

Basingstoke Area Sustainability Group

Wednesday 8 June 2022, 3pm via Teams

Notes from Meeting

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

In attendance: Alan Cox (chair), Alison Zarecky (BDBC), John Paler, Tony Flahive, Vanessa Richards, John Buckley

Guest presenter, Rachel Campbell, Tadley Citizens' Advice

Apologies received: Richard Carrow, Nicki Lee, Linda Wain

2. Impact of rising fuel prices – presentation by Rachel Campbell, Tadley Citizens' Advice, followed by discussion

Rachel explained that the CAB had been at Tadley since 1985 and was the only one in the borough outside Basingstoke. They provide advice and assistance regarding benefits available, debt counselling, covid stresses, energy grants etc.

For details, visit their website - <https://www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk/citizens-advice-tadley>

3. Grants available

Alison listed a number of grants available, mainly to those on low income (<£30k) and in heating-inefficient properties, especially Local Authority Grant 3 (LAD3) and Home Upgrade Grant (HUG).

There is also the Warm Homes Discount Scheme

For details of all these, see attached presentation.

[Energy Efficiency Loans \(basingstoke.gov.uk\)](https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/energy-efficiency-loans)

4. Council Initiatives, Reports and Issues

Alison has sent out a questionnaire on climate but a number of councils have not yet responded and will be chased.

The presentation also gives contacts for the Energy Saving Trust and the Environment Centre.

5. Energy Champions

Energy Champions are being trained up to provide advice and assistance and more local volunteers are being sought.

Advice is needed for two groups – those in financial need of grants/assistance and those who are able to pay but need advice on how to go about improving insulation, heating systems etc.

6. AOB

Derek told us about the North Hampshire Repair Café which is proving very successful. 20 repairs have saved customers £1600 and avoided waste of 173kg!

7. Date, chair and theme for next meeting

Proposed for Wednesday 7 September by Teams at 3pm, chair Keith Oborn with a presentation by Hampshire & IoW Wildlife Trust