EV owner or not, why not join the Kenilworth Electric Vehicles Group on facebook? The purpose of the group – now over 90 members - is to promote EVs and to lobby for improved public charging infrastructure.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/783019822439538>

Find out more about how we can
rise to the challenge of climate
change...

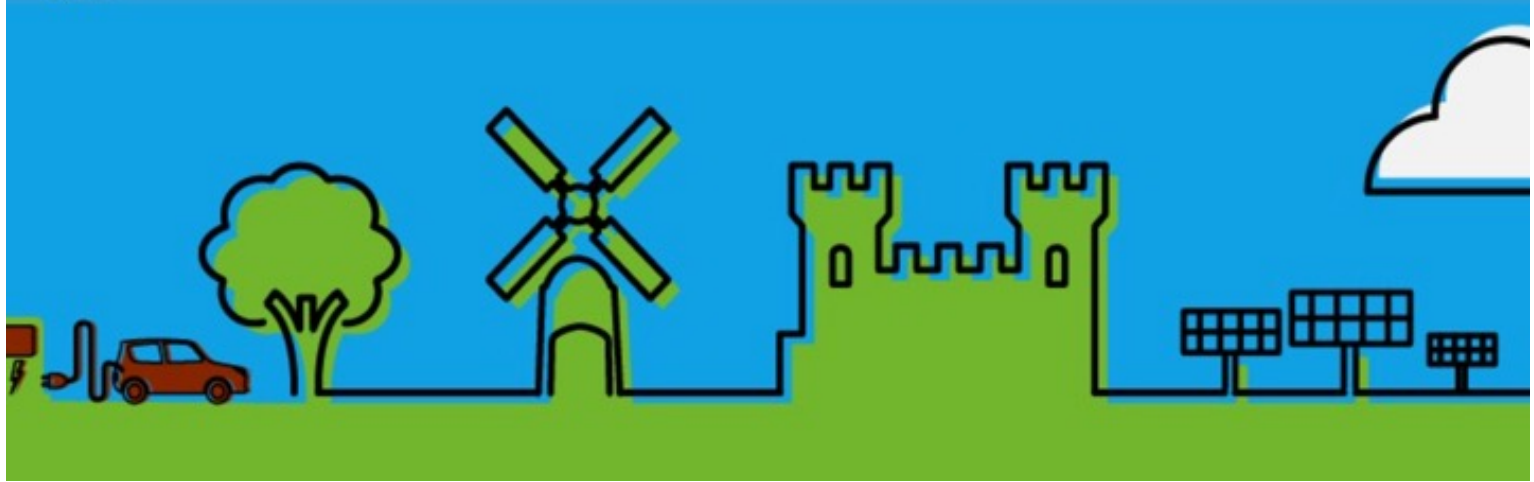


Written and narrated by university scientists, this 40 minute film exposes the shocking assumptions that lie at the heart of all governments' plans to avoid climate breakdown. With contributions from experts and change makers, it tells how humanity can rise to the challenge, and ensure a flourishing future.

Free to watch on YouTube [here](#)



Warwickshire
Climate Emergency



Warwickshire County Council's Climate Emergency

For latest news see the website

www.warwickshireclimateemergency.org.uk

The website is a place to bring together organisations and individuals from across Warwickshire, all working towards the same goal of achieving net zero emissions.

Together, we are finding solutions and taking action to overcome the threat of climate change.

It has lots of information about WCC actions and plans to fight climate change, but also features a range of case studies from around Warwickshire for inspiration.

For promoting events and news, send details to

climateemergency@warwickshire.gov.uk



Warwick District Council

WDC has a website devoted to climate change
<https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/climatechange/>

There you can find out about:

Climate Change Action Programme

Work so far on the Climate Emergency

How to reduce your carbon footprint – a handy quiz

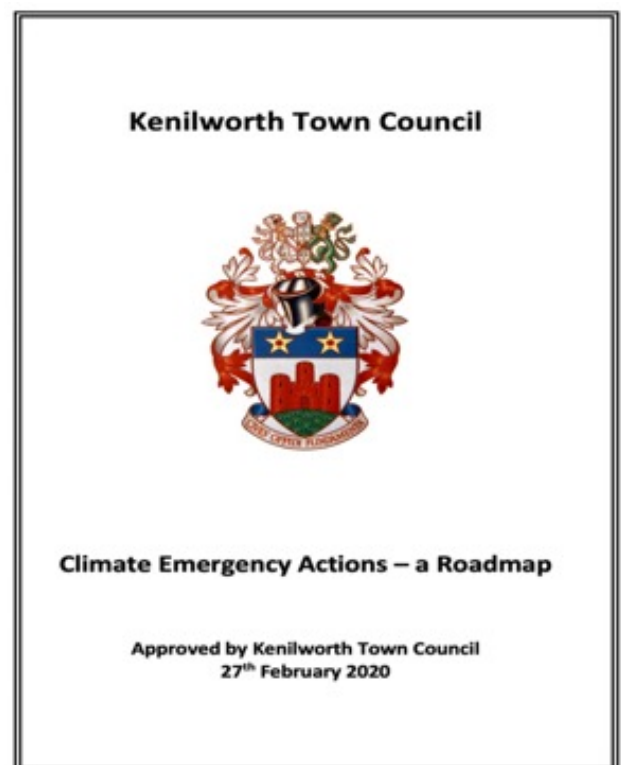
Kenilworth Climate Emergency - a Roadmap for Action

Kenilworth Town Council declared a Climate Emergency on 1st August 2019.

The Kenilworth Climate Action Roadmap explains how residents, organisations, businesses and institutions in Kenilworth can help contribute to the international effort to reduce the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, especially carbon dioxide, that are heating-up the world.

Download the Kenilworth Climate Action Roadmap [here](#)

The Kenilworth Climate Roadmap Newsletters describe forthcoming events and activities, news items, and give advice on how you can reduce your carbon footprint.



Linked Community Groups

[Kenilworth All Together Greener](#)
[Bee Friendly Kenilworth](#)
[Kenilworth Chamber of Trade](#)
[Kenilworth Electric Vehicles Group](#)

Please let us know if we can add your group's contact details here.

Produced and published on behalf of Kenilworth Town Council, Smalley Place, Kenilworth CV8 1QG as part of the Kenilworth Climate Emergency Working Group.

Disclaimer: In general, Kenilworth Town Council supports events and actions that contribute to tackling the climate change. But the Council does not necessarily agree with or endorse all the views expressed at external events or by named groups and individuals in social media and websites that the Council may organize or refer to.

Contact: kentc@kenilworth.org or call 01926 859155