



Green Ixworth Newsletter

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Sustainable Energy

The increase in sustainable energy in the UK is remarkable, all we need now is to change the system for paying energy suppliers, currently based on the price of gas, to be paid on the cheaper or average of the offers of power to the grid. Government is proposing moving away from the expensive gas options. It was so much easier when the Central Electricity Board was the major supplier of electricity in England and Wales. Last year saw renewables (solar, wind, hydro and biomass) produce a record 44% of Britain's electricity – up from just 3% in the year 2000. Add on Nuclear at approx 16% and we can see the real progress being made. No longer do we generate **any** electricity from coal from which, in 2013, Britain generated 40% of our electricity from sustainable sources.

Community Energy Bury St Edmunds

This new organisation has been established by a group whose numbers include members of Green Ixworth and others from the Bury Area.

It has been set up to help achieve a vision of the future where '100% of our local energy needs are generated from renewable sources'. This will entail a reduction in energy demand and at the same time, an increase in renewable energy supply.

Renewable energy generation projects could include roof top solar schemes or local wind turbines. As the organisation is a Community Benefit Society, any surplus income that is generated (from the sale of electricity) would be re-invested for the benefit of the local community. These projects can also be termed 'powering up' projects.



Reducing energy demand includes much of the work Green Ixworth has already undertaken such as helping people improve the energy efficiency of their homes. These can be termed 'powering down' projects. These schemes will continue to be of importance to many people going into the next winter, given the increase in oil prices this year. Green Ixworth can in future perhaps work more effectively within a larger group, we also have some ideas for energy generation.

Due to the growing awareness of the need to make our energy system more independent from global geopolitical shocks and the benefits of community owned, and democratically controlled, energy sources, the government is pledging support for such initiatives.

Read here for more information:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/698b50136c8ef8db1fcfd88e/gbe-local-power-plan-2026.pdf>

Funding for projects will likely be available from a variety of sources – National Lottery, Great British Energy (£1.5 Billion) and community share issue.
For more information please contact: communityenergybse@gmail.com

“The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation”.



Part of this global circulation of seawater includes what we were brought up to call the Gulf Stream or drift. A supply of warm water from the Caribbean to western Europe, keeping the British Isles and even Norway largely Ice free when comparable latitudes of countries on the western coasts of the Atlantic are subject to freezing and often sea ice. We have known for some years that this series of circulating currents including southern polar waters was weakening. There is now evidence that things are worse than we thought. This is something which slowing down climate change actions or using more fossil fuels will help. Any delays will require more future action than would be required if we acted now. If

anyone still needs convincing of the hazards of Climate Change, try to encourage them to read the article from Carbon Brief, all is explained. There is still time to act.

[AMOC: Is global warming tipping key Atlantic ocean currents towards 'collapse'?](#)

Why do panicking Climate Change Deniers need more oil and gas?

Why are they panicking? Because they depend on falsehoods to promote the interests of their friends in the oil, gas and coal companies. The Hormuz crisis has had some contradictory impacts. Oil and gas prices have rocketed, Oil and gas are in short supply, the US has continued to import oil thus denying it to the rest of the world when it is using hardly any of its own. Maybe to help Putin and themselves by racking up the price, surely not. Simultaneously effectively encouraging the purchase of EVs most of which are made by the Chinese and discouraged in the US.

If the action creates inflation and puts those “off grid” in penury Trump, Farage and Badenock really do not care what happens to ordinary folk so long as it provides a false argument for drilling.

In the short term, it benefits those who have an interest in the profits from fossil fuels, especially Putin and the oil companies. And then they suggest removing the excess profit tax on fossil fuels to encourage the companies to produce more. They falsely argue that “British” oil and gas must, by definition, be cheaper than “foreign”, a fallacy because it is all sold on the global market and Britain has no inalienable right to purchase. Significant new fields, depending on location, may take years to bring on line, even if the presence of gas/oil is known. Most gas which is close to existing infrastructure, pipe lines, platforms etc. can already legally be exploited. This is cheaper to do but provides few tax advantages. Larger or more expensive developments have big tax allowances supposed to be matched by the oil company paying for the removal of the machinery and platforms when the field is no longer viable. They are quite likely to sell the field on to a capital poor production company, likely to go bust before they have to remove the installation. Most of the current UK gas and oil exploiters are names mostly unfamiliar to the public, where this has already happened.

More drilling in North Sea 'not the answer' for UK energy security, say former military leaders

US had hottest March on record as nation faced 'unprecedented' heat | US weather | The Guardian

£1 billion funding boost for electric vans, trucks and depot charging - Transport + Energy

Urban Fox secures EV charging contract with Suffolk CC - Transport + Energy

Social media is full of oft repeated prophecies that EVs are a disaster and sales much lower than expected and getting fewer so "remove the controls and lets get back to diesels". It is clear that the Iran crisis has once and for all convinced many drivers that with full charging costs below £10 available, fossil fuels have had their day. These low costs are generally only available at present to residents with access to a charger at home

Drivers without driveways, currently having no access to charging at domestic rates, are unlikely to buy EVs in spite of the reduced fuel cost. Government has agreed that under-pavement connections should now be made under "permitted development" rules. We await the new arrangements.

Interest in EVs surges in Europe as fuel prices jump after Iran war | Electric, hybrid and low-emission cars | The Guardian

UK enquiries were up by a quarter in March.

"Greenscape" sees massive increase in enquiries for ASHP and Solar.

Greenscape of Ipswich who have worked for Solar Together (Suffolk County Council) have seen a massive increase in enquiries for Air Source Heat Pumps, Solar Panels and batteries, due to the Iran crisis. They are also receiving many enquiries for Air conditioning, in itself less desirable. However the advantage of A/C is that the process is the same as a heat pump so can be reversed to heat as an ASHP.

Rural areas and some businesses have had to rely on oil heating in the past as they were off the gas grid. Unreliability of supply and high the cost of oil compared, has driven many to look for answers in sustainable energy – green electricity. Businesses are more likely to look for Ground Source Heat Pumps as their demand can be much higher than domestic users.

Suffolk green energy company sees 800 inquiries in a week - BBC News

Highway-runoff-advice-note.pdf

3 years ago, when cleaning out the Black Bourn at Ixworth Bridge we came across a large pile of evil greasy run off from the High Street. No body was willing to deal with it. If we had tried we should have had to hire a specialist contractor capable of dealing with toxic materials Suffolk County Council, the waste authority, should deal with it as it is their highway which is responsible.

We have sought a meeting with Suffolk Highways over the state of the road surface, drains and gutters on the High Street due to rainwater creating problems for residents due to water pooling and traffic spraying it onto the walls and beneath sills on doors. Joanna Spicer was helping to sort this when the election was called, and she decided to stand down after 37 years of service. She has been extremely supportive of Green Ixworth's work. We shall be pursuing this with the new Councillor/Council.

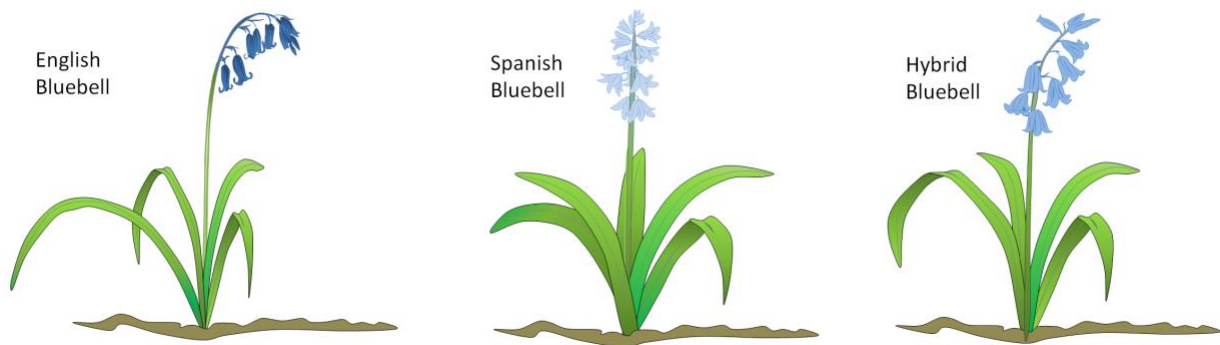
Golden eagles could be reintroduced to England with new funding, ministers say

£90m pledged to support most threatened wildlife from extinction

Bluebells

There are three varieties of Bluebells grown in the UK: the Native, the Spanish and hybrids, a cross between the two. All were likely to be in bloom over the past two months. The English Bluebell is at risk from being overwhelmed by the Spanish which is less suitable for British insects and more robust.

- English bluebell - arching stem, flowers on one side, blue, creamy pollen, strong scent, narrow leaves.
- Spanish bluebell - upright stem, bells all round, paler blue, pink or white, blue pollen, little or no scent, broader leaves. More robust and prolific.
- Hybrids sit between: the stem may lean but not droop, the bells can appear on more than one side, and the perfume is faint. If your plants mix these traits, treat them as Spanish or hybrid rather than natives.



It is illegal to remove English Bluebells from the wild. If you are ever moving bluebells of either variety, be careful not to crush the leaves of any you are leaving in the ground as that can severely damage their future growth. Native bluebells are available to buy from reputable sources as seeds, bulbs or in the green. Seeds take up to three years before they produce flowering plants; bulbs a few months and best of all are plants which have just flowered and are available as bulb and greenery any time from end of April onwards.

We grow English Bluebells in Crown Lane obtained from Authorised Sources.

Newly identified major killer of Hedgehogs in your garden.

The current BBC David Attenborough series “Secret Garden” shows just how rich our gardens can be by using some fabulous settings for photography/photographers. One thing not to emulate though is the use of robot mowers at night, as in the first programme about the mill, when hedgehogs are about. They can be deadly as the animals will curl up as the robot touches them and make the ball even tighter if they are moved. The result can be serious injury from the blades. If using a robot do ensure it is not active at night.

Charging mowers is best done at night as cheap power is available. So, it is cheaper and does no damage to hedgehogs.

After 1,200 years, cherry blossom record to live on despite Japanese scientist's death | Japan | The Guardian

This record length of data of first cherry blossom in spring, is crucial evidence, of the movement of seasons over the millennia. This shows that a relatively steady date up to industrial times rapidly started to shift during the 20th Century with the accumulation of CO₂ and other industrial pollutants.

Unlike the USA where Presidential order has scrapped scores of climate records, Japan is seeking to strengthen their vital data.

Ammonia pollution hotspots found in areas of UK with most pig and poultry factory farms | Pollution | The Guardian

Over-the-counter pet flea treatments could be banned under new UK rules | Pesticides | The Guardian

US tech firms successfully lobbied EU to keep datacentre emissions secret