Welcome to November's Newsletter

A wintry chill is definitely in the air…so exactly the right weather to get cosy and watch some inspirational films!

Website: altonclimatenetwork.org.uk Email: altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com

Facebook: @AltonClimate Twitter: @AltonClimate Instagram: alton.can

---

In this issue:

- Diary Dates
- Alton Community Kitchen Garden – update
- Nature's Neighbours: Final Report
- Have your say on King's Pond: public consultation
- Energy Alton AGM and screening of 'Power Station'
- Eco Church's Eco-Christmas Bonanza!

Diary Dates

Thursday 5th November, 10-11:15 am: ACAN litter pick
Make an immediate and obvious difference to the appearance of our town by joining an ACAN litter Pick! Meet in the Anstey Park Car Park by the British Legion Clubhouse. Please bring your own protective gloves but litter pickers and bags will be provided. All welcome!

Saturday 14th November, 2–4 pm: Alton Community Share
A playgroup with refreshments, as well as toys, games and puzzles to borrow! Lots for children (and parents) of all ages. A fun and friendly initiative to support local families and entertain children whilst also making excellent use of available resources and reducing waste. All loans are free of charge. Held at St Lawrence Parish Centre. Powered by the community for the community.

Thursday 19th November from 7:15pm: Energy Alton AGM + screening of 'Power Station'
What would happen if a community decided what to do about their energy needs? Come and see the amazing 'Power Station', a film with energy sustainability very much at its heart,

and stay for the conversation afterwards!
For more details, click here or see below.

Thursday 19th November at 7 pm: Screening of 'Eating Our Way to Extinction'
Join Zero Carbon, a climate group in Guildford, for the showing of this film which highlights the connection between what we eat and environmental and health issues. Followed by a virtual Q&A with an expert panel. Location: Riverside Business Centre, Guildford
For more details, click here

Friday 20th November at 7pm: 'People's Emergency Briefing' film screening in Medstead
Another screening of this vitally important film by ACAN, this time in Medstead Village Hall, followed by discussion on what we can do, covering topics such as extreme weather, food security and cost of living.
For more details and to book your free tickets, click here

Good news: Chris Packham's petition asking for a UK-wide screening of The National Emergency Briefing will be debated in Parliament on 16th November.

Saturday 21st November, 10:30 am–12:30 pm: Alton Repair Café
Recycle and repair, don't replace! Bring along your cherished items and get them repaired. Free but donations are welcome. Held at Alton Assembly Rooms on the third Saturday of each month.

Saturday 28th November, 9:30 am–11:30 pm: Eco Church's Eco-Christmas Bonanza!
Get some ideas for how to celebrate an eco-friendly Christmas! Includes a toy and book bonanza, alternative wrapping, craft activities for children, edible gift ideas and more! Held at St Lawrence's Church.
See below for more details.

Sunday 29th November, 10 am–12 pm: Willow cutting and weaving
A working party to maintain the willow hedge in Will Hall Meadow (on the Basingstoke Road, beyond the junction with the New Odiham Road). Please bring gloves, strong secateurs, loppers and garden saws if you have them. All welcome – a brilliant way to start off an autumn day!

Thursday 10th December, 7:30-9:30 am: Community, Democracy & Resistance!
Three authors – ecologist Eleanor Finley, former diplomat Carne Ross and journalist Hazel Sheffield – share ideas and approaches to successful community action. Held in the Assembly Rooms, Alton, and organised by Goldfinch Books. Tickets £5 but redeemable if you buy a book!
For more details and to book your free tickets, click here

In other news…Goldfinch Books in Alton have launched a 'Community Share Offer' in order to create a community hub with the bookshop at its heart. If you would like to get involved or find out more, then click here.

Alton Community Kitchen Garden – update

We are still looking for our long-term home plot of land, which needs to be within the town and big enough to allow us to achieve all our goals. However, we may soon be in a position to start on a smaller “proof of concept” project in town.

Some of the benefits would be:

- An opportunity to show in microcosm some of the range of things we'd like to be doing when we find a bigger site
- The opportunity to involve people with growing food
- A demonstration site, showing how people can grow food in a relatively small area - to encourage people to do this at home
- The possibility for a noticeboard with information about the ACKG project so that people can keep up to date on our progress.

We are looking for people with all sorts of skills, not just gardening! Could you help us with social media, graphic design and publicity or fundraising?

If you would like to know more about this exciting new project, please email altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com





Nature's Neighbours: Final Report

'Nature's Neighbours' was a year-long project funded by a grant from the South Downs National Park Authority, strongly supported by their climate change officer, Sara Osman. In this exciting venture, ACAN's very own Scott Gudrich offered local residents nature walks and creative experiences in the local area.

The aims were:

- to engage people emotionally with the landscape around them
- to familiarise local residents with the importance of the National Park
- to inspire stewardship of this precious area

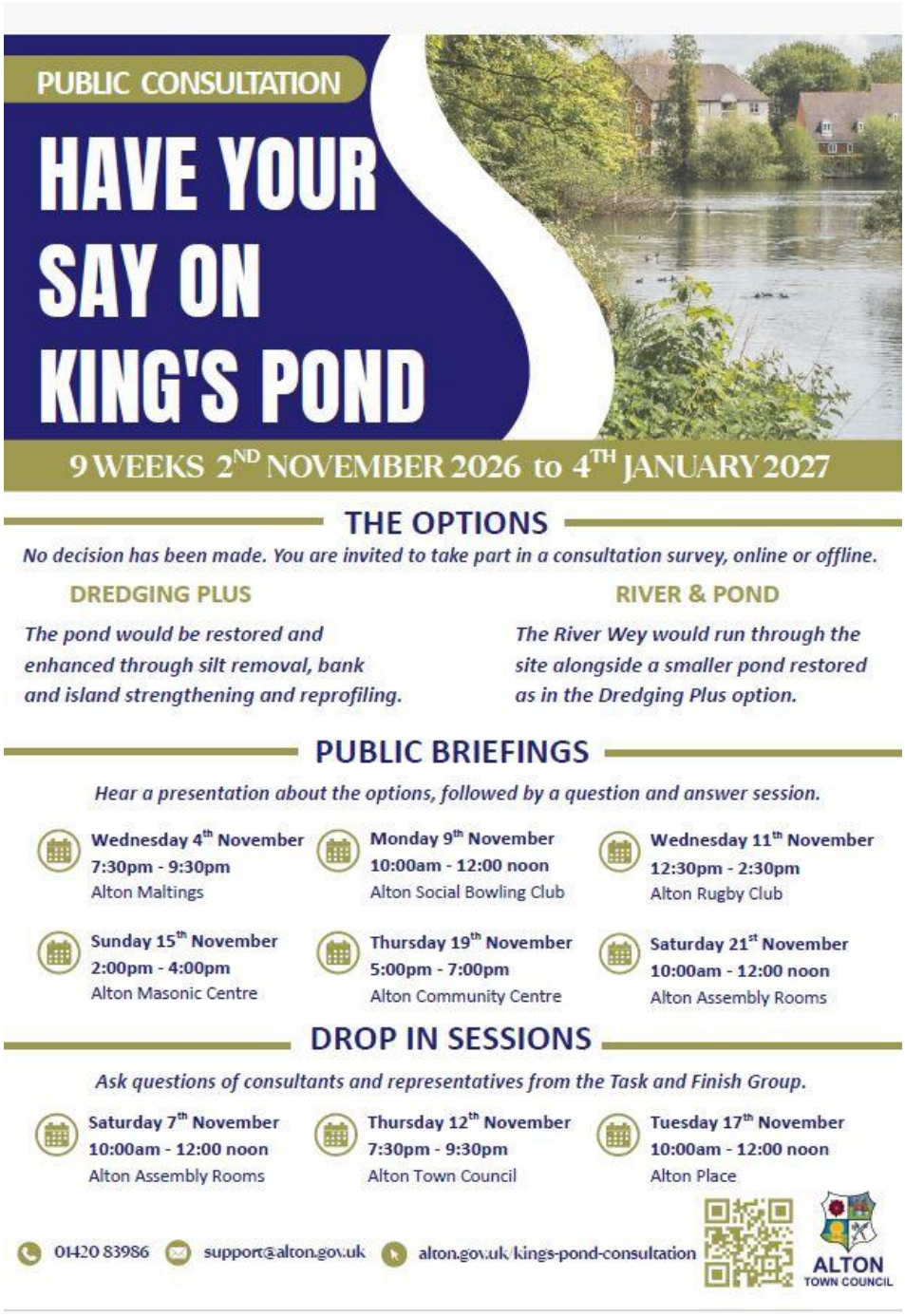
The project was very worthwhile and thoroughly enjoyed by those who took part. Big thanks to Scott for leading the events. Click here to read Scott's very informative and insightful report: **Scott's report**

Also, *congratulations*! The South Downs National Park Authority was the first National Park to be accredited as a Carbon Literate Organisation (CLO) this year.

King’s Pond Consultation

The future of King’s Pond has been under discussion for several years now, with Alton Town Council endeavouring to inform and engage the public every step of the way. Over the next few weeks, there will be a number of briefings and drop-in sessions exploring the two options available.

Come along to ask questions and to take part in a consultation survey.



Energy Alton AGM and screening of 'Power Station'

A chance to watch this extraordinary film and to find out more about the valuable work of Energy Alton. Do come along and take part!

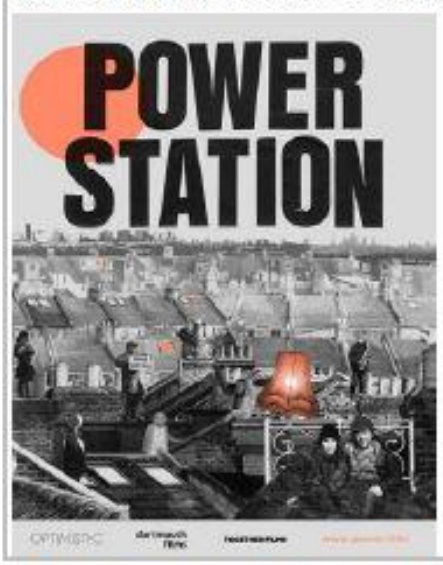
Energy Alton

General Meeting + Film: POWER STATION

Thu 19 November

Doors, refreshments 7:15pm
Welcome, General Meeting **7:30pm**
Film 7:45pm
@Alton Assembly Rooms

Energy Alton current projects 9:10pm
Q&A, optional discussion 9:30-10pm



Energy Alton's General Meeting celebrates what members of communities can achieve together.

What could happen if a community decided to do something about energy together? Join Energy Alton for an inspiring evening of film, conversation and practical ideas.

POWER STATION is a documentary about two people who set out to transform their street in Walthamstow into a solar-powered, energy generating community - a prototype for a new way of living, with the hope of galvanising a wider push towards sustainable alternatives.

"the film is a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when we simply talk to our neighbours, and it is heartwarming to see different people, from diverse backgrounds but bound by shared economic struggles, come together to make green energy a reality!" [Guardian]

After the film Energy Alton volunteers will share what is happening here, in and around Alton, including free home energy surveys, practical ways to make homes warmer and more energy efficient, and local opportunities around solar and community energy.

Come for the film, stay for the conversation.

Energy Alton > Public Meetings https://energyalton.org.uk/projects/now/public-meetings

Search facebook for **Energy Alton**. Contact info@energyalton.org.uk

Energy Alton is a non-political, not-for-profit charity registered in England & Wales.

Eco Church's Eco-Christmas Bonanza!

Come along for this exciting event with sustainability very much at its heart. A chance to see how Christmas can be celebrated with less waste but without losing any of the fun! All ages welcome!



Volunteer with ACAN

Here at ACAN we have a range of groups already set up and many more ideas of things we would like to do if we had more volunteers, and, of course, 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.

Most grants do not cover running costs, such as insurance, zoom subscription, examination of accounts.
If you can help with one off or regular donations please use the button below for our CAF donate page.
Many thanks.