

Moorlands Climate Action



EARTHMOVER AWARD 2024

6 YEARS: 2019 TO 2025

As the year comes to an end, and we look forward to 2026, there are a few items I wanted to share with you.

It has been a very busy year for Moorlands Climate Action, with our first MiniCOP / youth conference, new partnerships with Biddulph and Cheadle town councils and an invitation to the House of Lords for our Repair Cafe.

But the work does not stop, and you will find details below of some recent announcements, activities planned for January and invitations to get involved with our work. We have something going on every Saturday in January!

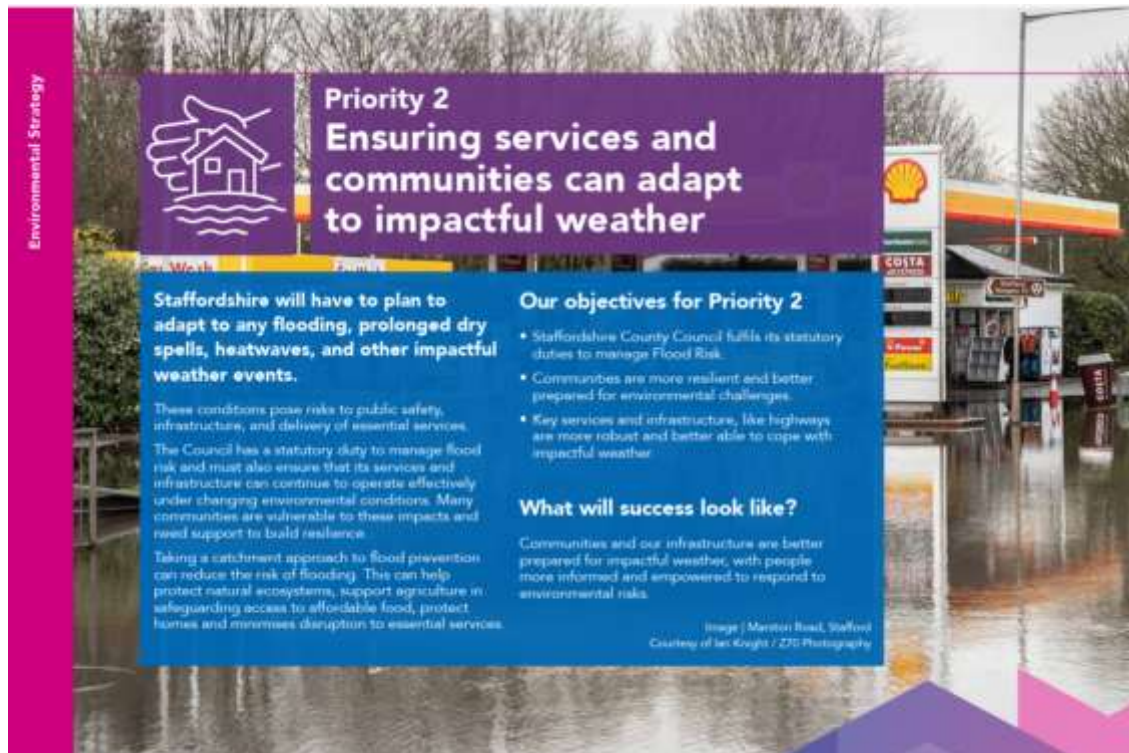
I do hope you find Hope in some of the articles below, but also a renewed energy to stand up and fight to ensure that those who would rather spread disinformation are not successful.

We have come a long way since 2019, and together we are so much stronger in our voice. I feel that in 2026, that voice will need to be heard much louder.

With Hope

Mike
MCA Co-ordinator

'Impactful Weather'



Our County Council has torn up the Climate Emergency Declaration and replaced the phrase 'Climate Change' with the phrase 'Impactful Weather'.

Anyone with a basic understanding of the problem knows the difference between 'weather' and 'climate', and you wonder how many meetings were held before they decided 'impactful' would satisfy their political masters ?

Without any consultation, a new 'Environment Strategy' was presented to the Cabinet earlier this month. We are still waiting for our County Councillors to agree to meet with MCA - we would like them to explain the thinking that went into this new document, and how groups like Moorlands Climate Action can be part of the implementation of parts of the actions promised. The document actually admits the Council needs to work with partners, including local community groups, so let's hope our local councillors agree to talk to us.

Do take time to read the document, and we are likely to hold a special workshop to examine it more closely (and hopefully convince our councillors to feed back our ideas).

The document is available [here](#).

Our Annual General Meeting



It was great to see 32 members join us on 23rd November at the Friends Meeting House - a record attendance and always good to see some new faces. For more details of the discussions please follow this [link](#).....

SMDC - Climate & Nature Bulletin

SMDC have committed to publish a bulletin after every meeting of the new joint SMDC/ High Peak council Climate & Nature working group.

The latest edition covers key updates on their progress on the Climate and Nature Delivery Plan, insights and discussions from the JCNSG, community events and activities, and news on upcoming events and engagement opportunities.

In this edition, find out more about:

- Biodiversity duty
- Improving biodiversity
- Local Nature Recovery
- Community engagement and communications

You can access the bulletin [here](#) and it is well worth a read.

Market Stall - INSIDE with OUTSIDE

Our first event of 2026 sees us retreating into the warmth of the OUTSIDE stall on Leek's Buttermarket on Saturday 10th January.

We will be promoting the new season of Repair Cafes and our inaugural 'Moorlands Wassail' - we hope to have a special visitor on the day too.

We are there from 9.00 until mid afternoon, and if you can spare an hour to help out, it

would be greatly appreciated - just click the link below to let us know when you will be able to come and we will sort out a rota.

[I can help out on the MCA stall on the 10th January](#)

Did you hear about the new Energising Britain strategy?



Without a lot of fuss, the Government recently published a long overdue and quite far reaching document explaining how it plans to engage with local councils, businesses and groups like Moorlands Climate Action.

"Our Clean Energy Superpower Mission will bring energy security, protect billpayers, create good jobs, and help to protect future generations from the cost of climate breakdown. By building a diverse low carbon energy system, we will make the most of our abundant natural resources to keep bills down for good and protect consumers from future price shocks."

Its aims are :

- **People have the facts and understand the scale, pace of change and benefits of climate and nature action**, can see these benefits in their local communities, and want to be more engaged.
- **Policies are responsive to people's needs**, are trusted, and are effective at bringing benefits today, whilst also reducing emissions to meet our climate targets and protect future generations.

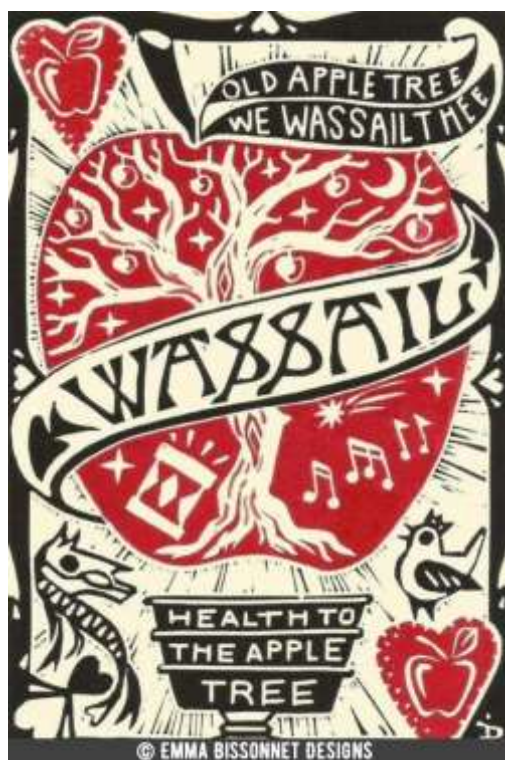
- **People have the information and resources that they need** to access the full range of benefits that our mission is creating.

We welcome this move and it fits in nicely with the work we are planning to do with SMDC on the work to raise awareness of the local Climate & Nature Plans. It is especially encouraging to hear how Young People can get involved.

Do take a look at the Summary Document and we would welcome your thoughts. This will be on the agenda for our next monthly meeting on 7th January.

You can read the article from Climate Outreach [here](#) and that includes the link to the strategy.

A Wassailing we will go!



Plans are well advanced now for our first Moorlands Wassail, to be held across two of the Community Orchards off Wallbridge Drive in Leek on **Saturday 24th January**. Working in partnership with OUTSIDE, Leek Morris, Prince of Wales pub and a large cast of volunteers, we will start at the orchard off Wetenhall Drive at 4pm and then proceed down Wallbridge to Fernwood Drive for the main event.

Expect singing, lots of drumming, fire lanterns and a surprise visitor - bring something to bang on (pans are popular) and a torch.

We have a Year King, Priestess, Maiden, Green Woman and everyone is encouraged to help wake the fruit trees from their sleep and prepare for another year of a healthy crop.

The aim of the event is to raise awareness of the 5 Community Orchards in Leek that MCA help manage....plus a bit of fun in the middle of Winter.

If you can help in anyway, please come along to the next meeting at the Prince of Wales pub on **Saturday 3rd January at 4pm** - we need people to help put the gazebo up/down, live stream on the socials, bake some wassail cakes and a hundred other jobs.

National Emergency Briefing

You may already have heard about this recent event in London and the call for all concerned citizens to contact the Prime Minister to demand a national discussion of the crisis. A number of experts presented their insights into the challenges ahead including this one on Food Security.

"We therefore ask the Government and all public service broadcasters to hold an urgent televised national emergency briefing for the public, and to run a comprehensive public engagement campaign so that everyone understands the profound risks this crisis poses to themselves and their families."

You can add your name to the petition [here](#).

Would you be interested in helping promote these briefings to our County Councillors - Reform has just cancelled the Climate Change Action Plan for Staffordshire - how can we convince them to listen to the science of the challenges ahead?



Food Security - Professor Paul Behrens | National Emergency Briefing

Creating a Staffordshire Food Partnership - Monday 9th February



If you have an interest in:

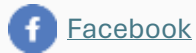
- Food for health
- Food for nature and the environment
- Food for the economy
- Food for communities

Then come and network with like-minded people and organisations, have your say in how the partnership should be structured, and let us know what we are missing when we talk about a Staffordshire food system.

Registration and further details [here](#).

[Find out more about MCA on our website](#)





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