



ACT Newsletter June 2021

Membership tidy up

As part of a general tidy up of our membership data we've created a new sign up form with updated themes and a new field to record members' locations, in terms of "Town, Parish or Ward". To make sure that your details, interests and locations are correctly recorded please access this from our [Join page](#).

Great Big Green Week 18-26 September 2021



This is a week of events to celebrate how communities across the country are taking action to tackle climate change, protect green spaces and encourage others to do the same.

ACT is currently planning what we can do, either directly or with others, and we'd welcome suggestions or details of events in Teignbridge you know about. [Let us know](#) and, for more information, visit the [GBGW website](#).

Teignbridge District Council's Local Plan - Part 2

Consultation on [Part 1 of the Plan](#) took place between March and July 2020 and [Part 2](#) is now open for comments up until 9 August 2021.



Whereas Part 1 was involved with the policy decisions for proposed new development, Part 2 is concerned with proposed sites for the future development of new homes and employment land.

For more information about the consultation visit the [Part 2 link](#), which contains a helpful [Need to Know Guide](#), and see our initial posts on [the consultation](#) and, in more detail, the numbers for designated areas; in particular, the [Heart of Teignbridge](#).

G7 Protesters are just ordinary people



In an article in the [Mid Devon Advertiser](#) of 24 June, ACT member and XR activist, Amanda Cole recounted her experience of protesting at the G7 summit in Cornwall earlier this month. She reminds us that “it falls to each and every one of us to make the changes we feel able to make” and that

“if you feel good about making a little change, you will go on to make another. What is vital is to choose something you want to do, and are able to do”.

For many people this may be as simple as joining an organisation like ACT and becoming aware of the issues that need addressing.

Teign Estuary Trail

[The Planning application](#) for the Passage House to Teignmouth section of the Teign Estuary Trail is now live and ready for comments before 8 July. More information on the Campaign's [Facebook page](#).



The Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill (CEE Bill) - updated

Our [May Newsletter](#) contained details of the Bill including [a letter](#) written to our two MPs, Anne Marie Morris and Mel Stride, asking them to

Climate &
Ecological
Emergency
Bill Alliance

support it and asking ACT members to add their own voice to the request. Shortly afterwards the Bill was [updated](#) and was reintroduced to Parliament on 21 June.

Following the MPs' responses, in which they refused to support the Bill and, in one case, dismissed it completely, we have again written to them and here are links to the correspondence with [Anne Marie Morris](#) and [Mel Stride](#).

The Government's actions and policies on mitigating Climate and Ecological harm are currently inadequate and the additional, and concerted, policies called for in the CEE Bill will go a long way to improve things for UK and Global communities.

Full details of the CEE Bill, its supporters and advice on lobbying MPs is here on the [CEE Bill Alliance](#) website and you can find contact details for your MP [here](#). If nothing else, dropping them an email to register your support for our requests would be a great help.

Even if our MPs refuse to support the Bill, it is worth the effort to make them more aware of the issues and so encourage them to see the Climate and Ecological Emergency as a global emergency, rather than just one more political issue.

Jessie's cycle challenge to COP26



ACT member Jessie Stevens has created a movement called 'People Pedal Power' or [#ride2COP26](#) which is hoping to create a movement of people joining her for a few miles as

she cycles the 520+ miles to Glasgow's COP26 in November.

She is doing this as a way to highlight the need for climate action at the upcoming COP and also the need for greener transport and more accessibility. It is particularly focussed on the role of young people calling for change, however all adults are very welcome! The aim is to highlight the power of individuals and collective action reinforced by as many people as possible forming one powerful 'human powered' movement as we travel up the country. Jessie is hoping it will be a bit like a 'tag team' of people joining her for a few miles as she cycles up to Glasgow.

For more information, visit Jessie's [People Pedal Power](#) website, or [people_pedal_power](#) on Instagram, and please share to get the message out there.

The Climate Change Committee - "Mitigation and Adaptation"

Reports issued by the Climate Change Committee (CCC) this month make it clear that there must now be a concerted effort to deal with both the mitigation of climate change (by reducing



greenhouse gasses) and the adaptations needed to cope with the effects of climate change already with us or likely to arise in the years ahead.

Baroness Brown, chair of the CCC's adaptation committee, commented that adaptation was the "Cinderella" of climate change and that it had been left "under-resourced, underfunded and often ignored" with the country currently off track to cope with a 1.5 to 2 degree increase in temperature let alone the higher temperatures we are currently on track for.

Every five years the Climate Change Committee (CCC) is required to provide a Climate Change Risk Assessment to government setting out the risks the country faces from climate change, the adaptations needed and those being pursued by government.

On 16 June the CCC released its third such report ([CCRA3](#)) and the government now has until 2023 to set out its adaptation plans to deal with the risks identified. The report highlights the lack of government

attention, planning or action and a growing gap between the risks and our ability to cope with them, including half a million new homes, built since the warnings in the last assessment, that will need retrofitting to cope with the increase in frequency and severity of heatwaves.

The CCC released this [short video](#) with CCRA3 which includes the eight priority areas that the government needs to address in the next two years. CarbonBrief has provided this useful [summary](#).

Then on 24 June the CCC released its latest [progress report](#) combining its annual assessment of progress on reducing emissions and its biannual assessment of progress on adapting to climate change, with the latter based on the CCRA3 report a week earlier.

As with adaptation, the report identifies a huge gap between the mitigation goals set by government, in particular a 78% reduction in emissions by 2035, based on 1990 levels, and the actions and policies needed to meet them, with many policies either being late or non-existent.

The government's goals were those recommended by the CCC in its [6th Carbon Budget](#), in December last year, however the government has not agreed with the CCC's recommended pathway to achieve those goals and the report highlights several areas in which the government's plans are inadequate in achieving the goals.

CarbonBrief's [summary](#) of the joint progress reports is worth reading and the CCC's [webinar](#) launching the reports highlights the key areas and contains a very informative Q&A session.

Rivercide documentary 14 July 7pm



With commentary by George Monbiot and music from Charlotte Church, this free-to-view hour long documentary investigates who is polluting our rivers and why they are not being stopped.

For more information visit [Rivercide.tv](#)'s website and watch [the trailer](#). If you want to make a contribution, they are seeking financial support via [Kickstarter](#).

Wales freezes all new road building projects

Following recommendations from its [Future Generations Commissioner](#) the Welsh government has put a hold on all new road projects pending a review. Full BBC story [here](#). Many believe that new roads encourage increased vehicle use, making emission targets harder to achieve, and that the funds are better spent improving existing infrastructure and on improved public transport.



As announced in the 2020 budget the UK government is planning to spend [£27bn on new roads](#).

A [Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill](#) was introduced to the UK Parliament in May 2021 for the same purpose as the Act passed in Wales in 2015, ie to hold public bodies accountable if they do not consider the longer term wellbeing of society and the environment in their decision making.