

Thornbury & the villages – towards Transition

Some months ago in these pages, someone raised the question about why Thornbury and the surrounding villages were not thinking about the twin challenges of climate change and peak oil. Sustainable Thornbury took up the challenge and has become an official Transition Initiative – the 154th such initiative worldwide. The Transition movement looks at our future prospects as an opportunity for our communities to work together positively towards a more sustainable future. The approach is one where local people take the initiative – and don't wait for someone else to come to the 'rescue'.

We know that we will have to learn to live in a way that produces less carbon and uses less oil. Thornbury and the surrounding villages were once a thriving network of supportive communities and we can build this again for the 21st Century. One way is to look again at how much of our daily food can be grown locally and supplied locally and we are beginning to look at the possibilities. This is just the start.

The Transition Movement is not prescriptive – it naturally takes different approaches as different people work together make their communities resilient through developing networks and learning new ways to tackle challenges. There is no one way that is “right”; nothing is set in stone. Everyone and each community is different and will seek what works best for them. Sustainable Thornbury has started thinking about the opportunities for our area and would welcome ideas from everyone. If you would like to get involved or to find out more, go to www.sustainablethornbury.org or tel 01454416778.