



Hull

EC



Hull's environmental newsletter. Published by Hull Friends of the Earth

www.hfoe.org.uk

January 2021 Issue 72

DIARY DATES

Hull Friends of the Earth meetings are on 1st Thursday of every month. Currently we are meeting at 7pm on Zoom. We'd love you to join in! Just contact Lee-ann (see details on the back page) or Claire (claire@thefunkygribben.co.uk).

As soon as we can meet again in person we will contact as many members as possible to let them know; if possible we will also continue on zoom. So to keep in touch, and receive ECO four times a year, become a member! (see back page).

Sat 30 Jan 2021 10am

Litter Pick, socially distanced. Meet Temple Street off Beverley Road. See pg 3.

Thurs 4 Feb 2021 7pm

HfOE Meeting on Zoom. Contact Lee-ann or Claire for code to join in.

Thurs 4 March 7pm

HfOE meeting. For latest arrangements please contact any of the 'regulars' on back page.

Thurs 1 April 7pm

HfOE meeting. For latest arrangements please contact any of the 'regulars' on back page.

★ **ECO deadline.** News, articles, photos etc for next issue to Hilary (see back page)

Thurs 6 May 7pm

HfOE meeting. For latest arrangements please contact any of the 'regulars' on back page.

Sat 29 May 10am to 3pm

★ **Green Fair** (we hope!) See page 3. More details to come in next ECO.

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Streets ahead or miles behind? Hull's NEW CYCLE ROUTES



Earlier this year the council improved some key routes around Hull city centre to encourage greater use of bikes for short journeys. It has generated debate amongst road users but how effective are the new lanes?

A group of us from Hull Friends of the Earth got on our bikes to find out!

Highlights

- ▶ Big improvements in tidiness along the old Hornsea railway line
- ▶ Lanes with physical segregation (e.g Freetown Way) felt safer, but would benefit from increased width to improve overtaking.
- ▶ Road markings and infrastructure do alert road users to the presence of cyclists, and raise the profile of active travel.
- ▶ We recommend a joined up approach to link cycle routes together to create an effective, safe Hull+ Network.

Friends of the Earth have clear policies for a green and fair recovery, which includes making cycling and walking safe and easy. In the Hull Group, we support Hull City Council's aspiration to improve options for active travel and reduce car dependency.

The health benefits from cycling outweigh the risk, but the fear that cycling is too dangerous remains a significant barrier to people switching to this transport mode. Safe, high quality infrastructure has the biggest impact on increasing cycling.

Continued on page 6



ECO Chit Chat



Happy New Year to all! With the arrival of the Covid vaccines let's hope it does turn out to be a happier one for everyone.



PHOTO: Hull Daily Mail

Our 50th birthday!

Lee-ann reminds me that Friends of the Earth and Hull Friends of the Earth are **50 years old this year!** We think we are one of the oldest continuing Friends of the Earth Local Groups. In future ECOs we'll say more about the campaigns we've been involved in over the years. Meanwhile here is a photo of HFoE members 'returning' a lot of non-returnable bottles to Clifford Dunn's supermarket in Prospect Street in 1976 shortly after I joined the group. Waste and recycling have always been a concern of the group. You are probably one of our older supporters if you remember Clifford Dunn's! Ten years ago we celebrated our 40th birthday with a party at the Adelphi Club. Can't promise a party this year but we'll see what we can do!

With the serious current situation

about the Covid19 outbreak, no one will be surprised when I say that its almost impossible to plan events ahead with any certainty. **Check first before you set out to any of the events mentioned in this ECO;** if you are not sure who to check with contact one of us named on the back page.

Our next LITTER PICK (see page 3)

Litter picks are a pretty safe bet, so we hope to see you at Temple Street on Saturday 30 January. Once you've picked up your pickers and bags we can keep well socially distanced, and I can vouch for it being good exercise! Feel free to bring a member of your household or 'bubble' along with you.

Clearing the track at Stepney Station

On Saturday 31 October, in addition to the Cycle Ride (page 1) a group of us also cleared rubbish off the cycle track from Stepney Station east towards the Barmston Drain. We made a real difference to this stretch of the old Hornsea Rail line, and though I'm sure we will find that some stretches need doing again, we've been told that both the Council and local cyclists have appreciated our efforts and those of other groups such as **Rubbish Friends** (Facebook@RubbishFriendsinHull). One of the more heartening effects of the pandemic 'lockdowns' has been that many people have really appreciated their local 'green' areas and have been keen to do what they can to improve them.

Tree planting

For many years, under the direction of HFoE member David Longthorn, we've been planting trees and wildflowers along the old railway embankment beside the Barmston Drain near Stepney Lane, to increase the biodiversity of the chalk embankments. Saturday 5 December saw us there again, and while we were at it, we

removed an enormous number of cans and other rubbish.



PHOTO: Hilary Byers

Green Fair!

We've booked Cottingham Civic Hall for a spring Green Fair on Saturday 29th May. By then let's hope many of us have had the vaccine and we've all got a bit more freedom.

Come to our Zoom meetings

Hull FoE Meetings are held on Zoom at present; why not join in? Let us know a day or two before and we'll send you a link which you just need to click on; it's easy!

Subjects we've talked about at recent meetings include the new cycle tracks, how to react to threats to greenspace, understanding the planning system, 'aqua greens', tree planting and air quality.



Join with Hull Friends of the Earth for a 'socially distanced'

Litter Pick

On Saturday 30 January at 10am

Meet on Temple Street (off Beverley Road, opposite former Stepney Station) at the start of the cycle track.

Bring your own gloves and face covering; we'll supply litter-pickers and bags.

Please let Claire know you are coming:

claire@thefunkygribben.co.uk

07740 381905



Tell manufacturers to #StopOceanThreads

Our clothes are made of millions of tiny fibres, many of which are plastic, in fabrics including polyester, nylon, acrylic and polyamide. With every wash and wear, these microfibres shed from our clothes and can end up in the environment. A single wash can release over 700,000 microfibres into wastewater, many of which then end up in the ocean. Washing synthetic clothes accounts for 35% of primary microplastics found in the environment. With an estimated 9.4 trillion fibres released from washes every week in the UK (based on 2016 Napper and Thompson results of a 6kg polyester-cotton wash), it's not surprising that

billions of them end up in the ocean and on our beaches.

Worryingly, fish ingest these, which means they're heading for our plates - 63% of shrimp in the North Sea contain synthetic fibres! Mussels also ingest them ... You wouldn't eat your shirt, but you might eat some shellfish.

But there's a simple solution. We want all new washing machines to be fitted with microfibre filters, by law, by 2024. So far over 12,000 of you have signed our petition [<https://www.mcsuk.org/campaigns/microfibrecampaign>] asking for the UK government to create these laws.

Now we need to let manufacturers know that there's huge public support for microfibre filters. That's where you come in. We're asking you to take to social media and send a message to some of the UK's top washing machine manufacturers. Just copy and paste the message below and send it as a tweet.

Hey @Miele_GB @BekoUK @HooverUK @BoschUK @SamsungUK @WhirlpoolCorp™ We want washing machine manufacturers to commit to fitting microfibre filters before 2024. Will you do this and help us #StopOceanThreads?

Marine Conservation Society

Short sighted planning and climate change

Like the Council, the UK government makes positive noises about tackling greenhouse gas emissions, but then acts to the contrary. UK government puts £120B into HS2, £27B into new roads, but virtually nothing into insulating homes. The Council is still agreeing to large estates being built where every house has a gas boiler. Heat collection pipes could

be installed under roads and in green spaces relatively cheaply, as estates are developed.

See Climate change: UK aim of 68% emissions cut a 'colossal challenge' - BBC News

Kevin Paulson

on Facebook in Hull Carbon Neutral 2030

Ed: Planning legislation does not give the Council any control over heating in private developments; that would require a change in the national building regulations. However, the Council could change what it does in its own housing.

Green Fair

Provisionally booked for

**Cottingham Civic Hall on
Saturday 29 May 2021**

As you guessed, this is subject to whatever covid rules are in operation at the time but make a note of the date. We'll contact our usual stallholders nearer the time, but you can let Hilary know if you are a local 'green' group or craftsperson and keen to have a stall.

Hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk

01482 445747



The Shorelines Project



The **Shorelines Project** is about getting real about what climate change means for Hull. It's time to talk honestly and to stand with you to make sure that Hull has a fantastic future ... as a place where the Humber Bridge stands proud and we can still get our pattie and chips in 100 years' time.

Our time is now

Climate change is here and it's hitting us far harder and faster than anyone had imagined. It's obvious that much more investment, action and thought will be needed to secure the long term future of the city. So how can we know so much and do so little? Bluntly because we're not planning for the worst, and that's why Shorelines is here.

The Shorelines Project

Shorelines is about helping imagine the future and inspiring people to demand that Hull is protected.

Like New Orleans much of Hull is below sea level.

Take a walk up the quayside and try to imagine it with sea levels one and a half metres higher in 100 years. It seems too horrible to think about. But we have to.

Because it's not science fiction: it's coming.

At the heart of our project is art. Imagination is key to our future: If you can't imagine the future you can't be ready for it. Involving internationally renowned artists, local artists, community groups and local residents, the installations are about the reality of climate change.

This city-wide 18 month project will engage with thousands of people, businesses and families across the city. We'll support Hull to take the lead and show the rest of the country what it means to take the reality of flooding and climate change seriously. If you need it, we'll give you more info and hands-on training so you can demand your right to a safe future.

Hull College

Hull College is the biggest college in Hull, making it the perfect spot for the first mural to launch The Shorelines Project. Facing out onto George Street—one of the busiest roads in Hull—the Mural stands an impressive 15m high, one of the biggest murals to come to Hull!

Shorelines is created by >Rights : Community : Action — a campaigning group dedicated to giving people the skills and knowledge they need to make a difference to the climate crisis. It's delivered in partnership with Drunk Animal, a Hull-based creative agency. It is funded by the Quadrature Climate Foundation.

Rights:Community:Action is also campaigning against changes to the planning system which have taken away people's rights to influence planning decisions; see <https://rightscommunityaction.co.uk>

From public announcement of Shorelines Project and <https://theshorelinesproject.com>

Heathrow expansion versus Climate Justice

The Airports National Policy Statement (ANPS) is the policy framework, created under the Planning Act 2008 by the Secretary of State for Transport, to allow consideration of plans for expansion at Heathrow Airport. It directs how a development consent application should be evaluated. Section 10 of the Planning Act required the Secretary of State to contribute to sustainable development with particular regard to mitigating climate change when making the ANPS.

Friends of the Earth mounted a legal challenge, arguing that the ANPS was of no legal effect unless reviewed, on the grounds that the Secretary of State:

- ▶ had failed to consider the Paris Agreement on climate change, the non-CO2 warming impacts of aviation, and the climate impacts of the operation of the airport beyond 2050; and
- ▶ had not complied with the Strategic Environmental Directive by not considering the Paris Agreement.
- ▶ It was therefore in breach of Section 10.

FoE's case was rejected by the Divisional Court, but FoE appealed and the case went before the Court of Appeal in October 2019. In February 2020, the Court of Appeal unanimously agreed with FoE's grounds of challenge, and ruled that the ANPS was of no legal effect unless reviewed. The Government said it would not challenge that decision.

However, Heathrow Airport Limited sought and obtained permission to appeal, *so the case became even more clearly about commercial interests vs climate justice.*

The Supreme Court allowed Heathrow Airport's appeal and reversed the Court of Appeal ruling. Since there is no

onward appeal from the Supreme Court, the 2018 ANPS has been reinstated. It is open to Heathrow to make a planning application for a Development Consent Order (DCO), and so the battle against expansion may now move to the planning arena.

A more detailed discussion of the rulings can be found on the National FoE website, but FoE's lawyers conclude:

"Friends of the Earth's case has clearly revealed the extent of disagreement between judges on the interpretation of the same legal issues related to climate change.

"In bringing this case, Friends of the Earth and sector allies have helped push the climate emergency significantly up the political agenda. We have shown that it is possible to mount a credible and legitimate climate case against an enormous piece of climate-wrecking infrastructure. It has exposed Heathrow expansion as a major climate justice issue, and therefore one of national and international importance.

"The judgment is no 'green light' for expansion – it makes clear that full climate considerations still remain to be addressed and resolved, though now at the planning permission stage. Given the Climate Change Committee's advice to Government on the 6th Carbon Budget (9 December 2020) in the context of a new Net Zero national target, advising that there should be no net expansion in UK airport capacity going forwards, the picture is looking difficult for Heathrow Airport Ltd's plans."

Quite independently, the Covid pandemic has drastically reduced demand for passenger flights, and weakened the commercial case for any airport expansion at present.

Rohan Lewis

In 2020 Hull FoE gave a donation towards National FoE's legal costs.

West Newton Camp

On Sunday 29 November I called with firewood at the monitors' camp near the West Newton B drilling site where Rathlin are test drilling for oil and gas. I received a warm welcome. The monitors use a telescope to keep a very careful watch on Rathlin's every move and report any breaches of planning conditions or regulations. I was impressed with their thoroughness, knowledge, dedication and good humour.

They have a cosy hut between two caravans on the laneside, with a small stove, so small pieces of wood are as welcome as large; they do have

saws and axes to break up larger pieces. Locals are keeping them supplied with food but they would also welcome veggie soups or stews to keep them going; they need to be able to be reheated in one pan.

In a letter to residents in October 2020, Rathlin said: 'Rathlin Energy (UK) Limited drilled the West Newton A-1 well in 2013, discovering hydrocarbons in the Kirkham Abbey formation. In 2019, the company successfully drilled and tested the West Newton A-2 well. This year, Rathlin is drilling and testing the West Newton B-1

well to appraise the hydrocarbons discovered in the West Newton A wells'.

They have recently been given a further 2 months to allow for delays due to Covid and the need to 'sidetrack' one of the wells.

A UK-wide moratorium on fracking imposed in 2019 remains in place.

'Drill or Drop' keeps people informed about fracking and conventional drilling sites for oil and gas. <https://drillordrop.com>

Hilary

Our test ride

On a blustery Saturday morning, six of us departed on a socially distanced test-ride. **Starting from Stepney Station we went along the old Hornsea railway line towards Princes Avenue, along Spring Bank and Freetown Way before returning via Wright Street and Ferensway.**

The old rail line has been a dedicated walking and cycling route for many years, although broken glass and anti-social behaviour has put people off. It was great to see that this has improved by regular sweeps and litter picks (including by Hull Friends of the Earth). It felt very safe and quiet. We encountered a car parked across the dropped curb onto Duesbery Street. It was not a problem for us but would be for anyone using a wheelchair or adapted bike. Perhaps some road markings would assist?

After a short pedal along Princes Avenue, we were onto **Spring Bank** where new cycle markings, signs and bus lanes are installed but no physical segregation. Despite the markings, we encountered some badly parked cars



that pushed us further out and one driver pulled out on us from a side road. We also felt that the adverse camber at the edge of the road could be difficult for some.

Freetown Way has wands installed separating people on bikes from motor traffic. This contributed to a feeling of safety although we still did "rear shoulder glances" across the gaps at junctions. The surface is very smooth but we felt the lanes could be wider to allow faster riders to overtake safely. Right turns would be difficult with users having to exit the segregated section to use the advanced stop lines.

At **North Bridge** the old path which required users to dismount before routing them back onto the main road remains alongside the new. For me this was a perfect contrast between the old, inadequate infrastructure and a vision of the future. Interestingly, David from our group disagreed and felt that, with the cross-winds on the bridge, the off-road route was safer. Freetown Way was good but we believe the perceived lack of take-up might be due to pleasanter routes to East Hull via the city centre.

We returned via **Wright Street** which has been closed to motor vehicles at one end with planters – known as a modal

filter – thus creating a one-way street. It is now a quiet route into this part of the city centre. However, users are deposited via a narrow gap onto Spencer Street with little infrastructure and have to mix with traffic to make a right turn onto Ferensway. A driver, illegally occupying the advanced stop line, forced us to mix with the cars.

Ferensway has new painted lines and bus lanes. Traffic was light at the time and we encountered no problems. However, at busy periods this could be quite daunting. Anyone going straight ahead onto Beverley Road has to traverse a lane of traffic – although most of the group thought the markings were sufficient to alert drivers to this.

We encountered difficulties turning right at Spring Bank onto Princes Avenue. With no dedicated lane, it is impossible to reach the advanced stop line. Instead, we had to take the outside lane to turn right. While ok in light traffic, this could be a major deterrent to less confident cyclists and during rush hour.

What did we think?

We set two tests: Did we feel safer, and would we allow a 12 year old to ride to school unsupervised? At the end, we could not unanimously conclude that we felt safer but we did agree that it raised the profile and visibility of people on bikes – which is a good thing. Whether we would allow a child to cycle alone would very much depend on the particular child.

In conclusion, these facilities are definitely a step in the right direction. They were installed to aggressive timescales so there will clearly be areas that can be improved and further developed. To be successful the next step must be to create joined up end-to-end routes across the city, otherwise people will still be deterred by unsafe sections.

We have shared this feedback with Hull City Council. If you live in Hull, please write to your councillors encouraging them to support measures to encourage active and green travel – especially with local elections next year. You can also send feedback to cyclinghull@hullcc.gov.uk

Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed the ride, proving that cycling isn't just a healthy and environmentally sound transport choice but is also great fun – whether the sun is shining or not.

Alan Gribben

PHOTOS: Alan Gribben



FoE Policies for green and fair recovery plans across the UK

Make cycling and walking safe and easy, by spending £2 billion a year on them:

- ▶ As part of the COVID-19 Recovery Plan the UK government must commit to spending £2 billion a year on walking and cycling.
- ▶ COVID-19 Recovery Plans must go further and enable temporary changes to reallocate road space to pedestrians and cyclists to be made permanent.

<https://policy.friendsoftheearth.uk/policy-positions/policies-green-and-fair-recovery-plans-across-uk>

Partnership secures funds for 'Green Social Prescribing'

The Humber, Coast and Vale Health and Care Partnership is one of seven health and care partnerships in the country to secure £500,000 as part of a two-year national scheme aimed at helping the mental wellbeing of communities hardest hit by coronavirus.

The 'green social prescribing' project has been established by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, NHS England and NHS Improvement, and partner organisations to examine how health and care services, working with

communities and local organisations, can connect more people with nature and nature-based activities to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

Green social prescribing could include a wide range of activities, such as walking or cycling groups, gardening or community allotments, conservation tasks such as tree planting, and creative activities.

Across the Humber, Coast and Vale region hundreds of local nature-based initiatives, community activities and eco-therapy projects are already

working to improve lives and provide support by connecting people with nature and local green spaces. These projects help to support those who are least able to connect with nature, because of where they live, their

"I am delighted that we have been able to secure this extra funding and resources for our area. This will enable our local projects to support more people and ensure the NHS and other health and care services are better

connected and aware of the fantastic work that voluntary and community sector organisations are already doing across our region."

The Humber, Coast and Vale area stretches along the east coast of England from Whitby to Cleethorpes, incorporating the cities of Hull and York and large rural areas across

Northern Lincolnshire,

North Yorkshire and the East Riding of Yorkshire, with a total population of around 1.7 million people.

From <https://hullisthis.news> Dec 2020

Ed: It is not stated how voluntary groups might access some of this funding, but the Partnership contact details are: 01482 344700; HullCCG.stpcontactus@nhs.net



Noddle Hill Nature Reserve, Bransholme. PHOTO: Jerome Whittingham @photomoments

income or other barriers they may face.

Securing the investment and a place on the national programme will enable partners to expand the offer to our communities and help more people to improve their mental health and wellbeing by getting out and exploring the amazing green spaces that the Humber, Coast and Vale region has to offer.

Andy Barber, Chief Executive, Smile Foundation and Social Prescribing Lead for the Humber, Coast and Vale VCSE Steering Group, said

Blondes Café and Shop; a new beginning

The new year is traditionally a time for looking forward, for hopeful resolutions, for celebrating. Even though it has just started, I have a good feeling about 2021. I've heard many say "good riddance" to 2020 and I understand why. When we locked our door on 22nd March we cried. A lot. For so many reasons.

It was a sad year for shops with months of enforced closures. The hospitality sector was hit more than most. Blondes Cruelty-Free Eatery has yet to welcome our customers to enjoy, again, the cafe side of our business. But let's go with the new beginning feature. We have taken the opportunity to adapt and update ourselves operating now with a full and varied menu to takeaway and lots of exciting and innovative goods instore.

High Street a winner

A surprise winner from the pandemic has been the local high street. And that benefit may well continue as people carry on spending at least part of their working week at home, where they have grown to appreciate independent operators with a local flavour.

So Blondes re-opened in November with an 'unprecedented' - surely the most overused word of 2020?! - array of food, drinks and complimentary products that we are proud to contribute to an ethical and cruelty-free world. Amid the pandemic, consumers have become increasingly aware of the impact their dietary choices has on both the environment and their health. This has led to a huge increase in people searching for vegan food near them, as much of the world spent the year in their homes.

We are very proud that 2020 saw the launch of our chocolate brand "Mummy Meagz" into Holland and Barrett stores nationwide. The vegan creme 'Chuckie' egg launched at Easter and immediately flew off the shelves with one purchased every 30 seconds - a story that became one of the top three vegan news stories of the year. In fact, the 'Chuckie' egg proved so popular that Mummy Meagz launched a special Halloween version in the autumn and a range of Christmas goodies that sold out - watch this space in 2021.



PHOTO: Willow

Veganuary

Blondes is also a proud supporter of Veganuary, whose organisers are gearing up for their biggest ever success rate of people signing up to go vegan this month, thanks to a huge surge in consumers tucking into more plant-based foods during last year's lockdowns and greater concerns about health and the environment.

The UK-based campaign, which since 2014 has asked people to follow a vegan diet in January, has now over 500,000 signatories Worldwide in 2021. Large UK and multi-national companies, including Nestle, are backing the campaign and urging employees to do the same.

Last year's lockdowns, and now the lockdown of 2021, have forced people to cook more from scratch as a result of restaurant closures, and pay closer attention to their diets. Yet even before the pandemic, manufacturers, supermarkets, restaurants and pub chains were already scrambling to tap into the vegan market and shift towards more 'flexitarian' diets among people who want to cut down on their meat and dairy consumption.

The 'new' Blondes offers the widest possible range for foods of all types in a convenient, happy, one-stop location. Choose as much as you want, or as little, from our gravity bins; a wide range of flours and ingredients from around the world co-exist with our own homemade sweets and savouries. There really is something for everyone and all using sustainable packaging, or you can bring your own container to fill. Refill stations for shampoos, conditioners, cleaning products and more help to reduce single use plastic.

We look forward to greeting old friends and new in to the shop and sit-in customers when possible.... including Hull Friends of the Earth for their monthly meetings, Blondes Book Club and other social groups and organisations.

Blondes Cruelty-Free Eatery - not just for Veganuary

106 King Street, Cottingham, HU16 5QE

Open Wednesday-Sunday 10am - 3pm

Willow

Why say no to waste incineration

Hull FoE has long opposed the incineration of domestic waste and is a member of UK Without Incineration (UKWIN).
Shahab attended a virtual conference on behalf of Hull FoE

UKWIN held a Zoom Conference on Tuesday 8th December 2021 "Moving away from Incineration towards a Circular Economy". The event was political in nature and was well attended by dozens of Peers (no Peers) and MPs, councillors and researchers.

The event was opened by Dr Murrison (MP South West Wiltshire).

There are numerous reasons why people should oppose incineration. The chief ones are:

- 1) Incineration harms recycling
- 2) Incineration is extremely bad for climate change
- 3) Incineration is a barrier to the circular economy
- 4) The UK already has incineration overcapacity
- 5) Incineration harms air quality

There are also alternatives to incineration which are cheaper, more flexible, quicker to implement and better for the environment. Local authorities should recognise this and rather than incinerating waste should focus on maximising re-use and recycling alongside providing a separate food waste collection for treatment or anaerobic digestion (AD).

Note: AD is a sequence of processes by which microorganisms break down biodegradable material in the absence of oxygen.

Incineration harms recycling: There is a correlation between high rates of incineration and low rates of recycling. Many councils have told the government that their low recycling rates are due to their incineration-based waste contracts that undermine their incentive or ability to invest in improvements to their recycling services.

Incineration exacerbates climate change: It releases significantly more CO2 for every kWh exported to the electricity grid than the conventional use of fossil fuels, with the incineration of plastics being worse than coal. As a comparison the carbon intensity of energy exported to grid in (gCO2/kWh) is CCGT (Combined Cycle Gas Turbine) 340, UK Incinerators 2017 average 797, Coal 870, Incineration of plastic 1099.

Note: In the UK we now use very little coal.

Incineration is a barrier to the circular economy: Moving away from incineration is a key element in moving towards a more circular economy because, instead of being destroyed, materials and nutrients can remain available thereby avoiding the additional extraction of finite resources.

A Linear Economy Model is extract > manufacture > distribute > consume > discard while a Circular Economy Model is re-manufacture > distribute > consume > recycle > reprocess > back to re-manufacture.

The UK already has incineration overcapacity: The UK currently has more incineration capacity existing and under construction than genuine residual waste to burn, and there are many more incinerator projects in the pipeline.

Incineration overcapacity harms the markets for recycling and reduces the marginal benefits of waste minimisation and re-use schemes, causing significant environmental harm. Locking our valuable materials into incineration creates a serious long-term risk to UK resource security and is a huge waste of money.

Incineration harms air quality: In addition to greenhouse gas emissions that exacerbate climate change, incinerators emit many toxins and pollutants that harm local air quality. Emissions include dioxins, NOx, Hg, Pb, Cd, Nx, CO2, N2O and ultrafine particulate matter that can be harmful for both human health and the natural environment. There is not enough monitoring, not enough enforcement, and not enough transparency.

UKWIN's proposals

The main proposals at this conference made by UKWIN were:

- 1) Introduce an immediate moratorium on new waste incineration capacity;
- 2) Phase in an escalating incineration tax to complement the landfill tax; and
- 3) Adopt a meaningful municipal waste reduction targets for total and residual waste.

There was general agreement on UKWIN's proposals and strong support by the MPs and Peers present. UKWIN's arguments are gaining support as demonstrated by the presence of representatives from both sides of parliament. It is expected that the Environment Bill 2019-21 going through parliament will address the key issues raised.

Shahab Razzaki with information from UKWIN

Editor's note: Hull and East Riding Councils currently collect materials for recycling and domestic food waste for composting. We understand that they currently send residual waste to landfill. A waste gasification plant has been built on Cleveland Street in Hull in which non-recyclable waste will be heated and the gasses given off burnt to generate electricity. This will release less carbon into the air than incineration, but there have been numerous problems and it is not yet in operation.

Scrap factory farming

Humane Being is an entirely volunteer-powered, not-for-profit campaign group. We have an amazing legal team headed by renowned Human Rights QC Michael Mansfield (Hillsborough, Stephen Lawrence, Grenfell Tower etc.) and are taking legal action against the UK Government for failing to address the issues associated with factory farming, including its contribution to pandemics, antibiotic resistance, the climate crisis, and cruelty to animals.

This could be a landmark legal case with the potential to set a remarkable global precedent, but we need help to make it happen. We need to raise at least £60,000 to cover our legal fees which is why we have launched a crowd fundraiser and why any help promoting the case would be gratefully received. We have invested a lot of time and our own money into getting this far.

The dangers of factory farming affect all of us:

Pandemic Risk: Three in four emerging diseases in people come from animals. Unhygienic factory farms are the perfect breeding ground for these diseases. Scientists predict the next pandemic will be an Avian Flu 100x more deadly than Covid-19. Between the 2nd of November and 15th of December there were 10 outbreaks of Avian Flu in UK farms, and 10,500 turkeys were culled after cases were reported at a farm in North Yorkshire.

Antibiotic Resistance: The widespread use of antibiotics on factory farms, to prevent and treat diseases arising as a result of the close confinement of large numbers of animals in unnatural, unhygienic environments, is driving the growth of bacteria resistant to our medicines; an issue that the World Health Organisation tells us will kill 10 million people each year by 2050.

The Climate Crisis: Factory farms are responsible for significant levels of greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change and devastate our already endangered environment. Soya grown in Brazil is imported to feed UK factory farmed animals, contributing to deforestation and the loss of biodiversity

Cruelty to Animals: As a nation of animal lovers, most people would be horrified to see the inside of factory farms. Some poultry farms hold over 1 million birds each. There are over 16 million hens in the UK living in cages, each bird given only an area the size of an A4 piece of paper. Pigs are confined in metal crates for up to 12 weeks per year during birthing periods – where they cannot even turn



around. Surplus male chicks and calves are killed the day they are born or soon thereafter. Tails are docked, teeth clipped and beaks trimmed with no anaesthetic or pain relief. Imagine if we did such things to our dogs or cats.

We know times are hard right now for many people after last year, but the Covid-19 pandemic that has caused so much hardship is exactly why we need to scrap factory farming now.

With your help we believe we can Scrap Factory Farming and protect people from disease, animals from cruelty and the planet from further harm.

With my very best wishes to you and for our shared hope for a world that is kinder to animals, people and the planet.

Jane Tredgett

Founder and Director of Humane Being

You can read more about these issues and the legal challenge on our fundraising page: (donating is not obligatory if you just want to read more)

<https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/scrapfactoryfarming/>

or watch our video **Scrap Factory Farming - OUR KEY MESSAGES:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rXQWH9Du6mQ&feature=youtu.be>

You may have seen **our campaign recently featured in the Independent:**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/rspca-meat-dairy-factory-farm-health-climate-b1779549.html>



WEA Courses online

Create a Permaculture Garden ref C3678819

Online course giving you a basic understanding of permaculture principles. It will allow you to design your garden, backyard or other area to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers while creating a relaxing and productive space.

There will be 3 sessions starting **Wed 27 Jan 2021**, 2.15 to 4.15 pm, ending **Wed 10 Feb 2021**. The cost is £19.20.

Welcome the Wildlife ref C3678820

Online course looking at creating wildlife gardens over a series of 3 sessions, starting **Fri 24 Feb 2021**, from 2.15 to 4.15 pm, ending 10 Mar 2021. The cost is £19.20.

Composting for Beginners ref C3678822

Online course to discover how to make your own compost using fruit and vegetable waste and other organic matter. 3 sessions, starting **Wed 17 March 2021**, from 2.15 to 4.15 pm, ending 31 March 2021. The cost is £19.20



Seed Swap

Originally planned for Sat 6 March at the outdoors Rooted in Hull site on St Peter's Street, this is no longer possible in the form envisaged and a rethink is in progress.

This event is now likely to be along the lines of a virtual seed swap, using a drop-off point and then distributing to interested parties, potentially supported with some online activities.

Check the latest, or come up with your own suggestions(!) to Anna (she works Mondays to Thursdays).

Anna Route, Development Officer

anna@rootedinhull.org.uk
www.hullfoodpartnership.org.uk

Constable Community Allotment

Lausanne says: 'We hope to open, under strict Covid rules, so that volunteers in limited numbers can enjoy the space and start sowing crops when the weather is right.'

Please ring me on 07816141169 to check the latest position before coming to the site. Don't forget to bring your mask!

To register on any of these courses call the WEA on 0300 303 3464 or visit :

wea.org.uk
and give the course reference.

Lausanne

Interesting arrivals

This spring we put off mowing the grass at the front of our house and lo and behold up came lots of hawkweed and, much more exciting, two small clumps of Bee Orchids, alas the latter trampled on by the men who came to do our gutters. The Bee Orchids are apparently perennial, so I shall be watching. It would be interesting if we could be updated through ECO in the early summer of any other interesting appearances.

Best wishes

Snowy

Ed: Let us know any unusual or interesting arrivals in your garden or open space. A photo would be nice!



Hull Friends of the Earth

HULL FOE MEMBERSHIP

Contact details		Payment details	
		Please note: the membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March each year.	
Name	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Mx <input type="checkbox"/>	I enclose:	
Address		Membership fee (£10 waged, £5 unwaged)	£
		Donation	£
Postcode		Total	£
Telephone		Please make cheques payable to: Hull Friends of the Earth , and send to: Membership Secretary, Hull Friends of the Earth 121 New Village Road, Cottingham HU16 4ND	
Email			
How do you want to receive ECO? <i>Please tick as appropriate</i> By email (in colour) <input type="checkbox"/> In print by post (black and white) <input type="checkbox"/>		I WANT TO PAY BY STANDING ORDER We encourage members to pay by Annual Standing Order. Cheques are being used less and less frequently and a standing order helps you to remember to pay and saves us sending reminders. If you wish to pay by standing order please instruct your bank to set up the payment to: Hull FOE Sort code: 05-05-25 Account no: 27534801	
YOUR DATA IS IMPORTANT The change in General Data Protection Regulation means that we need your permission to hold your data. We will keep your details safe and we will only use them to manage the organisation and keep you informed. PLEASE SIGN IN THE BOX BELOW TO GIVE YOUR CONSENT FOR US TO HOLD YOUR DATA WHILST YOU ARE A MEMBER.			
<i>Many thanks.</i>			
I hereby give my consent for Hull Friends of the Earth to store and use the data provided above for business purposes. I understand that I have the right to see the data stored at any time and that I can request its removal at any time. SIGNED _____			

SHARE YOUR NEWS?

Hull ECO welcomes news and views of all things environmental in Hull and East Yorkshire.

Deadlines are the first Thursday in January, April, July, October

Please send to Hilary (*details below*).

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