



ISSUE 11, SEP-OCT 2022

Cllr Malcolm Wallace and Winchester Greens on Soberton Down with SoberNews at their wilding project

CLLR MALCOLM WORKS TO PROTECT OUR LOCAL RIVERS & WATERWAYS

ENTIRE CITY COUNCIL BACKS MALCOLM'S MOTION

Malcolm Wallace, Green Party councillor for Central Meon Valley, said: "I'm delighted to have received backing across the board from Winchester City Council.

Residents are deeply concerned about water quality. The build-up of sewage, agricultural waste and plastic is polluting the waters of many of our rivers and waterways.

Not a single river in our District has received a clean bill of health for chemical contamination and yet water companies appear to be dumping untreated or partially treated sewage in rivers on a regular basis.

While it is beyond the authority of Winchester Council to fully resolve these issues, this motion is aimed at stopping the problem from getting any worse.

I will keep pushing for progress."

Did you know how special and important the River Meon is?

- Incredibly, 85% of the planet's chalk streams are found in England.
- The River Meon is mainly spring fed, its waters filtered by chalk hills for 40 years.
- This means we have crystal clear water sources perfect for our aquatic plants and all their supported wildlife.



Malcolm checks this outfall to the River Meon

Many experts say rivers such as the Meon don't get the recognition and protection they deserve.

Malcolm's motion means that planning applications for major developments should now include the effect on watercourses in their assessments.

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW MEON VALLEY SOLAR FARMS TO TACKLE ENERGY CRISIS



Solar energy arrays and solar farms are appearing around the country. WinACC (Winchester Action on Climate Change) says they can help solve the energy crisis.

Only a pitiful 16% of the electricity demand in the Winchester District is met by renewable energy generated from within the area.

Winchester Greens support planning applications for a new 18MW solar farm between Waltham Chase and Bishops Waltham and another planning application for a 50MW solar farm on land to the northeast of Denmead. Between them

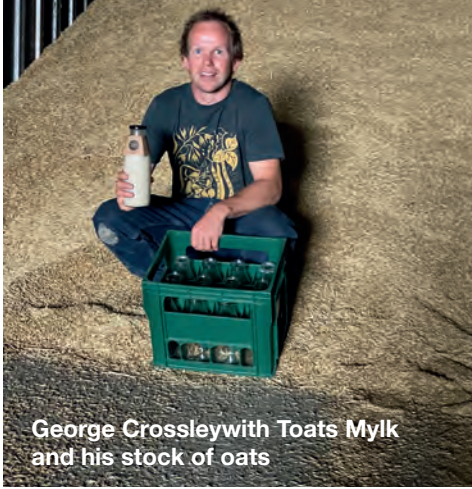
these two applications would generate sufficient energy to power around 20,000 homes.

WinACC states: "There has been no large scale development of any renewable technology in our District since 2017. In a climate emergency, it's time to catch up."

Further details here: tinyurl.com/WinACCsolar

LATEST NEWS

TOATS MYLK BRINGS GREEN GROWTH TO THE FAMILY FARM



George Crossley with Toats Mylk and his stock of oats

In little more than a year George Crossley has created the 'Toats Mylk' brand taking production from just 36 litres to 1300 litres each week. Demand is growing for his organic, oats-based milk. George initially worked in the Green Energy field before moving

back to full time running of the family's Rushmere Farm in Hambledon.

Toats Mylk is packaged in 750ml glass bottles and in re-usable bulk containers for the hospitality industry where plant-based options are increasingly popular. One London-based café is using 250lt a week. George lists where you can buy on the website; it will cost you under £2 for a bottle and you can even return the empties! (George says 88% do!) The whole business is focussed on being carbon neutral. Find out more:

tinyurl.com/ToatsMylk

HEARTENING NEWS OF RECYCLING IN LOCAL GARDEN CENTRES

Many garden centres use a lot of plastic in potted plants, packaged compost and other bulk garden material; black plastic pots are often not recyclable. Some garden centres are actively improving their environmental impact but are not shouting about it. Local centres like Dobbies, Hilliers and Brambridge (Blue Diamond Group) have clear policies but local Greens call for more visibility. On your next visit why don't you talk to staff to show their policy on plastic matters to their customers?



Linda at Dobbies in their recycling area. Job's Cottage Nursery offers credit for returned pots

Malcolm adds: "It's great that garden centres and their suppliers are making changes that will help the environment."

HOW TO CONTACT US

We want to hear what matters to you and to help where we can so please do get in touch. Scan the QR code to see how you can get involved.

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CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF CRICKET – COMMONWEALTH GAMES BATON COMES TO BROADHALFPENNY DOWN



Players and Malcolm pose with the Baton containing the Queen's message to the Commonwealth for the summer Games

Did you know that the first ever cricket match to play by the rules of the modern game took place in 1772 on Broadhalfpenny Down. Here on 6th July the Commonwealth Games Baton made a circuit of the historic pitch as a match between Winchester College and the Broadhalfpenny Brigands was in play. Malcolm Wallace attended the event and said: "Cricket is just one of many traditions we can be proud of, providing entertainment, exercise and important green spaces in towns and villages around the country."

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