
Newsletter July 2016

Looking forwards

A Message from the Chair

This newsletter is shorter than usual because we are very close to our AGM for which you will have received updated reports from various Ludlow 21 groups; this newsletter covers the additional items.

The key message from me this quarter is that Ludlow 21 faces significant challenges as we move into the second half of 2016. Unfortunately, for various (very good) reasons, we have lost several key members of the Board and this means that the remaining members will be faced with a great deal of work. Not only do we need more recruits for the Board but we also need to decide how we manage as new members get up to speed with the very intensive programme of work we are pursuing both within the **VISION21** programme and all our other ongoing activities.

I would therefore like to make special plea for as many of you as possible to come to the AGM on 19th July at the Feathers Hotel at 7.30. We need your views on what our priorities should be, what you think is working well, and what isn't, and your ideas for the future. I also hope that those of you who have any special skills or simply a genuine interest in environmental sustainability will consider standing for Board membership; you are badly needed!

I do hope to see you there.

Denise

Ludlow Green Festival 2016

The 2016 Green Festival is gearing up to be the best ever and will be formally opened by the Town Mayor. Make sure you are around the Market Square on **Sunday 28th August** to enjoy the wide variety of stalls, events and music.



This years Festival is themed around Green Footprints, what imprint do we leave, how lightly can we tread and what are our next steps?

We have many new activities from a Polar Bear made by young people at Rockspring Community Centre, to looking at potentially new food sources

for the future such as edible insects. We also have the latest electric bikes that can be tested and visits to Wigley's Field organic allotments.

To finish off the day's events we celebrate with a party at Ludlow Brewery, from 7.00pm to 11.00pm. We have an exciting line up of talented musicians including a quirky acoustic folk band 'Two Coats Colder', supported by Ben Calvert, a solo guitarist, and 'Emma and the Professor', a musical duo of energy with a big voice and rhythmic bhodran .



**LUDLOW
GREEN FESTIVAL**

Party at the Brewery

Two Coats Colder
Quirky acoustic folk band
- Supported by -
Ben Calvert
Solo guitar

Emma and The Professor
A musical duo of energy with a big voice & rhythmic bhodran

Sunday 28 August, 7pm - 11pm
at Ludlow Brewery, Station Drive

Tickets £8 in advance at
wegottickets.com & Myriad Organics
£9 on the door - Families welcome, under 12's free.

Food from Die Kaapse Kombuis and bar

www.greenfestival.co.uk

We encourage you to book your tickets soon, they are £8.00 in advance (www.wegottickets.com or from Myriad Organics), and £9.00 on the door. Families are very welcome and under 12's are free. There will be food available and we hope you can come and enjoy the music and the grand finale to the day's events.

Ludlow 21 past Chairmen are honoured by the town

David Currant and Roger Furniss, both recent chairman of Ludlow 21, received civic awards at this year's Mayor Making event. David's award recognised his 15 years' involvement with environmental sustainability in Shropshire and, of special relevance to us, his chairmanship of Ludlow 21 from 2001 to 2014. Roger's contribution to Ludlow 21,

especially the Green Festival which he promoted for many years, was recognised together with his involvement with Ludlow Hockey Club for the last 35 years, of which he is President. We are delighted that their work has now been formally recognised and hope they will both continue to support Ludlow 21 for many years to come.

News From The Groups

Ludlow Swift Group

Welcome Events

This year's welcome events were successful again, particularly the stall at the Local to Ludlow market. For once the weather was kind and swifts were evident overhead. The sun shone for the first time on our event and many people stopped to find out about us or to reminisce about swifts and the joy they bring.



Numbers at the Charlton were lower this year with few swifts in evidence. In fact, in the 2 or so weeks following very few swifts were seen at all. This was a nationwide phenomenon which, thankfully, passed and good numbers are now nesting. On reflection we feel that next year we may hold the event on just the Saturday night. However, we are extremely grateful to The Charlton Arms for accommodating us again.

Sandpits Survey

Survey plans for this year were to concentrate on the Sandpits Avenue area and a really positive number of volunteers have come forward to help. We plan to deploy them all together so that we can watch the whole neighbourhood at the same time. This is essential with swifts because, as anyone who has watched for nesting activity, if you blink you miss them!

We have also provided 2 new nest boxes for one address in the area, to go on a house that already has swifts nesting. We hope that the proximity of new boxes close to established sites will encourage occupation without the need to use swift call systems to attract new breeders.

Quality Square

The great news of 2016 is that a pair of Ludlow swifts have finally accepted the Real Estate that we have provided for them on Quality square! 3 boxes, built by Graeme Perks, and erected by Peter Norman [see attached photo] in 2011 have finally attracted occupants. One pair have moved in to the lower left hand box and can be seen going in and out from the comfort of Ego's wine bar! Needless to say members of Ludlow Swift Group are delighted.

Swift Tower.

Since the last newsletter the Ludlow 21 swift tower



has been erected in a private garden close to Dinham Bridge. This will have a call system to attract breeders as there are none in the immediate area. More information next time. You will also be able to hear the swift calls operating above the Wool Shop and from the east face of St Laurence's belfry. Both these sites have nest boxes behind their louvres.

Ludlow Fairtrade Town Group



Our Fairtrade Flower bed

Ludlow Town Council has worked creatively with Ludlow Fairtrade Town Group to develop the round flower bed situated just behind the cannon near the castle entrance – please wander up there for a look. The perennial planting represents the Fairtrade Logo in recognition of Ludlow being a Fairtrade Town since 2003.

During 2016, the planting and landscaping has developed thanks to grant funding and the services of a professional garden designer.

News from The Fairtrade Foundation on the Impact of the Referendum

Results of the EU referendum will have a huge impact on the lives of the farmers and workers in developing countries who grow our food.

As the UK begins to reshape its relationship with the EU, it will need to renegotiate how it trades with other countries, both in Europe and the rest of the world. This could put farmers and workers in a vulnerable position.

Too often in the past, trade has been structured and regulated in a way that has given too much to those with power and wealth and too little to those who are powerless and poor.

Trade justice, including Fairtrade is needed now more than ever to get a fairer deal so please continue to buy Fairtrade products and support trade justice campaigns.

Traidcraft's Justice Campaign

Some UK companies are getting away with things in developing countries which just wouldn't be allowed here. It's time to use the law to prosecute irresponsible companies which cause serious harm in developing countries.

No UK company has ever been prosecuted in the UK for an offence related to serious harm abroad even though in the past 10 years 128 UK companies have been implicated in allegations of harm. Using the law to prosecute irresponsible companies would lead to more just behaviour.

Please support the campaign at www.traidcraft.co.uk/about-the-justice-campaign

Ludlow Car Club

The Shropshire Car Club, of which Ludlow is a part, has now taken back the two cars which had been borrowed by a Birmingham Club for the last 2 years. A large Ford 'C Max' and another Focus are therefore available for all car club members when they visit Shrewsbury. For us in Ludlow, there will be a further promotional event on the Market Square on Saturday 23rd July so do come along and encourage any prospective members



you know to do so as well. There will be lots of information about our club which now includes very attractive membership options for students and visitors.

5

VISION21

LUDLOW 2040

The Ludlow 2040 meeting on May 19th proved to be a defining moment in our drive to make Ludlow a more sustainable town by the middle of this century. The event was a follow on from the first LUDLOW 2040 meeting on 13th April with attendees representing key groups within the town and it resulted in the establishment of The People's Alliance For Ludlow, an independent organisation which will represent the interests of the whole community. The Alliance will help plan the steps needed to address the many concerns currently facing us, develop a vision for Ludlow in 2040 and the work required to achieve it.

Ludlow 21 is proud to have helped to instigate this significant movement and hope that all our members will support it. If possible, do come along to the launch meeting at Ludlow Brewery at 7pm on 12th July.



NEWS FROM THE VISION21 GROUPS

Climate Friendly Food

Since the last newsletter, both branches of this group have been very active.

The Incredible Edible project has continued to plant fruit trees and bushes around the town and you should be seeing increasing evidence of this as the year progresses; take a walk along Station Drive! Their main objective is to encourage us all to become more self sufficient by demonstrating how easy it is to start growing more of our own food.

The other initiative aims to explain how a plant-based diet can improve not only personal health but also address issues of climate change. When, how, and by what degree, individuals change to this type of diet is, of course, their choice. The three films explaining why a plant based diet is good for us, the animals concerned and the planet were very well received and they are now available for hire and will be shown during the September Food Festival. **So there are still ways to see them if you missed them first time round.** The Group have also started a Veggie/Vegan Shared Supper Club to support those wanting to reduce the amount of meat and dairy products they eat and adopt a more plant-based diet. Foods can be sampled, recipes exchanged, and information shared in a relaxed and enjoyable environment - all are welcome.

The Climate Friendly Diet vision group recognises that these initiatives are only the beginning of a monumental task and would really welcome more support from interested members.

The 3 R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)

Di Lyle's team is working on many fascinating projects (see her full report in the AGM documents) but to highlight a few currently being developed:

Rubbish Diet – where communities are encouraged to put their black bins on a 'diet' by recycling more thereby reducing the amount of rubbish going to landfill. The proposal is to run the scheme in the Sandpits area initially.

A Toy Library - which will store outgrown or unwanted donated toys as well as new ones for others to borrow.

Cycle repair/maintenance workshops – a more ambitious project to provide support for bike owners and possibly to help train would-be bike mechanics.

You will already know about the endangered animal model which is being constructed by children at the Rockspring Centre and which will be displayed at the green Festival (**YET ANOTHER REASON TO COME ALONG!!!!**) but did you know that, this Christmas, you will be able to 'rent' a Christmas tree? Supplied by Cotswold Firs, a limited number will be available from Rootes at the Local Produce Market during October/November 2016. What a brilliant idea!

Transport Group

Bus Shelter - The transport group were pleased to receive Town Council backing for a new bus shelter at the top of Corve Street and are now drawing up a shortlist of appropriate shelters so that a final design can be chosen and a request submitted to Shropshire Council for financial support. The intention is to ensure the shelter is as transparent and unobtrusive as possible, so as not to detract from the view up Corve Street, whilst providing adequate protection for bus users.

20's Plenty - Cllr Jim Smithers has been delegated by the Council to work with the group to develop a proposal for a '20's Plenty' campaign in Ludlow. As indicated in the last newsletter, this is going to be a very long term programme as we need to win the 'hearts and minds' of our community to ensure success.

Train Station - The group will be working closely with the new 'Destination Partnership Group' which is also interested in improving the appearance of the train station for visitors. We are also looking into the pros and cons of Ludlow adopting the station as this could enable us to have much more influence not only in its appearance but on the important health and safety issues that concern us.

Electric Car charging points - as well as continuing to canvass support for charging points from local hotels, the group, with advice and assistance from Cllr Smithers, is looking into the possibility of having charging points installed at the Park and Ride car park.

Pedestrians - Gill Mortimer has started to look at specific areas of the town from the point of view of pedestrians and is, initially, focussing on the Henley Road/Gravel Hill intersection which poses many hazards - especially for wheelchair users, pram pushers and those unsteady on their feet. Her findings will, in due course, be submitted to the IOL forum.

As always, the group would welcome more support so if you are interested in getting involved, do get in touch.

A special plea from the group

Please put the date of November 17th in your diary NOW as Professor John Whitelegg will be giving a talk entitled 'Sustainable Transport for 21st Century Shropshire: a plan for Ludlow to become a best performer.' It will be held in the Methodist Chapel at 7.30.

Not to be missed!

Renewable Energy Group

Renewable Energies U3A Group

Roger Furniss, who many of you know as a long standing Ludlow 21 member and ex Chair, has started up a U3A study group which is concerned with renewable energy. Whilst not part of Ludlow 21 the idea for the group originated within the **VISION21** programme so we are fully supportive of it and wish them every success. Roger is planning group visits to renewable energy projects in the area and eventually plans to have the group produce an information leaflet about the projects they visit.'

Education and Youth Group

Ian Urry has recently taken over the chair of the Education and Youth Group which aims to engage the interests of the younger members of our community with environmental and sustainability issues. There is, already, a tremendous amount of vitality within the team and lots of excellent ideas for activities - including many for pre-school children.

Ian has already circulated a call for help from those of you with an interest in this area so don't be shy about contacting him.

If you are interested in joining any of the Vision groups please contact the Ludlow 21 member involved (see the table below).

LUDLOW 21 BOARD CONTACTS

Ludlow 21 Chair	Denise Thompson	01584 875017	sunniva.dt@btinternet.com
Company Treasurer	John Daniels	01584 878206	jwd@phoncoop.coop
Bookkeeper	Gillian Mortimer	01584 877017	gillian.mortimer1@gmail.com
Company Secretary	Megan Blackmore	01584 318087	megan.blackmore@gmail.com
Membership Secretary	Clare Currant	01584 875501	membership@ludlow21.org.uk
Fairtrade and Human Rights	Liz Taylor	01584 831149	fairtrade@ludlow21.org.uk
Food and Farming	Tish Dockerty	01584 872043	foodandfarming@ludlow21.org.uk
Events Group	Kim Holroyd		kimholroyd@hotmail.com

VISION21 GROUP LEAD CONTACTS

Energy Group	Alan Stewart	07929 062691	alan-stewart@hotmail.co.uk
Food and Farming	Tish Dockerty	01584 872043	foodandfarming@ludlow21.org.uk
3 Rs	Diane Lyle	01584 876854	diane.lyle@btinternet.com
Schools and Education	Ian Urry	01584 879080	idurry@hotmail.co.uk
Transport	Denise Thompson	01584 875017	sunniva.dt@btinternet.com

WEBSITES-1

Ludlow 21 Website	www.ludlow21.org.uk
Green Festival Website	www.greenfestival.co.uk
Local to Ludlow Website	www.localtoludlow.co.uk
Ludlow Open Days	www.ludlowopendays.org.uk
Shropshire Car Club	www.co-wheels.org.uk/shropshire
Green Shropshire Xchange	www.greenshropshireexchange.org.uk