



Lincoln's Climate Emergency Centre

Newsletter No.26

November 2024



Autumn/Winter at EarthLincs

We are reducing the number of drop-in sessions at Mint Lane for the rest of 2024 as unfortunately we have insufficient volunteers at the moment – but we'll be at lots of events around the City in the coming weeks and make a note to come along to our Christmas social at Mint Lane on the 14th December, from 2 to 4pm.

We are also at the Lincoln Climate Action Festival on 20th November (see page 4).

Climate Circle with Rachael Burnett – 16 November

This is a safe, empathetic, inclusive space for people to come together and explore the myriad of feelings they may be having about the climate crisis. We will be holding monthly in-person sessions for up to ten people each time.



Mint Lane Saturday EarthLincs Events

- 2 November** Mint Lane Drop-In closed
- 16 November** **Climate Circle** with Rachael 2–4pm
- 23 November** **EarthLincs Cornhill Market stall**
– Mint Lane closed
- 30 November** **Amnesty Christmas Market** 10am–3pm
– Mint Lane closed
- 7 December** **Mint Lane Christmas Fair** 10am–2pm
EarthLincs usual Drop-In closed
- 14 December** **EarthLincs Christmas Social** 2pm–4pm
- 21 December** Mint Lane closed for Christmas period
- 28 December** Mint Lane closed for Christmas period
- 4 January 2025** 2–4pm Mint Lane Drop-In, details t.b.c.

Climate Change is happening NOW!

Watching the news last night, I was stunned by images of the flooding in Spain, a year's rain in just 8 hours – catastrophic, hugely destructive and deadly, hundreds killed, unable to escape, and goodness knows how the wildlife was affected. This is the stark reality of Climate Change! This is a wake-up call for Europe which will happen again and it could happen here unless we break our addiction to burning fossil fuels. Not by 2050 but NOW!

Next week, our leaders will sit down at COP 29 in Azerbaijan, the perfect opportunity to discuss how we



can rapidly decarbonise our economies. I do fear it will be another conference when they talk but pledge to do very little. I do fear for the future of mankind.

Tim Grigg

Free Trees!

Community groups, landowners and farmers can sign up to get 50 free trees or 250 free hedging plants as part of the big tree giveaway. Lincolnshire County Council has joined up with the Woodland Trust to offer the trees at either Market Rasen on 25th November or Boothby Pagnell on 26th November, which coincides with National Tree Week. Simply register your interest and bring a large

enough vehicle to collect your trees and hedging on the days, as well as getting tips on planting them. To find out more, and register your interest visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/could you plant 50 free trees?](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/could-you-plant-50-free-trees?) or click on this link:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/news/article/2089/could-you-plant-50-free-trees-#:~:text=Farmers%20and%20landowners%20and%20community%20groups,on%20their%20land%20in%20Lincolnshire>

International Repair Day and the 'Right to Repair and Reuse'

Saturday the 19th October was International Repair Day and, along with around 2,000 other repair events across the world, we took part at EarthLincs when we held the second of our, 'Get Stuff Fixed' events. This time we focused on small electricals and we had 3 items brought in, 2 lamps and some electronic scales. Both lamps are repairable but we will need some new parts and we do need more expertise to look at the scales. But it's a good start and hopefully more volunteer repairers will join us in the future.

The first Repair Café was held 15 years ago in Amsterdam and since then the repair movement has swept across the world. The Open Repair Alliance estimates that there are 4,000 active repair groups globally, performing 190,000 successful repairs per year. Their data shows that with the help of Volunteer Repairers, 53% of all products are fixed. This is impressive but many items can't be repaired due to spares not being available, or too expensive, and in many cases you cannot get the item apart to fix! Manufacturers could play an important role though more thoughtful product design and making affordable spare parts and instructions more readily available.

So there is great work being done but we can do so much more. In September's newsletter we featured an article on the Circular Economy and reducing our consumption, Repair and Reuse are key elements of this. But at present there is no national Repair and Reuse policy and it is left to volunteers and local authorities to come up with initiatives and projects to tackle this huge issue.

Disappointingly only around half of waste facilities in the



UK have any kind of reuse stream and only around a fifth offer reuse for small electricals. It's a shockingly low statistic that desperately needs to change as half of electricals currently recycled could be reused or just need a simple repair.

That's why we urgently need legislation and national policy to prioritise Repair and Reuse. Our Government is aiming for a zero waste economy by 2050 and we now have a minister responsible for implementing the Circular Economy, Mary Creagh. There is a Repair and Reuse Declaration:

<https://repairreusedeclaration.uk/#>

prepared by the Restart project, encouraging our government along this path. Follow the link for more information and please ask your MP to sign the declaration. Together we can make Repairing and Reusing the norm as we transform our Economic system and start to reduce our impact on the planet.

North Lincolnshire Council will not defend Wressle expansion challenge

On 18th October 2024 the council that approved plans for expansion of the Wressle oil and gas site near Scunthorpe announced that they will not defend a legal challenge which had been brought by Climate Campaigner Sandie Stratford. North Lincolnshire Council conceded that they would not defend their decision to support two new wells at Wressle. NLC had previously granted planning permission

This is a great achievement by Sandie whose challenge centred on the authority's decision to approve extra drilling, production and a new pipeline without an environmental impact assessment (EIA) or consideration of the greenhouse gas emissions from burning any oil and gas from Wressle. The council and the site operator, Egdon Resources, had argued that an EIA was unnecessary and that only emissions from site construction, operation and decommissioning must be considered.

But Ms Stratford said the council's case relied on outdated interpretation of the law. Sandie is very pleased with this result, and with Leigh Day solicitors for their support. 'It is high time the dinosaur industries finally ground to a standstill, so that reducing demand and boosting renewable, ideally locally sourced energy becomes the norm.' The existing planning permission for the expansion will now be quashed.

Read more here:

<https://drillordrop.com/2024/10/18/council-will-not-defend-wressle-expansion-challenge/>

Visit our website!

use this url or scan the QR code

www.earthlincs.co.uk





Let's Make the New Greater Lincs Mayor a Climate and Nature Champion!

In May 2025 voters in Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and North-East Lincolnshire will elect their first combined authority Mayor. The new mayor will have significant powers, funding and influence. We need to ensure that tackling the climate and nature emergency is central to the candidates plans.

Join Friends of the Earth online 7-8pm on Thurs Nov 21st to hear more about the Greater Lincolnshire campaign and how you can become involved.

The booking link is here:

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/get-involved-in-greater-lincolnshire-mayor-elections-2025/>

The new mayor will be a major player in decisions around energy, transport, skills, housing and economic development in Greater Lincs. At this online event we will share our 10-point climate action plan for the new mayor and discuss campaign plans for the 5 months up to the election on May 1st 2025. We'd love to have more people involved!

Friends of the Earth has a great track record of holding regional mayors to account on action to address the climate and nature emergency. You can read more about our work in the 2024 elections here

If you are unable to attend on 21 November you can register with our handraiser to receive more information about the campaign as it develops

Register with our handraiser here:

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/greater-lincolnshire-combined-authority-handraiser/>



November Climate Action Days in Lincoln and London

As world leaders gather for the UN's annual climate negotiations at COP29, thousands of people will take to the streets worldwide for Global Days of Action.

On the 15th November the Lincs Divest Campaign group will be at County Hall in Lincoln to urge the Lincolnshire Pension Fund, administered by Lincolnshire County Council, to divest from Fossil Fuels, it currently has approx £94 million invested. Please support this action if you can, meet outside County Hall on Newland at 12 Midday, for more information email:

lincsdivest@gmail.com

The following day, the 16th March, the Climate Justice Coalition are organising a huge march in London, to demand the UK government ends our reliance on fossil fuels, pays up for climate finance and ends its complicity in Israel's escalating genocidal violence. It will start at 12 Midday on Great Russell Street outside the British Museum. Follow this link for more information, <https://climatejustice.uk/cop29/march-for-global-climate-justice/>

Extinction Rebellion Lincoln

'Climate Activists are the prophets trying to save us from our stupor'

– Tim Winton, The Guardian, 26 October 2024

Insure Our Survival focuses on the Achilles heel of the criminal fossil fuel industry setting our planet on fire: their insurers.

No insurance = no drilling for oil, gas and coal.

'Our strategy works – after a week of national street action in February, giant insurers Zurich and major underwriters Probitas announced they would stop insuring new oil and gas projects.'

After weeks of planning, Lincoln's XR group took part in the 'Insure Our Survival' campaign, joining other groups in the movement in both London and Birmingham during 28–30th October to ask insurers to stop insuring fossil fuel projects.

XR Lincoln also takes part in local activities and will be present at the Amnesty Christmas Market and the University's 'Lincoln Climate Action Festival' in November.

Extinction Rebellion (XR) is a decentralised, international and politically non-partisan movement using nonviolent direct action and civil disobedience to persuade governments to act justly on the Climate and Ecological Emergency.



If you would like to join the local Lincoln Extinction Rebellion group, please contact lincoln@extinctionrebellion.uk for more information



COP29 – 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference

The 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, more commonly known as **COP29**, will be the 29th United Nations Climate Change conference. COP29 will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan from 11 to 22 November, 2024.

Azerbaijan signed the Paris Agreement—an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)—on April 22, 2016. It was ratified on January 9, 2017, and entered into force on February 8, 2017, roughly a month later.

In December 2023, Azerbaijan was announced as the host of this year's conference and in January 2024, Mukhtar Babayev was appointed as COP29 president and will preside over the conference. Babayev is currently serving as minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan. Babayev previously worked as the SOCAR's* Vice President for ecology.

On 10th and 11th October, Azerbaijan hosted the annual Pre-COP meeting to initiate discussions ahead of COP29. The conference opened with COP29 President-designate Mukhtar Babayev, COP28 President Sultan Al Jaber, and UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Jain Mohammad, and was themed 'Strengthening Ambitions and Ensuring Action'. Among the priorities were setting a new climate finance goal to replace the former \$100 billion target, fully activating the Loss and Damage fund, and supporting vulnerable communities. Discussions also included updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) from countries and finalizing guidelines for carbon markets under Article 6. Leaders emphasized the need to cap global warming at 1.5°C, as current data from the UN Environment Programme suggests that existing climate pledges may allow for a 2.9°C increase.

We hope that the world's leaders will take the threat of Climate Change seriously and take radical action, despite again being held in a major oil-producing country...

*The State Oil Company of the Republic of Azerbaijan

For more information see websites:

<https://unfccc.int/cop29>

<https://cop29.az/en/home>



Mint Lane Wellbeing Hub

For further information about Mint Lane events please contact Mint Lane Wellbeing Hub on 07778 705979 or visit our website:

<https://involvelincoln.org.uk/mint-lane-wellbeing-hub>

Please join us at our **Christmas Fair** on Saturday 7th December (10am–2pm). There will be stalls, festive refreshments and Christmas fun for everyone!



Other local Events and Activities

LocalMotion

'To connect people to inspire a flourishing future'

Climate Hope Meeting and Social

Wednesday 18th December: 10am–1pm, Charlotte House Hotel

A chance to find out what Lincoln's environmental and climate action groups have been doing over the year and discuss ways of working together in the coming year to address the challenges of climate change. Anyone can attend, even if you are not part of a group. To find out more and register your interest please email Charlotte Brooks:

charlotte.brooks@localmotion.org.uk

The Lincoln Climate Action Festival 2024

There will be a series of events organised by the University of Lincoln at various locations in the city from 18th–23rd November.

EarthLincs will be at the evening market on 20th November 6–9pm.

For more information see:

<https://www.lincoln.ac.uk/eventsandconferences/upcomingevents/climate-action-festival-2024.html>

Jumble Sale

The next Jumble Sale at Dunholme Village Hall is on Saturday 16th November, 1pm.

You can bring any items along to the hall on the morning of the sale. All proceeds go to local charities.

Want to Find Out More about EarthLincs?

earthlincs@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/groups/181394503851074

and via our website:

www.earthlincs.co.uk



Instagram:

Follow us on [earth_lincs](https://www.instagram.com/earth_lincs)

