

ST Birthday & Strategy Day 11 Feb 2012

We looked again at where we would like to be in a sustainable future and came up with a range of ideas for things we could be doing in order to work towards this. On the attached page is a list of the ideas, sorted into short term / medium term / long term which we wanted to share with others who could not attend.

We also made a list of some questions / suggestions which came up on the day which need further exploration. These are listed below:

1. Do we need to create a starting point when looking to a different future eg do we need to know the current ecological footprint of the area? Andy O'Brien volunteered to undertake a carbon footprint of the area using the Converging World approach as he had already undertaken such work re Westbury-on-Trym.
2. Do we need to do more work in the area of education/information/publicity/networking?
3. Suggestion that we are not reaching either the 'movers & shakers' or the majority
4. Andy O'Brien said that there is grant funding available at present from the Government, particularly around energy efficiency / Green New Deal ideas which might enable larger projects to be considered.

See below for ideas from the workshop for possible activities.

Possible Ideas for future ST activities Feb 12

Topic	Idea	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
Waste	Encourage Repair/Reduce/Reuse/Recycle	Make waste topics key feature of EcoFair Day	1. Waste Brokerage 2. Reduce Bottled Water use	
Energy Efficiency/ Energy Wastage	Provide information / advice/help/encouragement on saving energy (time to revisit Go Mad project ideas)	1. develop project for coming year taking advantage of funding stream and possibly free training from CSE under OPEN scheme (Older People's Energy Needs). Use idea of reducing fuel costs to encourage people to take note. 2. Encourage Energy Neighbourhoods participation 3. Comment on South Glos Core Strategy consultation re ensuring that Park Farm/other housing meets highest BREEAM classifications	1. tackling energy efficiency of community buildings (eg Chantry) 2. tackling energy efficiency of rented properties 3. tackling energy efficiency of commercial properties 4. Investigate solutions to hard-to-insulate buildings in Thornbury and promote (potential social enterprise) 5. Assess energy performance of buildings	High Efficiency new houses - Ecohouse standard for all new buildings
Energy Generation	Increase amount of energy produced locally	1. Encourage more solar panels on community buildings 2. Work with Bristol Community Energy Co-op	Potential for other forms of generation (Biomass, combined heat & power in commercial/other businesses	Community-size projects eg Wind Farm Microhydro

Transport	Reduce amount of energy used/wasted	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Car sharing 2. Car Club – city car club / electric cars 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local electric buses 2. Cycle path up Alveston Hill 3. ‘Boris’ bikes 4. Political lobbying 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trolley buses 2. Local railway / Thornbury station
Food	Increase local food production	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Orchard maintenance, set up wildflower meadow with path to allow for soft fruit planting 2. Network with Tree Group and Orchard Group 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make Farmers’ Market viable 2. Create Food Hub 3. Community shop 	More fruit and nut tree planting across area
Local Economy	Support / expand local economy to create more work in the area	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revisit local loyalty card 2. Encourage support for local businesses 3. Directory of local repairers 	Potential to expand ‘green jobs’ – possible social enterprise	