

Zero 2030 – Climate Transformation Event

4th March 2020

WHO

Worthing Climate Action Network (WCAN) and Transition Town Worthing (TTW), representing multiple community engagement networks, projects and programmes, have discussed holding a large-scale conference-type event for a couple of years. With Adur and Worthing Councils (AWC) having declared Climate Emergency, and now partnering with us to deliver the conference, we feel in a better-placed position, as volunteers, to take on the planning and delivery for this event.

WHAT

There is an urgent need to mobilise our area, to prepare for climate changes and deliver the carbon reductions needed to reach zero emissions by 2030. By organising a large-scale event and using the networks in AWC, we aim to reach communities and businesses who haven't yet engaged with the climate agenda.

The event will be a collaborative approach, with new partners and groups continuing to get involved as we develop our ideas. We will be showcasing all the amazing local projects and groups, many of whom are solely volunteers, that work tirelessly to improve our local environment.

Our current dream agenda for the day is:

1. Welcome – include update from AWC on their plan for action
2. Mike Berners-Lee, University of Lancaster – TBC
3. Paul Allen, Zero Carbon Britain – TBC
4. Isabella Tree (Knepp Estate) – **Confirmed**
5. Community Showcase – 30 x 'Just-A-Minute' sessions
6. Round-up of morning
7. Lunch – Vegetarian lunch provided
8. Thematic spaces introduction - Chair
9. Afternoon – attendees visit the spaces – workshop leads set-scene with 10min talk at 'start' of session. Two sessions throughout the afternoon (ie. two x 10min talks). Attendees move between the spaces as they wish. Spaces are participatory, to generate ideas for transformative action – themed as:
 - a. Energy and carbon reduction
 - b. Transport
 - c. Waste
 - d. Ecology
 - e. Water
 - f. Climate resilience
 - g. Ethos/spirit
 - h. Food
 - i. Land use and planning
 - j. Economics/business
10. Round-up of day
11. Close – time for networking into the evening

WHERE

With AWC as our partners, we are effectively taking over the Assembly Rooms and Worthing Town Hall for the day. We have booked the main Assembly Rooms, multiple adjoining rooms and breakout spaces.

WCAN are running a separate, but fortuitously timed, climate change art exhibition during that week. We will encourage other pop-up events – the more action the better. Our networks and their incredible volunteers, a small army of energy, will help to make this big and successful.

WHEN

4th March 2020

WHY

The action needed to reduce carbon emissions and achieve zero-carbon communities by 2030 is urgent and significant. We must change people's heart and minds. Both community organisations are mature and have led or supported many of the current environmental improvement projects across Adur and Worthing. Our networks and their projects are primarily undertaken by determined and committed volunteers – the work they achieve, without significant funding, is considerable. We are linked to regional and national community networks.

Many of our community organisations are now at the capacity of their current reach. Our networks understand the significant risks associated with climate change and take action. We need to mainstream and normalise environmentally kind actions and transform behaviour across different groups in our community. We want to inspire new volunteers and projects, with these supported in future, by ourselves and the wider community sector, to seek funding and new partnerships.

Commented [f1]: Might need a reword?

Adur & Worthing Councils (AWC) has declared Climate Emergency and is a welcome, key partner in the planning and delivery of this event. AWC have created a sustainability framework, **SustainableAW**, with their strategic ambitions, commitments and priority actions for Adur & Worthing described across the key themes:

- Carbon reduction
- Climate resilience
- Biodiversity
- Energy
- Transport
- Waste
- Water
- Food
- Land use & planning
- Shared leadership

AWC recognises the transformational environmental work delivered currently by the community and voluntary sector. The creation of a joint *SustainableAW* framework, will ensure a stronger basis for greater engagement between the councils and local business, groups and organisations; there can be more networking opportunities across all sectors; and this might bring greater public awareness to

the wealth of activity happening locally and opportunities to get involved. Organisations will be invited to input to the *SustainableAW* framework during the afternoon themed workshops.

Together we believe that by widely promoting the huge variety of groups and projects that exist locally, and linking these with new partners, we can create a positive mood for change. The climate transformation event will focus a wide range of people in generating ideas and innovations. These ambitions and action will subsequently become part of the *SustainableAW* framework. This shared framework has the real potential to generate significant investment, to deliver transformative changes. It will be unique as a model.

HOW

We are preparing to hold an event for 300 people, which includes our speakers, event management staff and volunteers, community project and organisation leaders, AWC and other council representatives, members of the business community and people from the public. This single event builds on the numerous events that we, and others across Adur and Worthing, have taken across the years.

Our community environmental groups and projects will be the main component of the event. Their dynamism, dedication and enthusiasm show how taking action locally can be hugely positive. By bringing their efforts to the forefront, they can inspire and engage widely with new audiences. Our networks are growing, thanks to the success of Extinction Rebellion and the energy they have generated. We now need more volunteers and organisations, to bring their skills and good intentions.

By inviting and promoting this throughout the business community, we hope to develop leadership and partnerships, between businesses, their networks and into communities. Businesses can respond in creative and agile ways, generating resilience and underpinning action. There are many opportunities to be found in the necessary transformation of our infrastructure and economies. Disruptive companies and technologies have transformed our world in the last two decades. As new climate design parameters become the norm, businesses can seek challenges and generate solutions.

WORKING DETAILS

The following is our current, working thinking about this event, Zero 2030. We are aiming for collaboration with many different speakers, facilitators, community partners and others who want to share our goals. If you want to get involved, please contact WorthingCAN@gmail.com or transitionworthing@gmail.com.

Morning Speakers

National-level speakers to talk about the need for decarbonisation, what changes and ideas we can take away and inspire us.

Afternoon Workshops: Transformation Spaces

The aim of the transformation spaces is to bring people together, help promote local opportunities for getting involved in solutions, increase capacity and coordination to decarbonise and improve the climate and nature resilience of Adur & Worthing. We'll be brainstorming how we can work together on that specific topic to contribute towards a zero-carbon community by 2030.

Our plan is for these to consist of:

- 2 x 1 hr session (although attendees are encouraged to be fluid across the spaces)
- Key local speaker involved in local transformational activity giving a 10-minute talk at the beginning of each session.
- The talk will focus on the topic area, giving an overview of issues and challenges, providing local examples of solutions, and a vision for the future, covering perhaps what this might mean for individuals, organisations and businesses. Content of the talks is open to input and shaping by the speaker!
- This will be followed with facilitated input from delegates to develop and record commitments of shared action on climate and ecology across Adur & Worthing. This will be input to a shared framework, *SustainableAW*, and feed in to an Adur & Worthing Climate Strategy.
- Workshops will consist of up to 30 people.

Topics to include:

- Carbon reduction and energy, transport, waste, water, ecology, food, land use and planning, climate resilience, business/economy and ethos/spirit.

There will also be around 25 stalls from businesses and the local community, showcasing local projects and activity. Some local projects will be encouraged to collaborate on specific themes across the transformation spaces.

Costs and funding

The event is being delivered by the community, and we are fundraising for finance to cover expenses on our [ZERO 2030 Crowdfunding](#) page. We have applied for Lush funding and will seek sponsorship. Our tickets will be low-cost, and free for community organisations, speakers and facilitators. Vegetarian lunch will be provided. Teas and coffees from the venue are crazy money, so we are only committing to covering one per person and asking delegates to purchase others if wanted.

Sponsorship

We are also looking for sponsors for particular aspects of the event – these will be limited to those businesses who fit with our organisations' ethos. Costs include:

- Speakers and facilitators – fees and travel costs: £4,000
- Promotion, Communications and printed materials: £1,000
- Venue: £4,000