Newsletter #12 - October 2023



Welcome to Deeside CAN's Newsletter #12

We hope you and your families and friends are well and had a great summer

You are receiving this because you expressed an interest in keeping in touch with what we are doing. Please feel free to forward this on to others who may be interested or let us know (deesidecan@gmail.com) if you no longer want to be contacted by us. You can also access this Newsletter on our website https://www.deesidecan.org.uk/newsletters-overview/.

We now have an email list of over 300 that this Newsletter is being sent to, and over 1,100 people following/liking us on Facebook, with numbers growing every day. Thank you for your support - together we can make a difference!

Just Transition Participatory Fund

- **We have applied for £9,850 to buy a Climate Action Trailer (or CAT),** which will allow us to bring **directly to YOU** education material on a wide variety of topics related to climate change, biodiversity loss and waste; inspiration to help you know what you can do or change; storytelling; demonstrations on re-use, recycling and repair; and for us to use as a 'base camp' for events and maintenance of projects. We envisage being a presence at, for example, village shows, Farmers' Markets, schools, café's, trade shows, sports events, and galas.
- We are working with other local groups, including Zero Waste Deeside, Tarland Climate Crisis Group and Ballater CAN, who are interested in using the trailer.





- This year, £500,000 is available for Aberdeenshire to support local grass roots green projects from voluntary organisations. Some 29 projects have applied for a total of £917, 809.72, so there is a lot of competition!
- The fund is part of the Participatory Budgeting process, which means that the community decides how the money is allocated. **It's now up to you!**
- You can vote for **5 projects** that you would like to see happen in Aberdeenshire, by going to this link https://www.jtpbfund.scot/aberdeenshire. All members of your household over age 5 are eligible to vote!

PLEASE VOTE FOR OUR PROJECT BY 5PM ON 13th OCTOBER AND HELP US WIN SOME FUNDING!

What have Deeside CAN been up to?

Raising awareness:

- We continue to **post news, updates, interesting articles and tips** on our Facebook page, and website, and we encourage you to have a look.

Reversing biodiversity loss:

- Banchory's first **Wee Forest** continues to thrive, with volunteers helping to maintain the ca. 480 native trees planted in the Spring. Following the success of the **Wee Forest Flags project**, we are planning another project to involve children in the life of this local native woodland.



- We held our second **Open Wildlife Friendlier Gardens Day** on July 1st, which was a great success. Many thanks to all the garden hosts.

- It was a quiet summer for our **Wildlife Friendly Village** project, with very few volunteers coming forward to help. The project aims to set aside 20% of all public and private spaces to give nature a helping hand by creating habitats for wildlife to thrive. We have identified some 17 locations in Banchory to work on.
- We are re-considering the project, especially how we can attract more volunteers. If you are interested in gardening and/or supporting our local wildlife, **please come along and join us** at the Bothy in Bellfield car park in Banchory either **every 2nd Saturday of the month from 10am to mid-day** or **every Tuesday** from mid-day.

Eliminating waste:

- Our **Zero Waste Deeside project**, together with Number One, continues to do well. We have successfully raised more funds to support our Co-ordinator for another year, which is great news.
- Our **food waste project** continues to grow – our volunteers collect surplus food from 3 or 4 supermarkets on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday nights every week, to give away for free the next morning at Number One on Posties Walk in Banchory. We 'man the stall' on Tuesday mornings, and link into the Community Shop on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. If you are interested in helping, please contact us.



- You are welcome to drop off your **own surplus food** at Number One on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday mornings to share with others, especially if your garden has been particularly productive this year!
- We are working with **Sports Kit for All** to share children's sports kit at Number One on Tuesday mornings.
- With a focus on **reducing plastic use,** we ran **'Wrapper-free Wednesdays'** and **'Plastic-Free July'** projects in July at the Hill of Banchory Primary School. We will follow this up with more workshops there and at other schools as well.
- There are over 210 members on the **Banchory Tools and Skills Share** Facebook page now and has been active over the summer sharing gardening tools. You can join here.

Hill of Fare windfarm

We are awaiting the formal application by Dunecht Estate and developer RES for a **windfarm on the Hill of Fare**. You can find more information on the developer's website, the HOFWIG website and/or Hill of Fare WIndfarm Facebook page, and you can sign up to the HOFWIG regular newsletters here HOFWIG Newsletter.

The six Community Councils located around the Hill ran a joint questionnaire following the developer consultations in October 2022 and June 2023. A total of 863 completed questionnaires were received. Between the two events, RES had reduced the number of turbines from 17 to 16 and their heights from 250m to 180-200m, but the questionnaire results show that opposition had increased overall, from 71% to 75%, with those in favour remaining at 11%.

Hill of Fare Windfarm COMMUNITY COUNCILS QUESTIONNAIRE - OCTOBER 2022 RESULTS				
Community Council Area	Object	Undecided	Neutral	In Favour
Banchory	76%	8%	6%	10%
Cluny Midmar Monymusk	79%	13%	4%	4%
Crathes Drumoak Durris	76%	15%	4%	6%
Echt & Skene	52%	24%	6%	18%
Inchmarlo Brathens Glassel	55%	24%	6%	18%
Torphins	72%	5%	9%	14%
Other	69%	18%	4%	9%
ALL	**71%**	**12%**	**6%**	**11%**

Hill of Fare Windfarm COMMUNITY COUNCILS QUESTIONNAIRE - JUNE 2023 RESULTS				
Community Council Area	Object	Undecided	Neutral	In Favour
Banchory	77%	6%	6%	11%
Cluny Midmar Monymusk	78%	9%	2%	10%
Crathes Drumoak Durris	81%	11%	8%	0%
Echt & Skene	76%	0%	18%	6%
Inchmarlo Brathens Glassel	67%	7%	7%	20%
Torphins	75%	7%	5%	12%
Other	68%	7%	5%	20%
ALL	**75%**	**7%**	**7%**	**11%**

General

We'd love to hear your feedback and ideas, and especially if you'd like to get involved in any of our projects. You can get in touch by:

- writing to us at deesidecan@gmail.com
- joining us at one of our **fortnightly meetings on Mondays at 4-6pm**. Everyone is very welcome to attend; just tell us that you'd like to come along, and we will let you know details of dates and agenda, as well as the meeting location or Zoom log-in details.