

Dear Members & Supporters,

Welcome to my June PPC newsletter, particularly to our newest members.

I've been feeling rather exhausted after the election and a recent family bereavement in the past month. Also, I have my year one Sophrology exams in Ashford at the start of July, so I'm busy with revision at the moment.

Following continuing issues using the Green Party mailing system, I have turned to Mailchimp for my future newsletter mailings. I'm a newbie to this so please bear with me if there are any teething problems! Hopefully this will ensure I will be able to start sending emails with photos in again!

The big news this month.

SDDC finally voted to declare a climate emergency on 23rd May. Sadly, I was unable to make this council meeting due to a family issue but many thanks to all our members and all the XR campaigners for being present and pushing this through. The LibDems are claiming they are an environmentally-conscious party so let's see if they can turn words into genuine and effective action shall we?

What have I been up to?

Rob and I have attended our first Brympton Parish Council meetings in May. I have also volunteered to help coordinate litter picking events in the Parish. This week I also attended a training course to learn about my role as a councillor and my responsibilities as a public servant; I look forward to putting this into practice over the next 4 years.

A few months ago, you may remember I was taking SCC to task over the proposed 20mph limit and crossing point in Preston Grove in Yeovil. Still we have no proposed installation date for this, so I have asked Cllr Faye Purbrick to chase this up with Highways.

During the local election campaign I was contacted by a resident of Monks Dale in Yeovil about the continued problems with school traffic and parking around Preston School. I will be working further with her to address these issues with the school, residents and local authority in the next few months, once my exams are over.

Rob, Lily and I attended the first ever Ecofair in Yeovil on 25th May. It was a lovely event: well done to Sara Jeffery and everyone for organising this; hopefully the first of many.

Next SSGP Meeting

Our next get together is on Friday 21st June at 7pm at Alpine Grove Touring Park, Forton.

Serena has very kindly offered to host us there on the evening of the Summer Solstice; there will be music onsite and a communal BBQ.

Please bring camping chairs with you; she will happily provide teas and coffees but they are also licensed to sell alcohol from their campsite shop.

If you are interested, she is offering attendees of this meeting the opportunity to camp overnight if they wish to do so. Please email Stay@alpinegrovetouringpark.com and reference 'Green Party

Offer' to book a free pitch for Friday night, and £20 for Saturday night if you wish to make a weekend of it.

Some upcoming events you may be interested in:

Third Saturday of every month – Sustainable Yeovil Walk and talk, Ninesprings Café from from 10am

Sat 15th June – South Petherton Folk Festival 10-6

Sun 16th June – XR Families in the Park, Vivary Park, Taunton 2-4

Sun 16th June – Sherborne Independent Market from 10-4

Sat 22nd June – Misterton Village Fete 12-6

Sat 6st July – The Pop-up Eco Supermarket, Odcombe from 9am

Weds 17th July – Sustainable Yeovil talk at Yeovil Library 10:30-12:30

Sat 20th July – Eat Crewkerne, 9-5, free locally-focussed food & drink festival

Sat 20th July – Plastic Free Chard Litter Pick from 10am

For those interested in what XR are doing locally and want to get involved, they have regular meetings and training events. Please see Facebook for details.

Until next month.

Best wishes

Diane Wood (PPC and Membership Secretary)