

HoTT JoTTings

Working Towards Sustainable Living in the Holme Valley



Newsletter – February 2018

We hope you had a good Christmas.

Our first newsletter of this year brings news of roads, community food growing, a film, plastics recycling and our very best wishes for 2018.

Holmfirth road proposal

You may be aware of a proposal in Kirklees Local Plan for alterations to the roads in the town centre. We have all noticed the increase in the volume of traffic especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours.

Worse than this has been the growing number of heavy lorries which come through the centre of Holmfirth at all times of day.



A proposal to tackle the latter in particular appeared in the Kirklees Local Plan which has recently been under discussion before the Planning Inspector. Although this particular item was not heard.

At the Holme Valley South Forum on 11th January 2018 attended by the three Kirklees Councillors for our area, the plan was mentioned but not described in any detail.

It appears that the overall plan is to create a square roundabout. This is likely to involve the demolition of the Market Hall and the building of another bridge across the river.

No more information is currently available.

Further meetings are planned and visits to other local recycling facilities.

If you would like further information, please contact us on info@hott.org.uk

Kirklees Libraries Consultation

Once again the Holmfirth library is under threat. You are urged to take part, online at www.kirklees.gov.uk/libraries or by paper copy from Holmfirth Library.

HoTT Edible

After the autumn clearance back in November winter has been a quiet time for the HoTT Edible team. The main activity up to the year-end being to pick produce from the brassicas that are still growing next to Longley's Café - **the free sprouts were particularly tasty for Christmas dinner!**

Considering the project did not get under way until late May 2017, a good start has already been made to improve our Holme Valley environment with our community food growing project - we intend to expand this in 2018.

Have a look at HoTT Edible's first growing site next to Longley's Café in Holmfirth. It's much like everyone's veg garden at this time of year: full of cabbage and kale, leeks and lettuce. Despite the odd hole in the leaves here and there, thanks no doubt to cabbage whites and other caterpillars, the veg is looking very inviting nevertheless. Getting on for harvest time! Yum! Yum!



The latest plant arrivals are the young apple trees now standing along the back wall. Watch them grow!

As we move through the winter, the HoTT Edible team has added some trellis to the main food growing site next to Longley's Café, along with weeding and tidying in readiness for the start of planting in May.

The first event of the season, planned for 3rd March 2018, is a seed swap and seedling pledge to take place in conjunction with friends of Holmfirth Library and tourist information centre between 10am and 1pm at

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the Library. Please come along and support the project by pledging to propagate and grow some seedlings!

Alongside the three food growing areas we established last year (sites at Longley's Cafe, next to the Holmfirth Library and on Hollowgate), two new areas are planned to be developed in 2018. The first is on the lower side of the Fair Trade shop with a good sunny aspect and the second is behind the Longley Café at the bottom of Victoria Park. The plan for this second site is to create a sensory garden with food planting and many other types of plants. More information on the plans for this area will be presented at the seed swap event on the 3rd March.

If you are interested in getting involved growing food in the Holme Valley and in improving our local environment please get in touch by email on edible@hott.org.uk

Recycling ...in the HV!

We have set up a new group in HoTT for people with an interest in recycling/upcycling, with one meeting so far to discuss interests and future actions.



The fallout from the Blue Planet series, with its horrifying images showing the extent of ocean plastics pollution, has generated renewed interest in recycling, particularly waste plastics.

If you are interested in joining us, or in visits to see local recycling facilities, please contact us on info@hott.org.uk

Affordable Warmth

The last Affordable Warmth stall for this season will be from **10.00 to 12.00 on Friday 2nd March at Holmfirth Library**. If you know someone who lives in a drafty home tell them about. It's **FREE!**

HoTT and the Arts Festival

At HoTT has been invited to participate in this year's Holmfirth Arts Festival in June 2017 working with the organisers and participants to explore ways of communicating our message of sustainable living as part of the festival.

If you would like to contribute something to this please contact info@hott.org.uk



HoTT Film Nites – our 2018 Season

After a winter break, we will be starting again in March with a film on a Food & Agri-business theme. We will be showing the film **CARNAGE: Swallowing the Past** which views our current meat-eating lifestyle from the year 2067 in the future. This amusing mockumentary questions how sustainable is this lifestyle as we adapt to a low carbon future and the need to minimise climate change impacts!

Watch out for the email with further information on HoTT film nites!

Tackling Climate Change – Kirklees!

At COP, the Climate Change conference in Bonn last October 2017, it was recognised that what local communities contribute to the battle against climate change is as important as what nations agree to contribute.

An international group was set up to work on the idea of **Locally Determined Contributions to reducing carbon emissions**, which came from Andrew Cooper, Kirklees Councillor for Newsome.

We support his efforts and hope, in due course, they will come up with some realistic suggestions about how this might work.

Transport for the North (TfN)

On 16th January 2018, TfN released their draft **Strategic Transport Plan**, a 30-year vision for transformational transport investment across the North of England.



They are now hosting a 13-week public consultation on their Strategic Transport Plan – your chance to find out more about the recommendations and what it means for you and your area and give your feedback which will help shape the Plan in its development.

These consultation events are open to everyone and are your chance to hear from Transport for the North representatives and ask any questions you might have.

The **Halifax consultation event takes place on 15th February 2018** between 4pm and 7pm at the Viaduct Café, Dean Clough Limited, Halifax, HX3 5AX

If you have any questions or comments email to engagement@transportforthenorth.com

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