

Due to the cancellation of parish council meetings and the on-going Coronavirus pandemic, the work of the Climate Change Group is "on hold."

However we are making some progress! We had a meeting on 12 March when we discussed the offer made to a local landowner to allow some tree planting on their land. There will be an update about this and the Project 2020 tree planting scheme for the Regatta field in Charlestown on the Tree Warden page shortly.

The parish clerk attended an Environmental Growth/Climate Change workshop on 2 March and with this in mind it is our wish to plant daffodils in the late summer/early autumn at various locations including the Cask Bank in Charlestown and the roadside verge at the top of Porthpean Beach Road subject to permission and a relaxation of the Coronavirus restrictions.

The Parish Clerk has also been able to source some environmentally friendly toilet cleaner which can be bought in bulk to reduce plastic. This will be used in future once the public toilets re-open.

Our next action was to start to organise a parish-wide event and to extend the invitation to neighbouring parishes to hear a prominent speaker on Climate Change. This will be suspended for the next few weeks or months.

Despite all the desperately sad news about the Coronavirus pandemic it has given many of us the gift of time. A time to appreciate the beauty of our surroundings, a time to listen to the birdsong, a time to watch the wildlife, a time to grow our vegetables, a time to buy locally, a time to appreciate the lack of air and noise pollution. Let us hope that when this is over we will realise how much we have appreciated the wonder of nature, we will value it more and take better care of it. Maybe we will decide that rushing around trying to beat the clock is not what we want for us or our children. Maybe working from home will be the new norm, massively reducing our carbon footprint. Maybe we will realise that we can manage perfectly well without buying so much ill-considered "stuff." Maybe we will continue to use those small local businesses who have worked so hard to safely deliver our food and medicines during this time. Maybe we will value our families, our friends and our neighbours a bit more to make a better society for everyone.

Stay safe.

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