



Presentation to KNMS Deanery

17 January 2023

CONTENTS

- St Peter's Eco Journey
- Key Points – what we have learned
- Quick wins
- Information sources and websites
- Questions and discussion

St Peter's Eco Journey

- Set target of reducing carbon footprint 2009
- Set up an Eco Group – Eco Maney
- Formal sub committee of PCC
- Agenda, Minutes and report to every PCC meeting
- Kept congregation informed with articles in magazine
- Began journey to put solar panels on church roof

First major achievement – solar panels 2014



Registered for Eco Church 2014



- Bronze 2016
- Silver 2018
- Gold 2022

Eco Church Survey - 5 Categories

- Worship and Teaching
- Buildings
- Land
- Community and Local Engagement
- Lifestyle

WORSHIP AND TEACHING

Worship and Teaching

- Regular prayer for the environment – at least once a month
- Parish Prayer Calendar
- Emphasize Creationtide – special services, guest speakers
- Lent Challenge – teaching, books, information in pew sheets
- Quiz
- Environmental Pledges

A Pledge tree is easily made from a branch secured in a jar



Value of worship and prayer for Eco Church

- Worship and prayer costs little
- It's something we are familiar with
- Worship is formation as well as adoration
- Plenty of resources available
- Appeals to children and young people

Helping
people to
calculate their
carbon
footprint



Buildings





Other Buildings

Main hall before ceiling was lowered



Vicarage is somewhat hard to heat



Major work on buildings

- LED bulbs in most of church
- A rated boilers and effective control systems
- Insulation and double glazing in Hall
- Energy survey
- Water meters
- Secondary glazing in Vicarage
- LEDs throughout Hall and outside
- Motion sensors

Land

Peace Oak



Trees at front of church



Tower Walk



St Peter's
Remembrance
Mound
decorated as an
Easter Garden

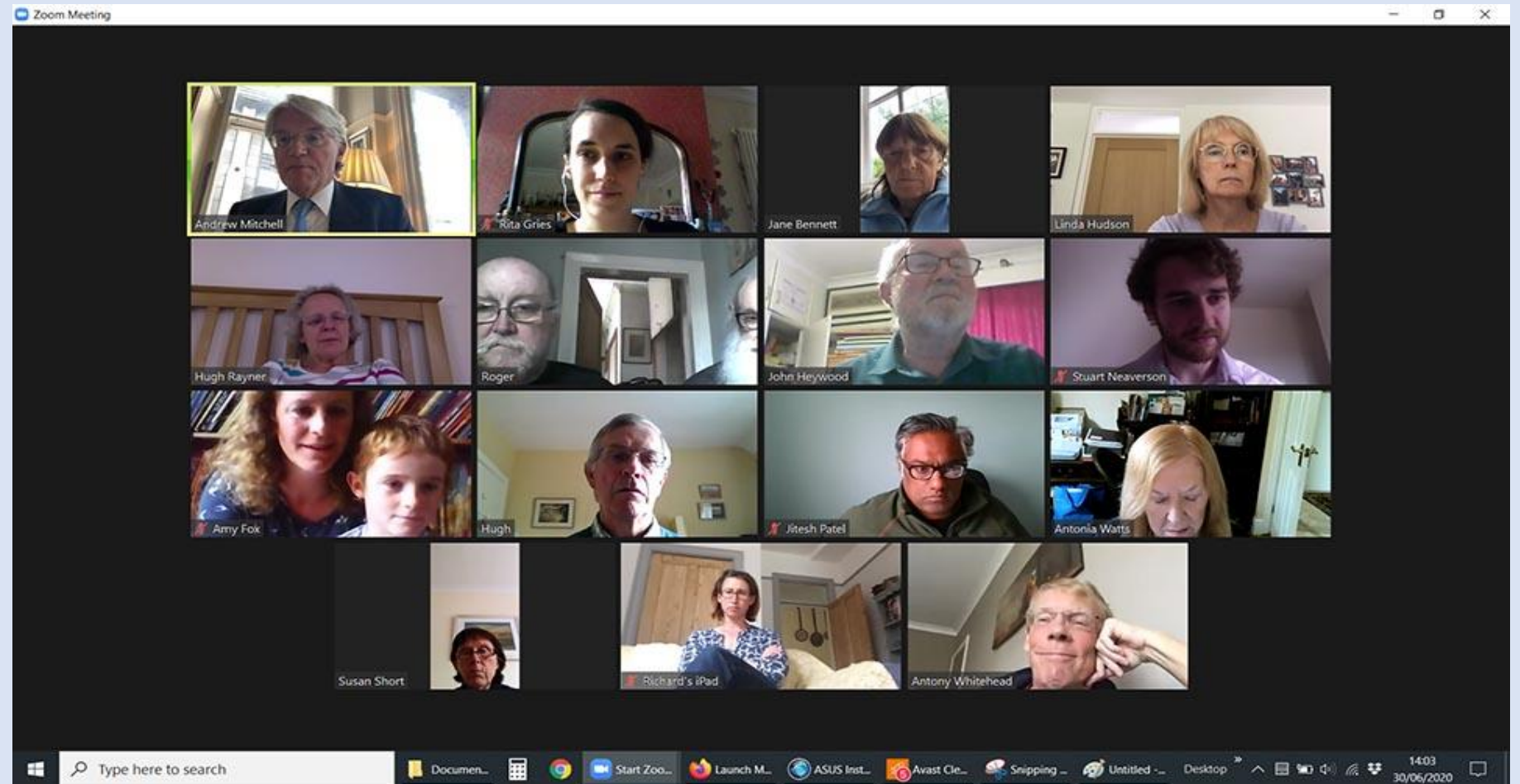


Community and Local Engagement

- Climate change needs action from government e.g. house building, public transport, renewable energy, insulation, car charging points, global justice
- Need to influence councillors, MPs and finance, business and education institutions
- Individuals cannot make a significant difference on their own
- Need planning and joined up solutions not piecemeal and reactive actions

Community and Local Engagement

Zoom meeting with Andrew Mitchell MP



Community and Local Engagement

Climate March November 2021



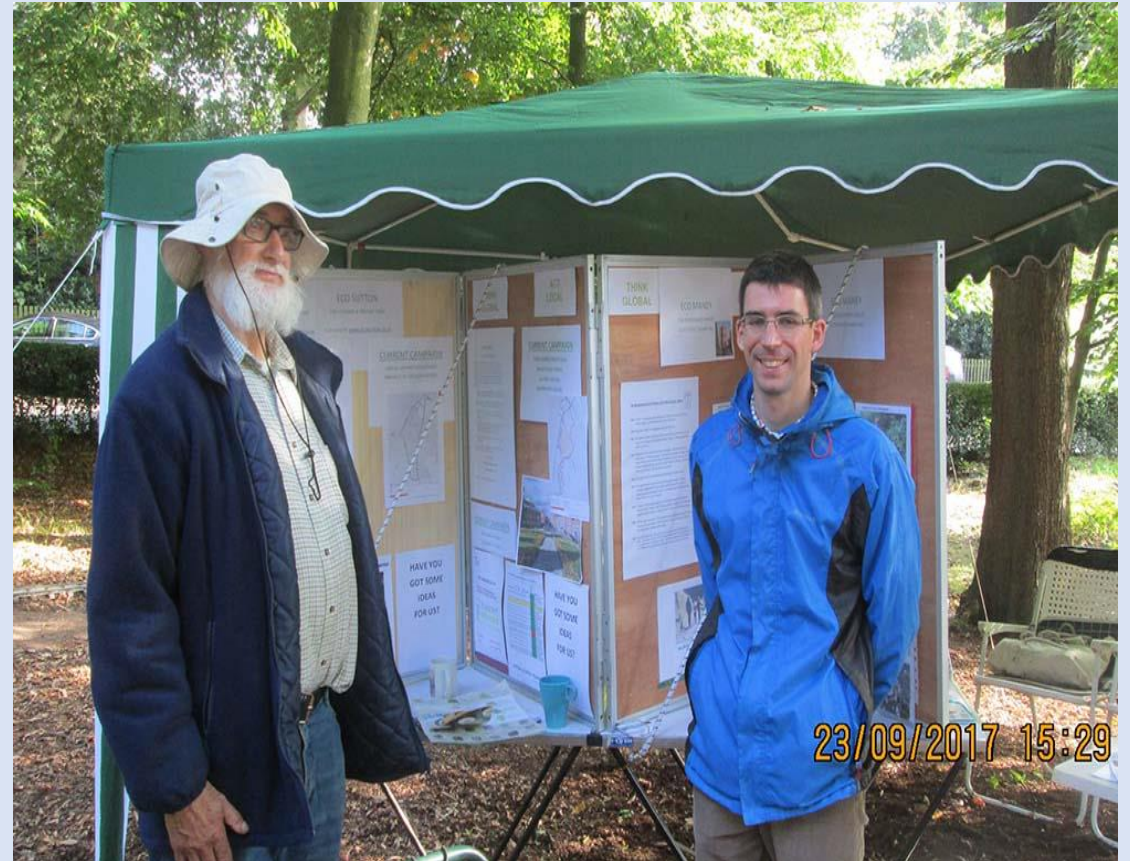
School Strike 2019



Litter pick 2019



St Peter's and Eco Sutton stall at Streetly Methodist's Environmental Weekend



Lifestyle



**National
Trust**



**WOODLAND
TRUST**

Lifestyle actions

- Buy Fairtrade where possible
- Only reusable cutlery and crockery for church events
- Use eco friendly cleaning products
- Collect aluminium cans, silver paper and pill packets
- Compost waste food
- Install water butts
- Only use peat free compost
- Recycle plastic film with bags and crisp packets at large supermarkets
- No glitter or metallic wrapping paper
- Reduce journeys particularly by plane

Campaigns

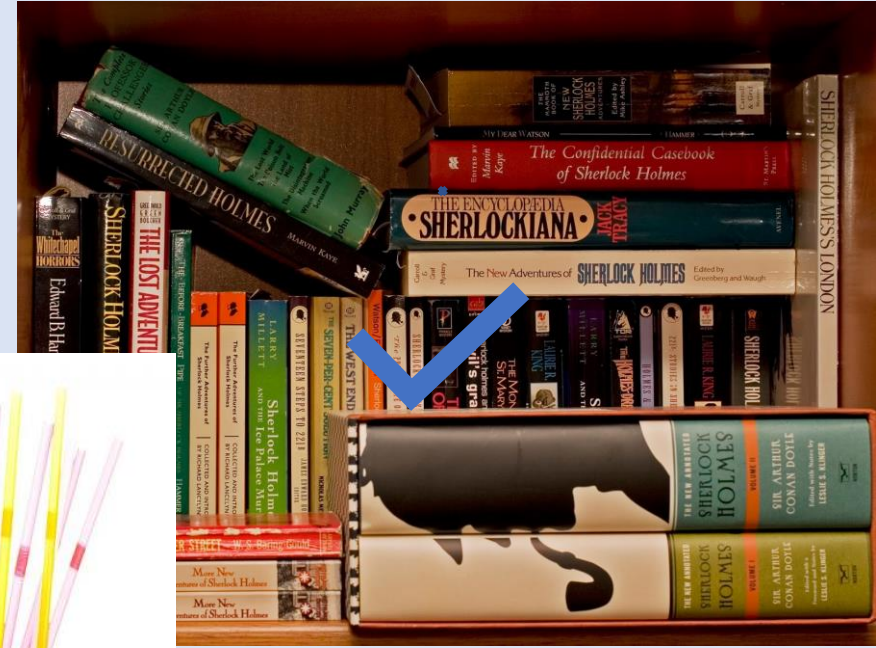


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Work across the Diocese

- Diocesan Synod
- C of E Birmingham
- Diocesan Advisory Committee DAC
- Property Team
- Net Zero Environment Group NZEG
- BACA
- Footsteps
- Work with other churches and faith groups

So what lessons have we learned

- Gold is a big step up
- Involves a day long inspection by A Rocha and Eco Church reps
- Requires large amounts of additional information and evidence e.g. Land Plan, details of energy savings
- Need to demonstrate planning and progression
- Eco Church accepts limitations of buildings, listed status, finance
- Important to keep good records, take lots of photographs
- Keep on top of the information available

Additional information required by Eco Church Inspectors

- Comprehensive narrative of our Eco journey
- Portfolio of evidence supporting this e.g. magazine articles, pew sheets, prayer calendar, orders of service
- Land Management plan with a map of the site
- Evidence of reductions in energy usage
- Each member of team had to report on highlights and challenges
- Evidence of planning and progression

Eco Church Survey - examples

Survey: Survey started on Friday, October 8, 2021
Not yet started

Category: Worship and Teaching

Current Score: /110

No Award

Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
9	10	More					
x	x						

Special Sundays relating to caring for God's earth (e.g. Creation Time, Environment Sunday, Rogation Sunday etc.) are celebrated in our church

Question 1 of 10

At least annually	Less often	Never	Need To Find Out
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ECO CHURCH

Sheena Heaton Logout

Survey: Survey started on Tuesday, October 5, 2021
In progress

Category: Community and Global Engagement

Current Score: 189/222

Gold

Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊖	✓	✓
25	26	27	More				
⊖	✓	✓					

Special Sundays relating to caring for God's earth (e.g. Creation Time, Environment Sunday, Rogation Sunday etc.) are celebrated in our church

Question 1 of 10

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Tackling the Survey

- Play with the survey
- Give hypothetical answers to see different outcomes
- Never save the survey until you are absolutely certain
- Ticking 'Not applicable' or 'need to find out' box may be more useful than giving a definite answer
- Use the additional information boxes fully (they expand)

Summary of Key Points

- Disciplined approach with buy in from PCC
- Celebrate successes
- Get some quick wins
- Prayer and Preaching are free and very important
- Keep people informed and help them e.g. with IT
- Stick to what is reasonable and achievable
- Involve children and young people
- Plan and keep comprehensive records
- Get to know the Eco Church survey

Quick wins

- Quickest and cheapest will come from Worship and Teaching – hold a special service, calendar in prayer for the environment
- Set up an Eco Group
- Get clear idea of available resources and plan accordingly
- Involve children e.g. sow seeds, bulbs, eco work in Sunday school
- LED bulbs
- Invite a guest speaker
- Submit your EFT data to Property team
- Challenges, quizzes, pledges, information in magazine/pew sheet

Useful addresses

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/church-england-environment-programme> Try not to be put off by the amount of information

<https://www.cofebirmingham.com/.../cofeb-environment-programme>

For info on the environment click Home →Everyday Faith→Caring for the Environment
For the Property team click Home→Info for Parishes→Property Team

<https://www.climatesunday.org> - great resources for worship

<https://arocha.org.uk> great resources for Eco Church plus a prayer calendar, webinars.

<https://footstepsbcf.org.uk> about interfaith work for the environment

A lush green forest with tall trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy. The ground is covered in fallen leaves and ferns.

THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS?