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## Happy New Year from Zero Carbon Harrogate!

As the new year begins to unfold, Chair of Zero Carbon Harrogate, Jemima Parker, reflects on what lies ahead of local climate action in 2023

“The need to advocate for the transition to a net zero economy and take action to demonstrate the way that could happen has never been more urgent. As a charity, ZCH has increased our ability to lead on this challenge locally.

We now have two employees. John Kerr continues to lead the Retrofit Programme and you can read below more about the first homeowner events he has planned for March. We welcome Kath Clark as our Operations Manager. Kath will be working three days a week and will be the first point of contact for all enquiries as well as looking after our volunteers and supporting our projects, among other things.

We also welcome, Jessica Eaton as our new Communication Lead. Tim Larnar is to be our Vice Chair and Political Engagement Lead. We are grateful to Jane Gaukroger as she moves from Vice Chair to Programme Group Chair.

We will continue to extend our reach across the Harrogate district and make our voice heard, engaging with local government, businesses, schools and community groups as they progress their zero carbon journeys.

## GUEST BLOG



### Live Sustainably & Save Money

This month we are delighted to welcome a guest blog from students at Harrogate College, as part of Luminare Education Group. They would like to share their top tips for living sustainably whilst saving money, including going green on fashion, being a savvy seasonal shopper and achieving wellbeing on a budget. You can read more [here](#)

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## ZERO CARBON HARROGATE NEWS

### North Yorkshire Council draft Net Zero Strategy published

ZCH wrote to the Leader of NY County Council, Cllr Carl Les, ahead of the recent Executive meeting which approved the draft net zero plan to go to public consultation. We welcomed the strategy, but urged the Council to act quickly to put in place an action plan and to start to implement the proposals. You can read the draft strategy [here](#)





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)

### Regional Net Zero Funding

ZCH will be expressing our interest in funding for future projects from the recently announced York and North Yorkshire LEP Net Zero Fund. The fund, which will be released if the Devolution Deal is approved, is designed to drive green economic growth towards the ambitions to be a carbon negative region. You can read more [here](#).



### Retrofit Programme Homeowner Event - 16th March 2023

Last September, ZCH conducted the Harrogate District Retrofit Home Survey which revealed that 94% of respondents want to explore ways to reduce their home's carbon emissions - with home insulation, solar panels and house batteries being the most popular choices of home improvements.

In response, and in parallel with our two day funded [Retrofit Training Course at Harrogate College](#), we are hosting our first Homeowner Event on 16th March 6.30-8pm. Locally based guest speakers and experts will outline the process of retrofitting and how homeowners go about making improvements. The event will be hosted in partnership with Harrogate College, as part of their 'Green Month'. More details to follow. For more information about the ZCH's Retrofit Programme, click [here](#)





## Success for Acorn October

With permission from landowners, ZCH volunteers helped to collect masses of acorns last autumn from veteran and ancient oaks within the ancient Forest of Knaresborough. These have now been delivered to nurseries in Leeds and Harrogate, for sorting (viability), germinating, growing and keeping until ready for planting out. In this way young trees have the genetic resilience passed on and are acclimatised to our local environment. Read more [here](#)



## ZCH welcomes new recruits!

We are delighted to welcome new volunteer, **Jessica Eaton** as our new Comms Officer. Jessica brings a wealth of experience in communications and marketing, along with a firm knowledge of the charity sector.

**Kath Clark** (pictured) also joined the team this month as our new Operations Manager. Kath will coordinate the day to day activities and communications, and will act as the main point of contact for ZCH. For enquires, please contact Kath at [hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk](mailto:hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



### Walk to School, 3rd February

Be a 'Zero Hero' and join us for the next Harrogate District Walk to School Day on Friday 3rd February and look out for Harrogate Town AFC's mascot, Harry Gatory, supporting pupils 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](#)



### Rethink Climate

These informal hour-long Tuesday online discussions, starting at 7pm, follow the topics from BBC Radio 4's Rethink Climate series. Please email [hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk](mailto:hello@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk) and we'll send you the zoom link.

**7th February** - Pledges & Progress

**14th February** - Behaviour & Communication

**21st February** - Green economy, money & prosperity

**28th February** - Green technology & innovation

**7th March** - Leadership



### Tree Planting 24th & 25th February

We are seeking volunteers to help plant 275 trees and 1050 shrubs near Grantley as part of the Rotary of Harrogate Trees For Nidderdale project. If you can spare some time to help, please do come along and join us. For more details, email Ian Fraser [ncs@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk](mailto:ncs@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk)



Thursday, 16th March, 6.30pm-8pm, Harrogate College

ZCH will be hosting an introductory talk on Retrofitting where you can hear from the experts, find out how to go about making your home more energy efficient and save money on your household bills. Look out for more details at [ZCH Events](#) and [Harrogate College Events](#)

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## DOING YOUR BIT!



### Car share and save money

Did you know that a commuter will typically save over £1,000 a year from car sharing? Car sharing is a great way of alleviating stress caused by traffic and parking congestion whilst helping you to save money. Go to [harrogatecarshare.com](http://harrogatecarshare.com) to find a match.



### Have Your Say!

ZCH is actively shaping the vision for the Harrogate District as Harrogate Borough Council is replaced by the new North Yorkshire Council. You can too! Sign up to [Yorkshire and Humber's Climate Action Plan](#) and add your voice.

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## OTHER NEWS

### Government Review says grasp 'Historic Opportunity'

Mission Zero, an independent review carried out by former Energy Minister Chris Skidmore MP, has made 129 recommendations for action, including: the greater role that business can be supported to play; making better use of infrastructure; and delivering more energy efficient homes. Read more [here](#)



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