



Green Ixworth News

December 2022

www.greenixworth.org.uk

Home Energy Campaign

The Green Ixworth Energy Campaign got off to a great start with the launch on 3rd December. The 61 people in attendance were all keen to gain as much knowledge as they could from the information stalls staffed by WSC and Green Ixworth experts and share their own experiences.

John Griffiths the Leader of WSC and Ixworth's councillor formally opened proceedings, remarking on the lead role WSC was taking in Suffolk on Environmental and Biodiversity matters. John has also helped fund GI's planting program and the energy campaign in particular. We should like to thank him for the cooperative and supportive role that he and various WSC Officers have played in our successful launch.

As well as those present for all or some of the time, others had sent their apologies and sought an alternative opportunity. We are dealing with that request first by publishing all the advice and videos on: www.greenixworth.org.uk. But also:-

Drop-in Sessions will be held from the 7th January until at least 1st April, on the first Saturday of the month, courtesy of Ixworth Library, to share our knowledge and information sources. Sessions are open from 10.15 to 12.00. The library computers will be available for any websites to which you may be referred.

We hope to present more plans to help the community deal with the Energy and Climate crisis in January. One proposal we are looking at is an Energy Fayre in Ixworth where attendees would be able to talk with a range of suppliers and installers of: insulation, solar panels, batteries, heat pumps and other technologies. More on this next month. *Before confirmation we should like to know what interest there is in this among our readers.*

We have a request.

To help us all assess the value of heat pumps, PV panels, Battery storage etc. could you please let us have details of your experiences. They will be published anonymously to help future purchasers decide. Please contact: www.greenixworth.org.uk.

Your own Heat Map.

We have a FREE service to help you discover where your heat goes to. We have bought a Thermal Imaging Camera with a grant from Cllr Griffiths and borrowed two more for a short time. With these we can take a picture of your home and help you identify where your heat is escaping so you have a good chance of dealing with it. To apply for free access to this service please contact us on www.greenixworth.org.uk or complete a form available in the Ixworth Library with name, address, email and phone number. Appointments will be early

evening when you have your heat on, it is colder outside and dark.

Free packs of radiator insulating panels

These panels fix on the wall behind your radiator to help reduce the heat lost through your walls especially outside ones. In buildings with solid walls and listed buildings external wall insulation may not be permitted so these panels are particularly useful but work in all houses and are easy to fit.

We have conducted a trial of the packs which went well, just basic domestic skills needed to stick them in position and they really do work, increasing the heat which goes into the room rather than outside through the wall.

If you would like a pack, they are available **free** from West Suffolk Council. Apply to environment@westsuffolkcouncil.gov.uk.

Gas Boiler or Heat Pump.

If you need a replacement boiler, why not think about replacing it with an air source heat pump. For a small house they can be as little as £3,000, much the same price as having a new gas boiler fitted.

News from Government.

The good

A £1 billion fund has been announced for energy efficiency measures in private homes from 1st April 2023. Financial support, as yet unspecified, will apply to houses in bands "D" EPC and below. If you are contemplating any energy saving measures, now might be the time to think about it so you are ready when the time comes. You can find your EPC band by going to <https://www.gov.uk/find-energy-certificat>. If you do not have one then it might be worthwhile getting one, easy to find someone local on line.

The bad

1. They have given permission for the Cumbrian coal mine to be opened to produce coal British steel producers do not want or need. At the same time Britain continues to press other countries, especially the less developed nations, not to develop coal.
2. Animal excrement and urine plus agricultural chemicals will be allowed to continue to pour into streams and rivers until banned in probably/hopefully 2040.
3. Under the proposals to revoke all regulations carried over from the EU protecting nature, will among others, likely to be seriously weakened.

This is not environmentally sound energy

<https://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/news/tell-national-grid-how-sea-link-and-eurolink-will-impact-wildlife>.

The AGM of Green Ixworth will be held at 7.00pm in the Methodist Hall in Ixworth High Street on 26th January. All are invited to discuss the plans for the coming year and a review of the last year. Our speaker will be Claire Ling, from Suffolk Climate Change Partnership.

May we wish you a warm and happy Christmas and New Year