



www.sustainingdunbar.org

Winter 2009/10

Sustaining Dunbar is a Transition Initiative, a Development Trust and a network to enable everyone in the Dunbar and East Linton area to get together to start planning and creating a positive and sustainable future for our community.

'2025' Vision

"Maps can show you where you are. A good map will also show you where you want to go and how to get there."

The '2025' project is about arriving at a shared vision of where we, as a community, would like to be in fifteen years time and agreeing an action plan for how to get there. We have become accustomed to having a cheap and abundant supply of concentrated energy (hundred's of millions of years of ancient sunlight stored in fossil fuels). But the age of cheap oil will soon be over. Climate Change is with us and we will have to adapt to its effects (incl. more extreme weather events) at the same time as reducing our carbon emissions as rapidly as possible.

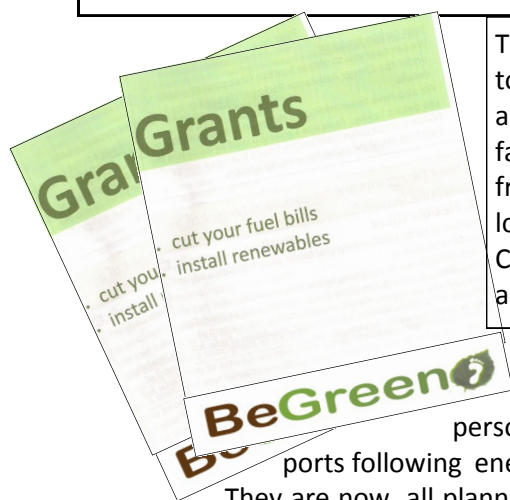
What will a low carbon community look like and how can we embrace the challenge ahead as an opportunity to empower our community, tap into our collective creativity and build a vibrant, more localised and resilient future beyond fossil fuels?

We want to gain a better understanding of our current situation, learn from the past when we were less dependent on fossil fuels, and think seriously about what we, and our children, want our future to look like. What changes will be needed in our food supply? How will we heat our homes? Where will we work? What new skills will we need to learn? How will we travel?and so on.

Over the next few months, the '2025' team will be working with schools, community groups, farmers and many others to map where we are now and to build a map of where we would like to be. We want you to contribute to this!

Please get in touch with Philip or Sue in the Sustaining Dunbar office to share your knowledge and ideas. See contact details overleaf.

We are currently recruiting volunteers to assist with '2025' survey work by gathering local knowledge and opinions. We will be in your area soon!



The BeGreen shop now has grants available for homeowners and tenants wishing to cut their fuel bills by installing insulation, draughtstripping, replacing inefficient appliances and many other measures –e.g. grants of up to £1000 are available for families on a qualifying benefit with young children. Any homeowner can benefit from grants for installing renewables. This is on top of government grants and loans which are now available.

Contact the BeGreen project to find out more and to receive expert home energy advice.

All three of our local councillors have now received personalised home energy reports following energy audits of their homes.

They are now all planning energy efficiency measures and looking at installing photo-voltaic panels on their roofs. Free home energy audits and advice are available for all residents in the Dunbar and East Linton ward.

Contact: BeGreen, 16 Westport, Dunbar 01368 863720

Email: begreendunbar@btconnect.com

Web: www.sustainingdunbar.org/begreen



Food Update

At the end of October, Sustaining Dunbar hosted the first Scottish Food Re-localisation Gathering, attracting over 70 participants from all over Scotland and including, farmers and growers, distributors, community groups and individuals -all with a passion for local food. The event was hugely successful and launched 'NOURISH' -a local food network for Scotland with the 'Declaration of Dunbar'.

The Declaration of Dunbar

Building a local Food Network

1. *We are working towards a sustainable Scotland in which, in every region, we produce more of what we eat and eat more of what we produce.*
2. *We believe that a more localised food system would be better for the environment, health, community and economy of Scotland and we are building a movement to create a food system which :*
 - *Is locally based with shorter supply chains*
 - *Promotes and respects seasonality*
 - *Is resilient*
 - *Is fair and accessible to all*
 - *Creates and maintains a sustainable livelihood for producers*

We believe that these steps are essential in order to ensure a fairer, more equitable food system appropriate for a low carbon economy.

See a summary report of the event together with films of the keynote speakers on our website at: www.sustainingdunbar.org/library



Transport Update

Our Transport group is seeking to reduce carbon emissions from travel by encouraging people to walk, cycle, or use public transport. The Group has prepared a Transport Action Plan and has now secured funding to allow:-

- The collation of previous transport studies and a programme of surveys to identify how many short journeys are made by car, and why.
- The preparation of Route Maps for cyclists, pedestrians and public transport users showing existing routes/timetables, and highlighting required improvements and links. Such maps will be invaluable in future planning for the town and will be published and distributed locally in order to encourage people away from their cars.

Dunbar Allotments Association

Wednesday 13th January

7.30pm at Hallhill Healthy Living Centre

Public Meeting

To form an allotments association in order to progress the setting up of new allotments in Dunbar and to take on their future management.

Anyone who is already on the waiting list or who would like to have an allotment is encouraged to attend.



Why not join the 10:10 campaign and pledge to cut your carbon pollution by 10% in 2010? And get your friends, your workplace and your school to sign up too. Let's back each other up as we take the first steps on the road to becoming a zero-carbon society. It's easy to feel powerless in the face of a huge problem like climate change, but by uniting everyone behind immediate, effective and achievable action, 10:10 enables all of us to make a meaningful difference. 10:10 is the perfect opportunity to discover what's possible when we work together. Let's get started! Sign up here: www.1010uk.org

Cut your home energy consumption by 10% in 2010, and you can obtain a £20 voucher from BeGreen to spend in local shops!

For an update on progress with establishing a community owned bakery in Dunbar, see their new website at: www.dunbarcommunitybakery.org.uk

Get involved!

- *Come along to one of our public meetings or events.*
- *Subscribe to our website to receive regular updates and to contribute to the discussion.*
- *Join one of our working groups or projects: transport, food, bakery, community garden/orchard/polytunnel.*
- *Start a new project or group: eg. water, education, business, health, garden share.....*
- *Share your thoughts and information about Dunbar's past, present and future, and tell us about any skills, expertise or information that you have to offer.*
- *Contact the BeGreen project for advice on saving energy in your home or to become a BeGreen energy champion.*
- *Invite one of our speakers to come and give a talk or lead a workshop with your group.*

For more information contact:

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www.sustainingdunbar.org.uk



the community-led regeneration network

