



Hull

EC



Hull's environmental newsletter. Published by Hull Friends of the Earth

www.hfoe.org.uk

October 2018 Issue 63

## DIARY DATES

**Sat 20 Oct****Green Fair** 10-3, Cottingham Civic Hall (see page 3)**Tues 6 Nov 7pm**

HFOE meeting at Vintage Café Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

**Sun 2 Dec 2pm**

Tree planting for Angela (see page 4)

**Tues 4 Dec 7pm**

HFOE meeting with Hull Council re waste; what happens to it? (Please note: meeting will start at 7 promptly)

Vintage Café Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

**Tues 8 Jan 2019**

(NB not 1st Tues - which is New Year's Day!)

HFOE meeting. Please check venue, which might change (See Contacts, back page)

**Tue 5 Feb 2019**

HFOE meeting at Vintage Café Chanterlands Avenue HU5 3TP

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# GREEN FAIR

**SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018**

**10am to 3.30pm**

## COTTINGHAM CIVIC HALL

Green Groups, Music, Green Café, Crafts, Raffle & more

Contact: 01482 445747; [Hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk](mailto:Hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk)

Hull Friends of the Earth



## Green Fair

On Saturday 20 October 2018...

Details on page 3

# ECO Chit Chat



## Green Fair

Look forward to seeing you at our Green Fair on Saturday 20 October. We've got a great mix of local groups and some new crafts people coming along, and, of course, the Timebank veggie **Green Café**. At the time of writing there is **one stall place left!** And we can fit in more **musicians**. Or a **workshop or two**. *Contact Hilary (details back page).*



## Plastic Waste

I don't know about you, but I can hardly bear to watch the TV programmes showing the effects of plastic pollution on our ocean wildlife. It is tempting to blame countries in Asia and Africa which do not have any organised waste disposal facilities and have traditionally dumped their waste in the rivers. But, of course, it is first world industries which have developed plastic packaging with no thought for how it will be disposed of. And is it coincidence that we have suddenly become aware of this problem now that China has refused to continue to accept waste from Britain?

During discussions in our Hull Friends of the Earth meetings, we wondered what happens to our own waste. Where does the stuff go that we put in our blue bins? Will the *Energy from Waste* facility being developed in Cleveland Street take some of our refuse and what are the pros and cons?

**We have invited staff from Hull City Council's Waste Management Team to our Hull FoE meeting on Tuesday 4 December to answer some of our questions. You are very welcome to join us. (See Diary Dates on front page).**



## A Market for Wool?

During our visit to Densholme Care Farm we were discussing the fact that these days farmers get hardly any money for sheep's wool. Now that we know what happens to the microfibres from nylon fleeces (they get washed through the sewage system into the oceans and eventually into our fish), shouldn't we be promoting wool as a sustainable textile for garments? And I do know that wool makes great insulation material for buildings, much nicer to handle than fibreglass.



## Energy Madness

Once again our Hull ECO articles draw attention to the madness underlying the government's energy policy (if there is one). On the one hand they bend over backwards to help the fracking industry get round planning and safety legislation, and continue to subsidise Drax to burn gas and polluting biofuels. On the other hand they make it difficult for people to get planning permission for wind turbines, and they remove the subsidies for householders wanting to install solar panels. All this while the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says that a temperature rise of under 1.5C should be the target to aim for instead of 2C. Half a degree could make a big difference to places near sea level like Hull and Holderness.

**What can we do about it?** Well we can continue to sign those petitions, write to our MPs and attend those demonstrations. Sometimes they listen. Because of public pressure, new biofuel burning energy industries will no longer attract subsidies. Most of all we can try to reduce our own consumption. That's the really hard part.

Come and talk to Hull Friends of the Earth and other environmental groups about it at the Green Fair!

Hilary



John Pickles harvests the Wilson Bed to contribute towards the Festival on 2 September. Thanks, John, for getting into town before 6 am to keep the bed watered over the dry summer!



# Green Fair *On Saturday 20 October 2018*

Set up stalls from 9am

Open to public 10am to 3.00pm

Clear away by 3.30pm

## At Cottingham Civic Hall 1 Market Green Cottingham HU16 5QG

We are very pleased to have booked this venue which is now run by a Trust of local people and is buzzing with events.

It is very well served with parking, buses and trains, and is in the centre of this large village so should attract shoppers.

Growers, environmental campaigners and educators, recyclers, craftspeople, 'green' businesses, acoustic musicians, will all be there! We will have our Green Café too.

**Contact:** [hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk](mailto:hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk) Tel 01482 445747



## Friends of the Earth campaigning update

### Climate

Friends of the Earth is planning a new climate campaign, which will launch later this year and will be a priority campaign, running until 2021.

We need to get the UK on track to realise the goal of the Paris agreement – to keep global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees.

On our current path, the planet's trajectory is for 3.5 degrees of warming. That's something that can't be allowed to happen if we want to prevent runaway climate change and take responsibility for our share of global emissions.

*More info to come on this.*

### Clean Air

We're pleased to announce that the Clean Air Schools Pack is once again available for schools to order. The Clean Air Schools Pack comes with:

- ▶ 3 exciting lesson plans on air pollution, health impacts, and campaigning
- ▶ Colourful posters for the school's walls showing plants that reduce air pollution – and stickers for the children
- ▶ A fun and active school assembly on air pollution
- ▶ 2 free air monitoring tubes to measure the quality of the air the children breathe.

Contact <https://act.friendsoftheearth.uk>

### Brexit

Theresa May has announced a new Environment Bill to improve the environment within a generation. We've heard that this will combine the upcoming principles and governance proposals with more action on issues like air quality, plastics and nature. And it should go to parliament in the spring.

But there is little detail so far. So we're taking the opportunity to make sure the Bill doesn't just safeguard existing environmental protections but includes more ambitious action to restore and improve our environment too.

Friends of the Earth is campaigning to make sure the Environment Bill:

- ▶ Has ambitious goals for the improvement of our natural environment
- ▶ Requires the Environment Secretary to bring forward clear, evidenced, ambitious, and achievable targets to meet those goals
- ▶ Guarantees a strong, independent environmental watchdog
- ▶ Ensures EU environmental principles are faithfully transferred into UK law so they can continue to underpin UK policy making
- ▶ Requires all parts of government to act in ways that support and improve the environment, and makes sure future government can't roll back protections.

From Friends of the Earth's Local Groups Briefing



# What's going on round here?

**Hull City Council** has been awarded £400,000, to undertake an environmental and housing standards improvement project in the Newington and Gipsyville, St. Andrews and



Docklands, University, Avenue, Beverley and Newland, and Central wards up until August 2020.

This project will involve residents and local people working together to make a visible difference to their communities.

There is a new team in place to support the project including four Environmental Improvement Officers, who are based within the Council's Streetscene team at Staveley House, Stockholm Road.

The plan is to establish resident perceptions of their neighbourhood through a survey where the public nominates their priorities for their area, and the issues are then targeted for action by the relevant agencies working together.

They have asked Hull Friends of the Earth to be involved and we have invited them to tell us about it at a future meeting.

## Thanks for making a difference

Meanwhile, many thanks to all those community groups who are already out there making a difference. All of them would appreciate more help.

- ▶ The group of ladies who are in action every Thursday, planting up bits of spare land on Chanterlands Avenue, come to mind. More info from Vintage Café.
- ▶ So do Jeannie and Brenda from Rainbow Community Garden and their helpers, who clean up Oppy Wood on Danepark Road, Orchard Park from time to time. They will be in action again on Thursday 25th October at 10am to

12noon, before a memorial service to commemorate the end of WW1.

- ▶ **The Friends of Hull General Cemetery** regularly do a litter pick in the historic cemetery on Spring Bank. Members Bill Longbone and Pete Lowden have recently produced a book *Hull General Cemetery 1847-1972* about its history and memorials. You can find out more at the **Green Fair** and join their Facebook page. [www.fhgc@outlook.com](mailto:www.fhgc@outlook.com)
- ▶ And let's not forget our own David Longthorn who leads a small group that maintains **Sculcoates Cemetery**, and with children from Stepney Primary School has been planting on the railway embankment next to **Barmston Drain** for over ten years. He has recently won gold awards for both projects in the wildlife category in Hull in Bloom.

## A Tree for Angela

Many of you will remember Angela Needham who was a loyal and energetic Friend of the Earth, a keen surveyor of birds, and was active in many other ways to protect and improve the environment. On **Sunday 2 December at 2pm** we will be planting a rowan tree in her memory on the railway embankment near the Barmston Drain. Everyone is welcome. Meet at the east end of Stepney Lane.

We chose a rowan from the tree nursery which David Longthorn maintains on Newland allotments because she would have liked a tree that provides food for birds in winter.

## Carole's Tree bears fruit

Those who remember Hull FoE member Carole Noreiko might like to know that the walnut tree which we planted 10 years ago in her memory had a crop of walnuts this year. I'm sure she would not mind that the squirrels harvested most of them!

Hilary

## Anlaby Community Garden, Anlaby Common

We've made a good start establishing our new community garden on land at St Mark's Church (Hull Road/Springfield Way junction). We have a couple more sessions planned before the winter sets in, including a hedge planting day in November with help from local charity 'Down to Earth', to improve our boundary with native species provided by the Woodland Trust.

Our next general session is on **20 Oct (9am-noon)**; the November hedge planting date is tbc. Message us via our **Facebook page @anlabycommunitiestrust** if you would like to know more.

Gill King, Anlaby Communities Trust

Anlaby Communities Trust  
Charity number: 1156831



After a successful Transition & Permaculture Day in August and a thought-provoking showing of the film **Tomorrow** in September, the rest of our 2018 programme will include:

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### **MON 15 OCT: 10 ways to reduce your plastic use**

Friends Meeting House, Bean Street, Hull HU3 2PR, 7.30pm

Presentation followed by question and answer session. Come along and share your ideas about moving away from using plastic for almost everything! Help us identify alternatives, and what plastic is really useful for.

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### **SAT 20 OCT: Transition & Permaculture Hull stall at FoE Green Fair**

Cottingham Civic Hall, Market Square, Cottingham HU16 5QG, 10 to 3.30

Come and say hello to us on the stall and enjoy everything else that the Green Fair has to offer.

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### **MON 19 NOV: Permaculture in your Lifestyle**

Friends Meeting House, Bean Street, Hull HU3 2PR, 7.30pm

A talk about how aspects of your life eg home, garden, work, can be changed for the better by using Permaculture. The talk will be given by the Permaculture Ambassador for the Hull area, Lausanne Tranter, who will lead the discussion afterwards.

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### **Volunteer sessions at Constable Community Allotment**

Every Friday and Saturday from 11 am (Other sessions by arrangement)

There is always plenty to do in terms of the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the site. This autumn we will be constructing the walls of the roundhouse and completing the roof. We are planning to run a few more events on the allotment in 2018 so look out for details on the T&P Hull mailing list. We also hope to start creating a forest garden very soon.

We welcome new volunteers, and visitors who just want to look round the site. Hot drinks are available and the polytunnels provide shelter from showers!

**More info from Lausanne 07816 141169**

<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Constable-Street-Field-147736172079143/>

To join the Transition & Permaculture Hull Mailing List email [jenny@transitionhull.co.uk](mailto:jenny@transitionhull.co.uk)

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### **Jenny Parsons**

Treasurer, Transition & Permaculture Hull

<http://www.transitionhull.co.uk/> Tel: 01482 845356

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# Grants for growing projects

**Grow Wild** is offering grants of £2,000 or £4,000 for projects that bring people together through activities that connect their community and celebrate UK native wildflowers, plants and/or fungi.

The Fund aims to support groups or projects in the UK working towards the following objectives:

- ▶ Focus on UK native wild flowers, plants and/or fungi, through planting or as inspiration, and will help people understand the importance of these native species for the environment and our lives.
- ▶ Work with one or more of these target groups:
  - Young people aged 12-25
  - Communities in urban areas/Communities experiencing some disadvantage or reduced access to services
  - Adults that are less engaged with their community and environmental activities
- ▶ Have the potential to reach at least 300 people.
- ▶ Has a space/s to deliver the project that is accessible to the general public.

- ▶ Enable people to connect with, learn something new and give to help each other and nature.
- ▶ Have an idea that is introducing something new, such as a new, unlikely location, new group of people or creative way to engage the targeted audience.

The funding can cover 100% project-specific costs, including seeds, plants, soil, materials, events, workshop charges, specialist experts and contractor costs. **Projects need to begin delivery in March 2019 and be finished by 30 September 2019.**

Voluntary, youth or community groups can apply. Applicants must be constituted, not-for-profit, or charitable.

**The deadline for applications is 10 December 2018 (midday). See [www.growwilduk.com](http://www.growwilduk.com)**

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**Hilary, from a funding bulletin**

# Five go to Densholme Farm

## ***Five Hull FoE members visited Densholme Care Farm at Great Hatfield near Hornsea on Monday, 3 September 2018.***

Densholme Farm is a mixed organic farm of 275 acres, but it also provides opportunities to get 'hands on' experience of a working farm to anyone who will benefit. It welcomes school visits and is involved with the Children's University, but it also welcomes adults, including those with learning difficulties, mental health problems or with restricted mobility, and it has facilities for people with profound disabilities. Specially tailored experiences ensure everyone gets a great deal out of their visit.

Denys and Rachael showed us round. As well as visitors, the farm has a team of regular volunteers. The rare breed pigs, goats and chickens are a great hit with volunteers and visitors. I was admiring the orchard and mixed woodland which are currently being developed.

The farm's main crops are wheat for bread making and barley for beer. 200 sheep, in rotation with the cereals, help to maintain soil fertility. 8 wind turbines generate enough

energy to supply 8000 homes. The farm buildings are heated by a biomass boiler using wood pellets from Dalby Forest.

The farm has a contract with Natural England to teach about nature conservation. The farm maintains grass margins to the fields, has 1½ miles of hedgerows, and retains stubble in the fields over winter to provide seeds to feed birds. The farm is currently experimenting with growing wildflowers to harvest the seed.

We were greatly impressed by the new building, which is the right size to take a class of school children but can also be hired for meetings or events. It would be a great place to hire for a children's party, as there is plenty for the children to do, from feeding animals, pond dipping or planting trees, to the adventure playground.

Denys and the team have been in action for over 10 years and have deservedly won many awards, including Northern Farmer of the Year.

For more information or to arrange a visit see [www.densholmefarm-action.co.uk](http://www.densholmefarm-action.co.uk), contact [enquiries@densholmefarm-action.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@densholmefarm-action.co.uk) or ring 01964 532640.

Hilary



### **Photo key:**

- 1 Denys welcomes us
- 2 The new classroom
- 3 Rachael introduces us to a friendly goat
- 4 Snooze time for the pigs
- 5 Raised beds for veg and flowers
- 6 The hedgerows have plenty of fruit for the birds
- 7 It's been a good year for fruit for us, too





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# It's Apple Day at the Millennium Orchard, Beverley Parks

**On Saturday 13 October 2018 from 12 to 3pm.**

Apple picking, tasting, juice pressing, apple games, orchard tour and talk. Bring your own picnic; get involved!

Millennium Orchard is at Beverley Parks Local Nature Reserve on Shepherd Lane HU17 0RN. Can be reached from Morrisons Roundabout or from Beverley Road via Long Lane, and is a pleasant bike ride. See [www.eastriding.gov.uk](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk) Info: 07960 180851.

The idea behind the Apple Day event is to bring the orchard back into production. People are more aware than ever about where their food comes from and sustainability. Many schools even have mini orchards in their school grounds. In 2019 Andy Steele of Environmental Management Services will be planting some more.

Once a group of people have been found who are willing to take it on, Pickering Road Community Orchard will act as a consultancy, giving advice on raising funds and applying for grants etc. We might even contact other members to ask the odd question too because the heatwave this summer has shown us we don't know it all! The Millennium Orchard will automatically become a member of H.E.R.O. Hull & East Riding Orchards, reflecting the fact that in the 19th C we had 1000 acres of orchards across this Thirthing. The remnants of these old orchards can still be found in people's gardens. We will train people to look after the orchard organically and the council will continue to cut the grass. Caring for an orchard might look and feel a bit daunting, but believe me, it's much easier once you gain confidence in your abilities.

A wine expert can tell the difference between different vintages of the same brand of Shiraz or Cabernet Sauvignon etc. The same skill can be learned with apples and pears! It's great fun. So come and have a look and more importantly, a tasting.

## Pickering Road Community Orchard Harvest Dates

**It's still harvest time at the Orchard, Cranberry Way HU4 7AQ** (Please park on Pickering Road)

**Sun 14 October; Sun 21 October. 12 to 3pm**

**£2 for 2kg Bring a bag!**

Thanks to Tony the Treasurer for helping us load the van with over 300 kilos of apples. Off they went for juicing at COLEMANS cider. Then home for labelling. Then the first tasting of Secret Orchard apple juice; with all that dry weather in summer it's distinctively different from last year.

*Now available at Grain (Newland Avenue) and other outlets.*

[www.hullorchard.co.uk](http://www.hullorchard.co.uk)

Yvette Grindley

## Forestry Commission Tree Alert

<https://treealert.forestry.gov.uk>

This site has been set up to gather information about the health of the nation's trees, woodlands and forests. You can send them information about anything you see involving tree health that causes you concern.

**IT'S APPLE DAY!**  
**SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER 2018. 12-3 PM**  
**MILLENNIUM ORCHARD, BEVERLEY PARKS**

- Apple Picking & Tasting
- Orchard Tour and Talk
- Juice Pressing & Tasting
- Bring Your Own Picnic
- Apple Games
- Get Involved

The Millennium Orchard is found within Beverley Parks Local Nature Reserve on Shepherd Lane, approx 1.5 miles from Beverley. By road, approach from Beverley or Hull on Long Lane, turning at the railway crossing onto Shepherd Lane. It's a nice cycle ride. Postcode HU17 0RN.

If you have an activity to contribute to the event, or if you have any queries, please get in touch on 07960 180851.

## Wassail 2019!

**Pickering Road Community Orchard**

**Sunday 13 January 2019 starts 12 noon prompt.**

All welcome to come and toast the health of the trees. Bring instruments to make a noise!

Please park cars on Pickering Road and walk down Cranberry Way to allotments at the end.



This information will support important tree health monitoring and surveillance work, contribute to ongoing scientific research in this field and, ultimately, support efforts to protect the nation's trees.

See the above link for an overview of what information will be required. You need to send photos of your observation.



# In the woods for Christmas

Sarah and Paul continue their leisurely travels in southern Portugal



PHOTO: Sarah Morris

After two weeks exploring beautiful little coves of the Algarvian west coast, our semi-permanent residency as caretakers, with modern facilities such as a washing machine and internet, feels quite luxurious and brings us some much-needed stability.

Having now been abroad for three months and with Christmas on the near horizon, it feels both yesterday and a lifetime ago already from our families' goodbyes; time is a peculiar thing. We attend Christmas fairs in Aljezur and buy a chicken, explaining to the butcher that we can't do the beheading and removal of other parts ourselves. The butcher thinks it's amusing as we mime the actions required.

We are in easy walking distance to the village of Rogil. We attend a Fargo evening, but this is not quite to our taste, - a bit too serious. We prefer Jake Thackray or Bill Callahan with nature's audio accompaniment.

On Christmas day we know that the gas bottle is running low. As we have perfected the art of making our own coals,

we prepare the fire for what will be a pleasing, very first, barbecued Christmas dinner. Friends pop by, making the day so much more special.

The mosquitoes here, in this rainy season, are plentiful and come in all the variety of sizes, ready and available to bite. One night we fail to shut the backdoors properly. My husband stays up all night, battering the biters while I sleep oblivious to his heroic fight. This inspires the quick attachment of the already bought insect net first thing in the morning; fitful sleep will prevail.

In our pinewood glade, we hear birds that sound like frog instruments (that actually turn out to be frogs), and

frogs that sound like someone doing something to a scaffold pole (could these be birds?). Furniture is scattered about like an infrequently used allotment, with no deliberately planted edibles, but Michaelmas Daisies, geranium, and what I believe will bloom into the Flag Iris on the lane's ditch. The sunlight breaks through the trees during the day, so still that time, so peculiar, feels paused.

Suspended in time, knotting with my learning to play the guitar, discovering chords in this open tuning; a cord already prepared to ease the learning of picking strings and the hardening of fretted fingertips. The air moist, encloses the sound. Birds join in at their leisure and I listen to the individual notes. The guitar body vibrates against mine; I feel and learn the sounds that are pure.

Sparse trunks, heavy pined heads, stand black against the sky blue and orange rolling clouds of the sunset. Birds sing their evening chorus; dogs bark a contrasting cut. The glowing ball sinks and the evening chill becomes apparent in my fingers. I stop writing and return to the warmth of the caretakers' caravan to plan the next part of our adventure.

**Sarah J Morris**

## Gagged local campaigners protest against government plans to allow frackers to drill at will



Local campaigners wearing gags protested outside County Hall in Beverley on Tuesday 9 October against government plans to reduce the voice of local communities in decisions about exploratory drilling for gas.

Michael Farman of Frack Free East Yorkshire said:

"The government wants to include gas drilling rigs in legislation designed to make it easier to put up a garden shed. This would limit the voice of local communities over major industrial development in the East Yorkshire countryside.

Decisions about gas drilling in East Yorkshire should be taken by the local council. We must let communities decide".

The government's plans have already been opposed by around 20

Conservative MPs. The campaigners are calling on Graham Stuart, MP for Beverley & Holderness, to also voice his opposition.

Michael Farman added: "It's great that several MPs have already spoken out against the government's plans. We call on Graham Stuart to stand up for his constituents and add his voice to theirs. This isn't about whether or not he supports fracking - it's about whether or not he believes in local democracy".

**From Jennie of Frack-Free East Yorkshire.**

# Local democracy in East Yorkshire...lost?

## *Why is a fracking well pad like a garden SHED?*

THE ANSWER IS BECAUSE, IF THE GOVERNMENT HAS ITS WAY, YOU SOON WON'T NEED TO GET PLANNING PERMISSION FOR EITHER OF THEM!

Residents from Hull and Beverley were out on Saturday, 15 September in Hull City Centre to let the community know about the new government plans on permitted development and **NSIP** (National Significant Infrastructure Project). In Hull and Beverley we get our water from areas that are in Oil and Gas licence areas.

We also have beautiful countryside that we enjoy and do not wish to suffer the effects that fracking brings. This is why this issue is so concerning for us.

Permitted Development is the part of UK planning law that allows people to carry out improvements on their home and property, such as putting up a fence or conservatory.

The government is proposing that exploratory drilling for shale gas should be considered Permitted Development, which means oil and gas companies (In East Yorkshire that's Cuadrilla, Ineos and Rathlin Energy) would not need to apply for planning permission from East Riding Council.

The government is also proposing that fracking should be treated as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.

This means a government planning inspector would decide on whether fracking should go ahead—taking away power from the Local Authority which may result in hundreds of fracking wells across East Yorkshire.

Building a 1.5 hectare well pad could mean noisy day and night drilling for up to 8 months and require 60 HGV journeys a day.

The proposals are a serious assault on our local democracy as they would prevent local councils from opposing onshore oil and gas in our area.

We have been asking people to do a number of things:

### **Complete the consultation response**

See the link at [www.frackfreeunited.co.uk](http://www.frackfreeunited.co.uk)

### **Email:**

[james.brokenshire.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:james.brokenshire.mp@parliament.uk)

and [claire.perry.mp@parliament](mailto:claire.perry.mp@parliament)

demanding that the government withdraws its plans to treat fracking as permitted development and a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)

**Contact your local MP and councillors** to voice your concerns about Permitted Development and NSIP.

Councils across the country are speaking out and there have been several motions against government plans across the country. Some of our local MPs have attended the debate on PD and NSIP. **We need all MPs to speak out.**

Look on **Frack Free United** webpage [www.frackfreeunited.co.uk](http://www.frackfreeunited.co.uk) for more information, for further actions that you can take and to respond to the consultations.

You can also get more info from <https://gofossilfree.org/uk/let-communities-decide/>

### **From Frackfree East Yorkshire**

[www.frackfreeeastyorkshire.com](http://www.frackfreeeastyorkshire.com)



Hull and Beverley residents' 'quick and easy' pop up stall in Hull City Centre

Oil and Gas licences in our area are the target of fracking companies





# Biofuel campaign success: tighter rules for subsidies will curb UK biomass expansion

The Government has announced changes to rules for renewable electricity subsidies which we believe will all but stop the expansion of biomass burning for electricity in the UK. This is fantastic news. Thank you to everybody who responded to the consultation which led to the changes!

We expect the new rules to put an end to several plans for polluting new biomass power stations across the UK. Read more about what the key changes are and which subsidies and developments are affected, at: <http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/2018/cfd->

press-release/, and these go together with other changes announced back in June: <http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/2018/cfd-announcement-pr/>

Unfortunately, the new rules don't affect the subsidies already granted. Drax will still be getting its £2 million a day of renewable energy subsidies which ought to be going to low-carbon wind, solar and tidal power instead.

Nonetheless, putting an end to the expansion of this destructive industry sets a strong signal that biomass electricity isn't low-carbon energy. We hope it will send a signal to other

countries considering following the UK's bad example as the world's top wood pellet importer, too.

We will be launching a new campaign to stop the subsidies on which Drax and many other biomass power stations in the UK depend and to see them redirected to clean renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation. Watch this space!

## The Biofuelwatch Team

Follow biofuelwatch on Facebook and Twitter!  
You can unsubscribe at any time.

## Tell the government to stop attacking the solar industry

The government are proposing to remove the export tariff, the money given to householders with solar panels for the electricity they provide to the grid. This means that, without a replacement payment or policy, families can't sell the excess electricity they generate, they'd have to give it away. They'd effectively be subsidising the Big Five energy companies by giving energy to them to sell.

The government has made vague noises about the export tariff being replaced with contracts between householders and utilities, but they are keeping in place the regulatory barriers that prevent a replacement payment system. These

measures are all in the Government's new proposals for small-scale solar installation, along with no support for community installation or getting people on low incomes some of the benefits of generating their own energy.

**They are consulting on these measures now, and so we have a chance to let them know our views on what they're proposing.**

In 2016 changes to government policy halved the number of solar installations. In 2017 they halved again, to the lowest level for a decade. Now, after removing all the support designed to help a vital new technology to enter a market dominated by multinationals, they are removing

the incentive of being able to get paid for solar power at the same rate as any other power station gets. This makes no economic sense and certainly no environmental sense, in fact **it doesn't really make sense at all unless your priority is to protect the big power generators from competition.**

All this at the same time as the government is helping the fracking industry to get round planning legislation.

Help us let the government know just how unpopular these new proposals are. **Sign the petition now on [www.greenpeace.org.uk](http://www.greenpeace.org.uk)**

Hilary from info on Greenpeace website

## Who are the good energy suppliers?

The following energy suppliers have a commitment to renewables and by purchasing energy from them you are doing something practical to ameliorate climate change. The information is copied from their websites.

### **Bulb** <https://bulb.co.uk/>

100% renewable electricity and 10% green gas. They buy energy from independent renewable generators from across the UK and cover any shortfalls by purchase of renewable energy on the wholesale market. 10% of gas comes from biomethane, produced from organic matter like sewage and manure.

### **Ecotricity** <https://www.ecotricity.co.uk/>

100% renewable electricity, and frack-free gas of which 12% is green. They make around a fifth of the electricity themselves from wind and solar and buy the rest from other green generators. They use the money they make to build new sources of green energy in the UK. They have EMAS (Eco Management and Audit Scheme) accreditation for environmental management.

### **Good Energy** <https://www.goodenergy.co.uk/>

100% renewable electricity and carbon neutral green gas, of which 6% comes from biomethane. They buy energy from independent renewable generators across the UK, plus they have some of their own wind and solar power farms and are developing more.

### **Green Energy** <https://www.greenenergyuk.com/>

From 1st April 2017, all tariffs use 100% renewable energy and 100% green gas, using the power of falling water, the sun, the wind, and organic waste material. Some of their generators use pig poo, skip waste and used chip fat to make electricity.

### Jenny Parsons

Treasurer, Transition & Permaculture Hull

<http://www.transitionhull.co.uk/> Tel: 01482 845356



# Hull Friends of the Earth

## HULL FOE MEMBERSHIP

Contact details		Payment details	
		<b>Please note: the membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March each year.</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Mx <input type="checkbox"/>	I enclose:	
<b>Address</b>		Membership fee (£10 waged, £5 unwaged)	£
		Donation	£
<b>Postcode</b>		<b>Total</b>	£
<b>Telephone</b>		Please make cheques payable to: <b>Hull Friends of the Earth</b> , and send to: Membership Secretary, Hull Friends of the Earth 187 Sutton Road, Hull HU6 7DP	
<b>Email</b>			
<b>How do you want to receive ECO?</b> <i>Please tick as appropriate</i>  By email (in colour) <input type="checkbox"/>  In print by post (black and white) <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>I WANT TO PAY BY STANDING ORDER</b> We encourage members to pay by Annual Standing Order. Cheques are being used less and less frequently and a standing order helps you to remember to pay and saves us sending reminders.  If you wish to pay by standing order please instruct your bank to set up the payment to: <b>Hull FOE Sort code: 05-05-25 Account no: 27534801</b>	
<b>YOUR DATA IS IMPORTANT</b> The change in General Data Protection Regulation means that we need your permission to hold your data. We will keep your details safe and we will only use them to manage the organisation and keep you informed. PLEASE SIGN IN THE BOX BELOW TO GIVE YOUR CONSENT FOR US TO HOLD YOUR DATA WHILST YOU ARE A MEMBER. <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Many thanks.</i></div>			
I hereby give my consent for Hull Friends of the Earth to store and use the data provided above for business purposes.  I understand that I have the right to see the data stored at any time and that I can request its removal at any time.  SIGNED _____			

### SHARE YOUR NEWS?

Hull ECO welcomes news and views of all things environmental in Hull and East Yorkshire.

**Deadlines are the first Tuesday in January, April, July, October**

Please send to Hilary (*details below*).

Coordinator:	Lee-ann Williams, 59 Meadowbank Road, Hull HU3 6XL	Tel: 07583 194313 Email: leeann@hfoe.org.uk
Membership Secretary & ECO distribution:	Karen Wood, 187 Sutton Road, Hull HU6 7DP	Tel: 07531 191867 Email: hullfoetreas@gmail.com
ECO Editor:	Hilary Byers, 170 Victoria Avenue, Hull HU5 3DY	Tel: 01482 445747 Email: hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk
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