

Thinking of your local community within Eildon, what projects/initiatives would you like to see thriving?

Education

- Encourage everyone to watch the documentary the secret science of sewage - for answers to many of the climate crisis issues:
<http://www.documentarymania.com/player.php?title=The%20Secret%20Science%20of%20Sewage>
- Tap into potential of using sewage infrastructure (energy):
<http://www.documentarymania.com/player.php?title=The%20Secret%20Science%20of%20Sewage>
- Encourage everyone to watch the documentary above which has lots of answers to many of the climate crisis issues
- Efficient ways of keeping communities informed about reuse services....and access to information about how to change behaviours
- Hold community workshops on home energy advice.
- Education - kids understand how to grow veg and fruit before leaving school
- Better promotion of Warmer Homes Scotland initiative
- Promote circular economy. Orgs like General Store and Just Cycle.

Food / Growing

- Get kids growing
- Community Orchards - use Council land
- Local food growing, garden sharing, community food projects - access to land.
- Learn about food and how to cook seasonal produce, reduce waste.
- Reducing food waste.
- Food waste and reducing for business and homes
- Encouraging Reuse services and organisations coupled with ways of empowering members of the community to change behaviours

Transport

- Electric car club
- E-bike club
- Safe cycle pathways (use old railway lines)
- Loops of Electric buses (tourism, local communities etc)
- Functioning public transport that covers the Borders and links up from DRT to bus to train
- Public car charger/s in the village.
- Affordable public transport
- Borders Greenway- active travel route from Galashiels to Eyemouth using the old Berwickshire Railway (see Greener Melrose)
- Borders Greenway

Energy

- Encouragement and support for community energy projects so communities can be stakeholders in their local energy supply
- Rivers to generate power across the Borders e.g. Gala Water
- Providing local renewal energy generation accessible to the local community.
- Local power generation based on village halls.
- All social housing have a more robust solar panels that feed in to the house not the grid, reducing costs
- Local energy production
- Bulk purchase of renewables/insulation etc to reduce installation costs.
- Increased solar arrays (e.g. on Common Good land) SBC could assess land for this potential
<https://www.smartflowersolar.co.uk/>

Other

- All communities to have an indoor community space that can be used to support projects about resilience, change in behaviours etc....information about funding for new projects etc.

To realise these aspiration, what key tasks do we need to do? Who are the key players to drive these tasks?

- A collaborative of scientists, community minded people, all working on the ideas to develop the solutions to local climate change challenges
- Attitude change from organisations
- Every resident of the Borders is a key player
- Engage young people through schools.
- Education programme
- Intergenerational learning - passing on skills like food growing, cooking, mending clothes, digital skills.
- Conversations, communication, being inclusive and talk to all. People are brimming with ideas.
- Shared funding for posts Council and Community
- Council can support networking of community orgs.
- Share out windfarm money more widely and fairly. Use it to set up problem solving citizen groups.
- Need buy-in from people, telling folk what to do has limited impact
- Develop an action plan
- Understanding the barriers for those on low incomes
- Understand more about climate specific funding
- Make climate more of a focus within Neighbourhood Support Fund
- Windfarm development and the wider spread of community benefit monies
- Shared learning - no need to reinvent the wheel
- Community energy plan - contact SPEN/utility supplier to consider community ownership to build funds.
- Wind tulip and solar sunflower
- Transition Streets to support each other (Greener Melrose ref)
- Local Energy Generation rivers – appraisal would need to be carried out
- Local Food Growing - Community Orchard (schools linked to education) & Allotments, Forest Gardens
- Forest Garden - being developed in Galashiels, already one in Drygrange
- Communication is vital - need to share with all including those that are not currently engaged (Community climate action Hub in Scottish Borders - potential to fund 4 staff members)
- Would need support from key experts - tap into local expertise (e.g. the in Bloom groups to also grow herbs etc)
- Continuation of projects that are successful