



Nature groups warn against playing political football

As the Women's World Cup unfolds, there's another global football game being played and that's the UK government's worrying position on climate change, where it appears to have shifted the goalposts. Despite global 'boiling', the government is threatening to backtrack on its environmental commitments for political gain.

Representing over 20 million supporters, 50 of the most respected environmental organisations, including the National Trust, CPRE, RSPB, RSPCA, Wildlife Trusts, Woodland Trust, WWF, Marine Conservation Society, Soil Association and Friends of the Earth have written to the Prime Minister, heavily criticising the government's potential plans to water down its commitment on almost every aspect of environmental policy.

At ZCH we believe that climate risks are too high to be playing a game of party politics. We'll only be winners in this championship if we all work together as one team and take every chance we have to score decarbonisation goals.

ZCH News...



ZCH welcomes new Trustees

Jessica Eaton, Chris Arnott, Louise McManus and Danny Wild were elected as new Trustees at our recent AGM. ZCH Chair, Jemima Parker thanked and relayed ZCH's sad farewells to retiring Trustees, Ian Stalker, Catriona Hawkin and Jane Gaukroger.



Passivhaus Open Day

ZCH Vice Chair, Tim Lerner, recently welcomed almost 20 visitors to show how his home was constructed to meet the rigorous, energy efficient international design standard, known as [Passivhaus](#). ZCH believes that all new developments should take a lead from Scotland, where new homes are built to Passivhaus standard, providing comfort with the benefits of low energy costs. Future events can be found [here](#).



North Yorkshire Climate Coalition (NYCC)

Formed in 2022, NYCC is made up of 22 community-based climate and environment groups, including ZCH. Led by a steering group, of which ZCH is a member, the Coalition works to influence all aspects of the Council's responsibilities as they impact on climate issues



ZCH challenges Climate Change Strategy

On 18th July, members of the NYC Executive agreed on the [adoption](#) of the new North Yorkshire Climate Change Strategy. ZCH Vice Chair, Tim Lerner presented a statement which welcomed the approach but challenged elements of the strategy, criticising the replacement of a net zero target with an "ambition" to be net zero by 2030.

ZCH Blog

An eco-trip to Orkney

ZCH Operations Manager, Kath Clark, [recounts her recent trip to Orkney](#), where she and her husband left home on two wheels rather than four.



Funding for communities



Climate Action Fund - Energy & Climate

Run by the National Lottery, this funding aims to inspire and support communities across the UK to address the energy and climate crisis. Click [here](#) for more information and eligibility criteria.



Northern Powergrid Foundation

The Foundation is committed to funding projects that support energy resilience initiatives. To check eligibility, click [here](#). Applications are open until 31st August.

Volunteering Opportunities

ZCH Treasurer

We are seeking an experienced accountant! This is an exciting time for ZCH as we continue to seek further funding opportunities to expand our projects. Visit our website to find out [more](#).



Energy Efficiency & Retrofit

Retrofit - the future of renovation



Online Retrofit Training

ZCH continues to provide online resources to builders in the Harrogate District. In partnership with People Powered Retrofit, two webinars were held last month and the recorded sessions will be made available via the ZCH website. For more info [email](#) or visit our [website](#).



Home Upgrade Grants (HUG) available

Phase 2 of the HUG scheme has been launched to help make homes more energy efficient. If you're not on mains gas, have poor quality insulation or an inefficient heating system, click [here](#) to check your eligibility.



Boom in solar panels

Demand for solar panels in the Harrogate area has almost doubled in the last year. ZCH Vice Chair, Tim Lerner, said "If solar panels are integrated into the construction plan, cost savings from traditional roofing can contribute to the cost of the panels, with home owners enjoying lower energy bills."

Other News....

Free Family Fun Walking Event - 14th Aug

Organised by [North Yorkshire Council](#), this family navigation challenge will take place on Monday 14th August, 11am-3pm at Valley Gardens in Harrogate, with special guest, Spike, the Road Safety Hedgehog.



Too Good To Go

More than a third of all food is wasted which is responsible for 10% of greenhouse gas emissions. As a consumer or business, [download this app](#) to rescue unsold food and prevent it from going to landfill.



Plans for a thriving Community Farm

[Living Potential Care Farm](#), located near Wetherby, 11 miles south of Harrogate, plans to restore a derelict 1850s Walled Garden in order to provide fresh and affordable fruit and veg to the local community. Can you spare five minutes to complete their [survey](#)?



Get reCYCLING 1st - 31st August

Bring your preloved bike to any NYC [household waste recycling centre](#) where it will be repaired, refurbished and 'recycled' for good causes.



Centre of Alternative Technology (CAT)

Founded in 1973, CAT is an educational charity, based in mid Wales, dedicated to researching and communicating positive solutions for environmental change. Ranging from carbon literacy to spoon carving, CAT offers [online and short courses](#).





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