



The COP26 UN Climate talks are nearly upon us & global leaders hold our children's futures in their hands.

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Extreme weather events have come thick and fast this year and are a constant reminder of what the future will hold if the Climate talks in Glasgow fail.

But it need not be too late - scientists say that if the world acts fast the worst can still be avoided.

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[Growing food in an urban environment Zoom and in person Mon 8th Nov 7:30pm](#)

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What is COP26?



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

The global climate change summit taking place in Glasgow between 1st and 12th November this year is the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hence 'COP 26'. They have been meeting since 1995 and still emissions are rising!

The most significant COP to date, COP 21, was held in Paris in 2015 and resulted in "The Paris Agreement" signed by 196 countries. It is a binding agreement between all nations to combat climate change. Its goal was to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.

Unfortunately progress since then falls far short of those targets.

1. Mitigation – when you are in a hole stop digging! - emissions are still rising

2. Adaptation – extreme weather events will continue we must prepare

3. Finance – the UK is the only 1st world country to have cut its foreign aid!!

4. Mobilisation – we must work together to deliver bigger cuts, faster

Most of the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere have come from the richest nations on earth, but poorer nations suffer far more from their effects. Developing countries must find the money to help them adapt to rising temperatures.

To quote Greta Thunberg we want no more "blah, blah, blah".

Just talking and making pledges is not enough. Participating nations must take immediate action for the sake of all the world's children.

For more detail see:

<https://altonclimatenetwork.org.uk/cop26-must-make-a-difference/>

COP26 East Hants Climate Conference 8th Oct

This event organised jointly by Damian Hinds MP and East Hants District Council was attended by around 400 people and ACAN can be proud to have had a presence in many areas. It was wonderful to see so many stalls representing local businesses and community groups showing where and how they are addressing the climate crisis, it provided a great networking opportunity.

Lord Deben the Chair of the Government's Committee on Climate Change delivered a good keynote speech. Many of us were delighted to hear him criticise the government for its lack of joined up thinking - for instance on the trade deal negotiated with Australia that allows imports of farm produce grown under lower standards than our own and for supporting the opening of new oilfields in the North Sea.

ACAN had representatives on all three action groups that reported back at this conference (on buildings, land use and agriculture, and transport).

The loudest round of applause during the action group feedback section was for Sir David Normington, when he called on EHDC to provide "a dedicated resource in the council to plan and lead their climate action programme" this to be considerably more than one person working 2 days per week as we have now.

Click [here](#) to hear all the speeches and videos broadcast in the main hall.



The highlight for many of us was the "**Young People's Voice**" section which was kicked off powerfully by 16 year old Lillie Ewins who made it very clear that we are not doing enough. Do watch [her 3 minute video](#) which reminds us why we are active with ACAN.

Many of us feared this event would be just another talking shop. The jury is out on that. What we must do now is hold EHDC's feet to the fire and make sure they follow through on what has been promised and what has been demanded.

ACAN and other local community groups are coming together to hold a

Vigil of Hope

Alton Market Square
Sat 30th & Sun 31st Oct 9am-9pm

To draw attention to the importance of the UN Climate Talks in Glasgow in November We want as many people to join us as possible and are asking local groups to book a time slot and take the microphone to tell people why the climate talks matter so much to them in words, song and prayer.

We will have children's art works on display and invite people to play our zero carbon board game, calculate their own carbon footprints and talk about what we can all do to reduce our impact on the planet.

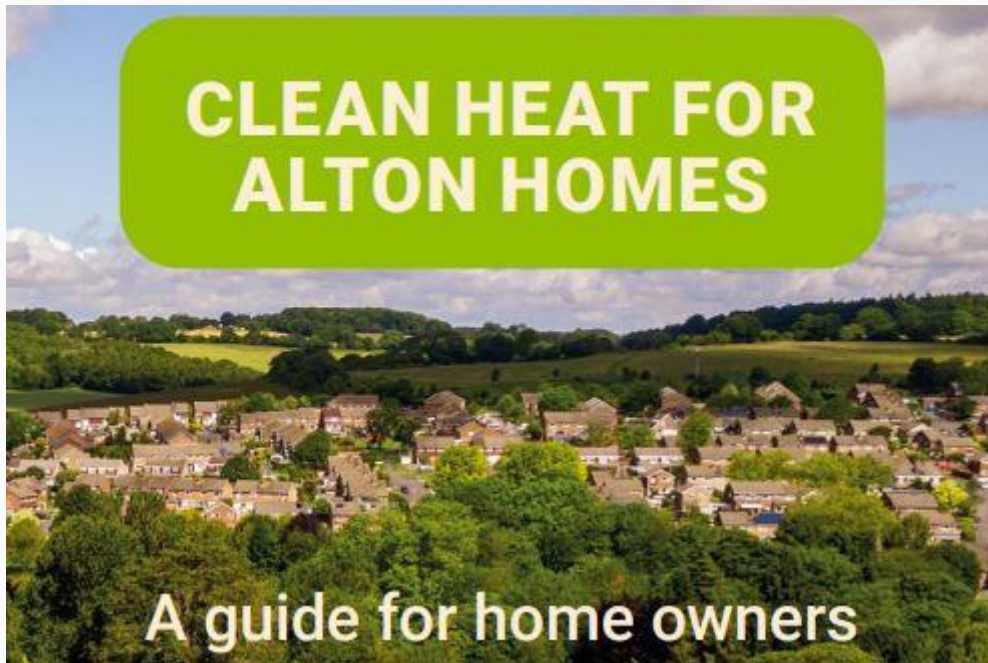


SOS from the Kids - performing at the Alton Eco Fair last July.

Energy Alton Clean Heat Guide

Energy Alton is delighted to announce the launch of a low carbon home heating guide for Alton. The Clean Heat Guide draws on information from a sample of typical homes in the town. It explains how we can adapt our homes to be much less reliant on fossil fuels such as gas and oil by the use of heat pumps, better insulation and renewable energy sources such as solar panels. Each technology is explained including costs, practical tips and how to go about finding an installer.

[energy-alton-clean-heat-guide](#)



We are grateful to Alton Town Council, East Hampshire District Council and Community Energy South for their financial support and to our partners Mesh Energy and our exemplar home owners for their contribution to the guide.

If you would like a copy of the printed version (without the appendices) you may obtain one from:

Alton Library, The Community Centre, The Town Hall or EHDC Offices
Petersfield

or email Energy Alton at energyalton@gmail.com with your name and address and postcode.

Autumn is a really good time to make your garden more wildlife-friendly, and to help you with ideas and answer your questions and concerns,

AVLAN is holding a Wildlife Gardeners' Question Time

Saturday 16th October at 10.45 for 11.00 until 12.00 noon
at
Alton Community Centre GU34 1HN.

The panel will be: Gareth Hurd (chair of AVLAN) and gardeners Nancy Clarke and Moira Masson – all knowledgeable, experienced and enthusiastic wildlife gardeners. The event will be chaired by AVLAN's Dave Tickner.



Please register and send your questions in advance to
altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com

GUMBI / Alton Paradise Project Fundraiser

Wednesday 16th October 6 - 7pm on zoom.

Alton Climate Action Network (ACAN) is now part-owner of a plot of land in Malawi! You can help to ensure it becomes a productive permaculture plot providing food for local people, despite the ravages caused by climate change,

by joining us in donating to this wonderful project. You can find out more about the project on our website.

<https://altonclimatenetwork.org.uk/the-gumbi-alton-paradise-project/>

Join us to catch up on all the latest project news from Luwayo Biswick of the Permaculture Paradise Institute.

We hope you will feel inspired to donate funds to help a further 3 students attend the Institute for training.

Our target for this initiative is £1500.

email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com for the zoom link



[Donate to Gumbi](#)

**The next session of the
Alton Repair Cafe
will be**

Saturday 23rd October

10:30 to 12:30

at Alton Community Centre

GU34 1HN



Alton Community Share

continues to operate every 2nd and 4th Sat of the month from 10 - 12

By the community for the community



Alton Community Share

Choose from a range of pre-loved toys, jigsaws, games & more

At St Lawrence Parish Centre, Alton

Growing food in an urban environment

**Monday 8th November at 7:30pm
at
Alton Community Centre or Online**

Please email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com to register and state whether you want to attend on Zoom or in person at Alton Community Centre GU34 1HN

The breakdown of supply chains due to Covid and Brexit is a timely reminder of what the future may hold. When the climate crisis starts to really hit our food supplies we'll need to rely much more on local food and grow our own wherever possible.

To inspire us, our speakers at this event are:

Will Benson of Applegarth Farm where they grow for their restaurant in aeroponic towers and measure their food miles in feet.



And Glyn Jones who has had spectacular success (including a prize from *Alton in Bloom*) with his "No dig" allotment here in Alton.

Call to Action

We all know we need to act now.

Here in ACAN we have quite a [range of groups](#) already set up and many more ideas of things we would like to do if we had more volunteers, and you may have ideas of your own you would like to pursue.

It doesn't matter how much or how little time you can spare we have volunteering opportunities to suit.

To get involved do fill in our [volunteers form](#)

Or just email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com and let us know what you would like to do.

As ACAN has grown so have our costs.

If you would like to help please use the button below to go to our CAF donate page.
Many thanks.

[Donate to ACAN](#)