

Warwickshire **Climate Change Partnership**

09 January 2009

Submission Form for Case Studies

Community groups

Name of Group: Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change

Date: 18/07/2008

Please return to: Dr. Jacky Lawrence, Strategic Energy Manager, Environmental Management, E&E, WCC, PO Box 43, Warwick CV34 4SX.

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Please use as much space in the boxes as you need

1 Group's activity type

Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change (SACC) looks for practical ways to engage with residents of the village, the schools and local organisations to promote initiatives' and actions, focussing on carbon emission reductions.

2 Aims and Objectives

Our aim is to encourage everyone in our community to think about how their way of life affects their impact on climate change and to help people to understand how simple actions can make a big impact on CO2 emissions to the atmosphere.

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3 Why was the group initially formed?

The parish council of Snitterfield wished to encourage and support the establishment of a team comprising of members of the parish who would be tasked with helping the parish of Snitterfield to reduce its carbon footprint.

A small group of people met over a couple of weeks to discuss the group's plan of action. A launch event was decided upon to raise awareness of the group and of climate change.

The launch event took place in April 2007. At the launch event a children's competition to design the logo was organised, with the winning entry being announced on the day. Also present on the day were a number of stalls/workshops such as a craft corner and refreshments provided by the Women's Institute. Information about the group was also provided and a list of interested individuals was compiled.

The event was a success, with around one in six of villagers attending. A write-up of the event appeared in the village Focus magazine.

The first formal meeting took place in July and was open to all villagers. At this meeting the committee was formed and brain storming of what the group wanted to do took place.

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4 Who are your members

SACC is made up of members of the local community. The group consists of a committee of eight individuals and a further forty who have signed up to find out more information on the groups activities.

5 Member, Local Authority and public Communication

- Monthly open meetings – these take place in the village hall and are open to all members of the community
- Posters – These are used to communicate events
- The Link – This is a Parish newsletter in which the group places regular articles
- The Snipe – A free magazine to all residents once a quarter in which the group places regular articles
- Website – The website contains up-to-date information on the group's activities and history
- Leaflets – These were used for the green tariff initiative
- Warwickshire Community Newsletter
- Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership web pages.

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6 Groups Achievements

The group's first achievement was to offer discounted energy efficient light bulbs. A 50% discount was offered by a Stratford supplier, Eyre & Elliston Electrical Distributors.

The group works with the local school going into school once a term. The group works with the schools eco club giving a half an hour workshop.

A recycling scheme began on the 1st December 2007. A home made system of wheelie bins are used for the recycling of cardboard, plastic bottles, and Tetra pack. Volunteers empty the bins every day and dispose of contents at Burton Farm once a week.

During October every household received a leaflet on green tariffs. A free follow up breakfast was arranged to check for uptake of the tariffs.

The group also visits the local Brownies and Rainbows, giving talks and providing a short film for the girls to watch. The girls have also been shown the recycling bins at the village hall.

In December the group's cotton recyclable bag was produced and put on sale in the village shop. Alongside this the shop ran an initiative whereby people wanting a plastic bag were asked to donate 5p. The shop managed to decrease the number of plastic bags it was handing out 600 bags a month to around forty.

During January 08 SACC organised a bring and buy sale for unwanted Christmas presents. Also present at this event was a number of produce and craft stalls as well as the WI providing Soup and Cakes. This event raised £500 with a further £100 raised from a car boot sale selling the left-over goods.

The group was donated ten trees by the Tree Council. Press events were run providing each of the community groups in the village with a tree to plant and inviting the press to cover the story.

The group attended the village fete in June 2008. As part of their contribution to the fete they paid for the Green Energy Machine to attend, this demonstrated to the villages what 10 grams of carbon looked like by use of balloons.

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7 Any issues/problems

The main problem SACC experiences is getting people buying into the schemes and keeping the momentum going.

8 How could local authorities encourage the formation of community groups/ assist community groups

- Encourage smaller communities to join up to form groups
- Approach parish councils to encourage the formation of community groups as these have the links with local people
- Encourage existing community groups to go green

9 Any other useful information?

Sources of other useful information and links are given below.

The group has big plans for the future and have approached Encraft to carry out a feasibility study for the village to look at options available for energy solving and generation.

For more information on the group's activities, log onto the group's web site at

<http://www.snitterfieldacc.org/>