

Update on Eco Hub Sidmouth: September 2025



- In July Kevin Walker, Ed Dolphin and I, together with their teacher, accompanied a group of college students to the Byes to harvest Yellow Rattle and support engagement with local flora and fauna.
- With the help of Kathy Gray, a local artist and illustrator, and Josh Beadon from Toco Creative, a logo has been created for Eco Hub Sidmouth.
- The same design on the logo was used to create an Eco Hub Sidmouth flag with Sidmouth Coastal Community Hub. The flag was on display in the High Street until recently.
- An open meeting was held at the library 26th August to review the trial and preview an autumn programme. There was a good turn out, including our MP, and an equal number of apologies from people who would have liked to come but were unable. This indicates an interest in the project and perhaps a valuing of a local eco hub.
- Regular articles have been written and published in the *Sidmouth Herald* on the activities of Eco Hub Sidmouth and the engagement from residents.

- **Autumn Programme**

Following the 6 drop-in sessions of the trial it was decided to focus on activities and workshops in the autumn programme to be delivered at Sidmouth Library.

- **13th September- Nature Identification Challenges drop-in activities-** above average footfall for a Saturday morning. Good engagement with children, young people and adults on fun identification activities and badge-making.
- **4th October- Climate FRESK Workshop** with Peter Bunyan game considering causes and consequences relating to climate change.
- **1st November- Love Your Veg Workshop** for parents and children with Bernie Davis, Sue Nicholson and Sharon Howe...learning about vegetables, what they look like, how they grow...developing cooking skills and making vegetable soup.
- **6th December- Your Carbon Footprint Workshop** with Chris Lockyear...learning how small daily decisions impact on our individual and collective carbon footprints.
- **Budgets:** Two budgets have been put forward to the Environment Committee for Eco Hub Sidmouth- one for this year's activities and expenses along with another for next year's activities and expenses.
- **Spin-offs and other engagement projects:**
 - An opportunity to run a course jointly with Sidmouth's Food Forest
 - **20th September, 3:00- Climate Cafe Pop-up** trial in Blackmore Gardens- **FREE CAKE and TEA**
Climate Cafés® are community led, informal spaces where everyone is welcome to join the conversation and get involved. They reflect a shared ethos of creating a safe space that is welcoming and inclusive for everyone to talk and act on climate. There is no need to be an expert, all perspectives are welcomed! Many people find them inspiring and positive spaces to connect with others.
 - Working with Dave Bramley, Brian Golding and CAPS on an event in February 2026
 - Polly Meyrick- contact with a local artist whose current project celebrates eight individuals in Devon who are quietly and powerfully shaping the transition to a low-carbon future—through cycling, farming, public engagement and community energy. Combining hand-drawn ink portraits with recorded interviews, Polly's exhibition invites viewers to connect with the people behind climate action and see themselves as part of the story...possibility of bringing Polly to Sidmouth.