

CLIMATE CHANGE

Right now, we are facing a man-made disaster of global scale. Our greatest threat in thousands of years.

"If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilisations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon.

"The world's people have spoken. Their message is clear. Time is running out. They want you, the decision-makers, to act now,"

These are not my words they are Sir David Attenboroughs words.

He also said;

- We have already caused a 1°C rise in global temperature.
- The difference between the impacts of global warming of 2°C and 1.5°C is much greater than previously thought, we are currently heading for a catastrophic 3°C
- We are running out of time, and need to get to Zero Carbon emissions within 12 years to regain control.
- We all have roles to play – personal, professional and political.

The issue is that society in general, and governments in particular, need to take ownership of the problem, it's no use leaving it to someone else.

Cornwall Council have already voted to declare a climate change emergency and their action plan is being developed.

Many Council's across Cornwall including Deviock, St Just, Meneniot, St Erme, St Neot, Lostwithiel and St Erth have already done the same.

With the unenviable reputation as the most flooded town in Cornwall it's really important that's we take a stand and action.

We have a strong community here, we must build on that to encourage local businesses to take action and with Amelia and the Marine Conservation Group most are stepping up already.

We need to reduce food miles which also supports our local Economy.

Looe Live is already making plans to minimise single use plastics and reduce our impact on the town environmentally.

The Looe Neighbourhood plan has already put climate change at the centre of the plan with planning policies in place to minimise our impact on the environment.

So what decisions can Looe make?

We could encourage cycling, install Bike racks, promote rail and bus use and walking.

More electric charging points.

More efficient use of heating.

Extinction of insects and pollinators by managing our land with this in minds, this could have cost savings on grass cut for example ice plant led flowers

I understand infrastructure is being planned to prevent repetition of storm events in 2010 and 2014 but is there more needed for the future?

Looe is vulnerable. We must plan for sea level rise, but we must take action now

Be need to be aware of the impact of any of our decisions on Climate Change.

Across Cornwall communities like Penzance, Polperro , Newquay, Boscastle, Polruan and Coverack are on the front line of climate change with more ferocious weather events that have caused disruption.

Some of the arguments we hear can seem theoretical and scientific, but I believe there is growing evidence that these threats are real. I believe the future sustainability and resilience of our communities (especially our more vulnerable coastal communities like Looe and Polperro) are at stake.

We need to bridge the gap between public understandings of the threat of climate change and current climate action. We need to understand the barriers our communities face to make the changes required.

We need to engage with our communities and together understand the impacts and what we can do on an individual and a collective basis. That's the basis of this motion, to start that conversation. And a good start is for us to undertake the climate vision 10 pledges, 10 simple steps that we can all show leadership.

Cornwall Council is well placed to take this Leadership role with partners and share we in our community as is Looe Town Council. Please support the motion for our children and our grand children's sakes.