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## Stepping into Spring!

We were delighted that pupils, parents and teachers from Hookstone Chase Primary School took part in our recent Harrogate District Walk to School Day on Friday 3rd February. Launched in 2021, we now have almost 60 schools actively taking part in this initiative, with over 10,000 pupils walking or cycling to school.

Not only does this help to reduce carbon emissions which improves air quality for our Harrogate District residents, but the kids love it - being able to chat and laugh with friends on their way to school, and arrive at school fresh-faced and ready to learn!

Pupils were excited to be welcomed by Harrogate Town AFC's club mascot, Harry Gator at the school gates, along with support from local MP, Andrew Jones and Tom Blackburn from Harrogate Town AFC Community Foundation.

We would like to thank Hookstone Chase Primary School's Headteacher, Joe Cooper for encouraging pupils, parents and teachers to take part. Getting involved in this campaign - whether it's to 'park and stride', walk the last mile to school or walk/cycle the whole journey, sends the right message about active travel and how small changes can help us on our journey to a zero carbon future.

We hope that more schools will continue to sign up to this initiative and make it a weekly

such as public transport, working from home, active travel or shared mobility schemes such as car sharing and car clubs. For more information or to find out how to get involved, please email [hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk](mailto:hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk)

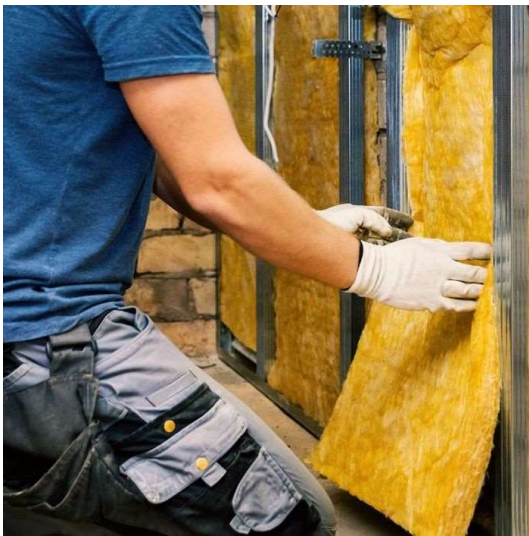
Jemima Parker

Chair, Zero Carbon Harrogate

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## ZERO CARBON HARROGATE NEWS

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### Retrofit Event - Sold Out!

Following a very encouraging response to our first 'Retrofitting Your Home' event which takes place at Harrogate College on Thursday 16th March, 6.30pm-8pm, more places were added, but these have quickly been snapped up! If you would like to register your interest, please click [here](#) and we will let you know when further Retrofit events have been arranged. [Retrofit | zerocarbonharrogate](#)

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### 'Let's Talk Climate' Public Consultation

[Let's Talk Climate](#) is seeking your views on the recently published North Yorkshire Council draft Climate Change Strategy. Whilst ZCH welcomes the strategy, we are extremely concerned that there is little on implementation plans, no carbon budget, no financial budget, no pathway to zero and no outline programme, and that the strategy is therefore extremely weak. In particular, there is little or no reference to implementation plans, and we see no clear links between the strategy and the Council's aspiration to be carbon neutral in terms of its operational activity by 2030.

You can view the strategy document [here](#) and we encourage our readers, supporters and members to respond to the consultation survey [here](#) which closes on 7th April. From ZCH's Home page you can download a [Briefing Paper](#) which summarises our views and can be read in conjunction with the survey questions.



## ZCH welcomes new Comms Officer to the team

Jessica Eaton joins us as our new communications lead and brings with her almost 20 years of experience across a diverse range of sectors. Her most recent role was Head of External Communications at RNIB, the UK's largest sight loss charity, where she was responsible for all PR and social media activity. A Harrogate native, Jessica is now a mum of three and is passionate about finding community-led solutions to the collective problem of the climate crisis. Jessica joins ZCH to help us reach more people through our communication activity and increase engagement with our work.

## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES



### Tree Planting Co-ordinator

Zero Carbon Harrogate is seeking a Tree Planting Co-ordinator who can spare up to 10 days a year to organise volunteers in supporting nature based activities to assist its recovery, whilst connecting people with nature in the Harrogate District. If you would like to find out more, please email [hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk](mailto:hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk)



and extend our social media audience and we need your help please to do this! If you are familiar with [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#), please like, follow and share! ZCH is dedicated to making the Harrogate District a net zero carbon community by 2030, and we would love you to join us on this journey. If you would like to get in touch, please email

[hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk](mailto:hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk)



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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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### Walk to School Day - Friday 24th March

Be a 'Zero Hero' and join us for the next Harrogate District Walk to School Day on Friday 24th March. Look out for Harrogate Town AFC's mascot, Harry Gator who will welcome enthusiastic pupils at the school gate and encourage families to build positive transport habits, whilst doing their bit to help our planet. If you would like your local school to get involved, please click [here](#).

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### Film Evening - 'The Letter' - Thursday 30th March

The Nidderdale Climate + Environment Group and Church in the Dale, invite you to join us on Thursday 30th March, 6.45pm for 7pm start, at [Summerbridge Methodist Church](#) for a showing of the film 'The Letter' and for a short discussion on what we could do in the Dale to support the local ecology and environment.

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote an "encyclical letter" (a short book called 'Laudato Si') which encouraged us to understand how everything is connected. The way we treat the earth is a reflection of how we treat each other, caring for each other means caring for the home we share. 'The Letter' is the story of frontline leaders sharing their experiences of climate

*"This beautiful film – a heartbreaking yet hopeful story – is a clarion cry to people everywhere: Wake up! Get serious! Act together! Act now!"*



## OTHER NEWS



### Are you a Zero Carbon Harrogate Member?

If so, you will have recently received an email from Kath Clark, ZCH Operations Manager. We want to acknowledge and thank you for your continued support which enables us to work towards the development of a low carbon, sustainable economy across the Harrogate District. To ensure our records are up to date, we hope you can spare a couple of minutes to complete the [new membership form](#) - which also gives you an opportunity to add any comments. Thank you.



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