

Kingsbridge Town Council Climate and Nature Emergency (CANE) Action Plan Action for 2022/23

In declaring a Climate and Nature Emergency in March 2020 the Council agreed that it should look to take forward a 10-point action plan comprised of:

- deliverable projects that the Council, and those with whom it engages, want to see happen;
- identification of who is best placed to take these projects forward and deliver results as quickly and effectively as possible;
- how these projects might be supported to happen financially;
- an approach to reporting regularly to the Council and Kingsbridge area residents and businesses.

Action for 2022/23

Original Illustrative Action – Supporting the Declaration	Developed and Agreed Action for Implementation in 2022/23
<p>1. Low Carbon Energy Use by KTC: Ensure that KTC is purchasing all its energy from renewable sources and that all its lighting is lowest energy. Campaign for other organisations and householders to do likewise (part delivered).</p>	<p>KTC already uses very high renewables content electricity for all its power needs along with low energy lighting and timing and motion controls to minimise light and heating energy use. It will look to go further but in particular it will encourage others to do at least likewise including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promotion through KTC literature/website; - direct engagement with larger users in the town – see Action 5; - concerted promotion at a Kingsbridge Climate Market - see Action 6.
<p>2. Extensive Flower Bed Creation: Continue/expand the national exemplar delivery of such by the Kingsbridge in Bloom team with a major focus on insect life.</p>	<p>Work with Kingsbridge in Bloom re plans for 2022/23 looking at:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What’s already being done and what additional wild flower areas are already planned/could be considered. (plans progressing for additional rewilding in 2022 at locations in Plymouth Road and Embankment Road) 2. Reviewing contract arrangements for other grass verge and other grass cutting to maximise benefit to nature e.g. 1m wide mown edges with natural grass/wild areas outside these to be cut just once or twice a year and cut material removed to reduce fertility. See Plantlife/RHS advice.
<p>3. Planning Policy on Minimising Energy Use in New Build: Work with</p>	<p>Pursue through SHDC Climate Action Plan and responses on planning application consultations.</p>

<p>SHDC to require <u>leading</u> approaches to minimising energy use in new build/conversion schemes (draft Neighbourhood Plan includes policy KWAC Env7 Carbon Reduction).</p>	
<p>4. Electric Cars (and Bikes and Boats): Establish an Electric Vehicle Hub including the provision of even more electric charging points and considering a possible Electric Car Sharing Scheme and maybe a Community Electric Bus Scheme? (draft Neighbourhood Plan includes policy KWAC T2 Non-fossil fuel vehicle hub).</p>	<p>Establish current SHDC plans including specific initial implementation location design/extent to ensure expansion potential and broader approach e.g. in respect of bikes and boats. Identify local, small town electric car/bike sharing schemes elsewhere that could be replicated or expanded to include Kingsbridge. Identify current/potential future bus provision and log KTC's interest in electric buses being the future for bus journeys to/from Kingsbridge.</p>
<p>5. Renewable Energy Generation on Existing Buildings: Push for town-wide delivery of roof-top solar PV schemes starting with the largest well-placed roofs first i.e. Quayside Leisure Centre, Tesco and Kingsbridge Community College (action already underway).</p>	<p>KTC to <u>formally</u> seek progress on roof-top solar energy generation on the largest well-placed roofs in the town. Consider working with others, e.g. Kingsbridge Climate Action, if there is a need to campaign via petitions, demonstrations etc. to ensure progress.</p>
<p>6. Arrange and host a Climate Market e.g. energy saving products local only produce (wide variety), local wildlife groups, electric vehicle promotion?</p>	<p>Hosting a Climate Market in Kingsbridge was planned but put on hold pending due to Covid-19 restrictions (a rearranged date needs to be set for 2022).</p>
<p>7. Tree Planting/Carbon Capture: Identify tree planting potential in and around Kingsbridge (including by engagement with landowners) and support tree planting days involving local schools other groups to deliver, say, 100 trees a year initially, perhaps rising to many hundreds pa (initial site already proposed and 'Orchard Town' idea mooted).</p>	<p>KTC to work with/support local communities, schools, Kingsbridge Climate Action and other groups (Neighbourhood Plan, Primrose Trail etc.) to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Progress fruit tree planting on the initial site identified (off Wallingford Road) and other potential for Year1 tree planting; and 2. Prepare a plan for, and support delivery of, large scale tree planting/fruit tree ribbons/trails. Kingsbridge Climate Action already engaging with local farmers on this (a joint SHDC/KTC bid to the Urban Tree Challenge Fund for supply and planting of 127 trees on sites across town was approved in December 2021).
<p>8. Tackling Fuel Poverty and Climate Change Together: Establish a Kingsbridge Air Travel Offset Fund to support an insulation/lower energy use scheme for those in need.</p>	<p>KTC to host a simple one-page addition to its web site to promote and receive flight off-set payments (suggested 10% of flight costs) and describe (and report on) a scheme by which payments will be/have been used to help Kingsbridge residents in fuel poverty – working with the local food-bank/other groups in the town. Use available options to promote the scheme (KTC's CANE household survey in November and December 2021 highlighted local carbon offset schemes and how to donate).</p>
<p>9. Kingsbridge Business Action Promotion Scheme: Promote local businesses that are taking action and can help/encourage others to.</p>	<p>KTC will support the promotion of guidelines, as and when appropriate, on actions that businesses could consider to help address the emergency including examples of already very good practice by local businesses.</p>

10. Art Promoted Action – Support action through community artwork using TC facilities, empty shop windows.

Engage with Kingsbridge Climate Action and other community artist activists with a view to supporting art action (taking on an empty shop, using empty shop windows and potential banner locations etc.) around the theme of the climate and nature emergency.

In respect of the financial requirements to deliver the above projects, KTC will engage with SHDC to access its Climate Change fund and consider the potential of Section 106 payments through the planning system supporting delivery (e.g. in respect of green spaces and tree planting), and in addition, or otherwise, use part of its additional precept income to ensure progress.

Finally, progress on this CANE Action Plan will be reported to the Council quarterly (in addition to ad hoc monthly reporting of significant development