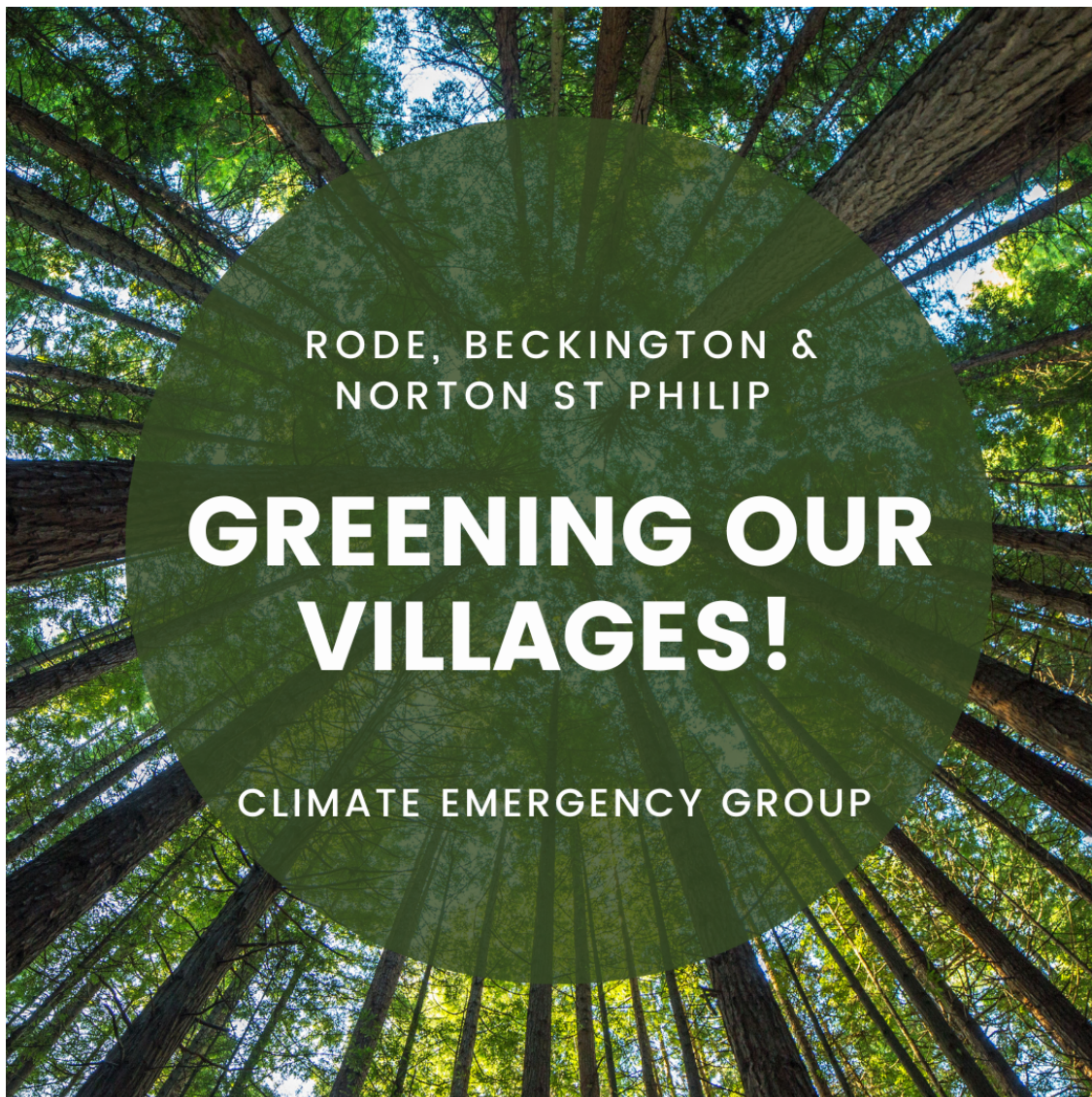


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RODE, BECKINGTON &  
NORTON ST PHILIP

# GREENING OUR VILLAGES!

CLIMATE EMERGENCY GROUP

## **Welcome to the September Climate Emergency Group Newsletter**

Apologies that this month's newsletter is slightly late, and slightly shorter than normal - but hopefully no less useful.

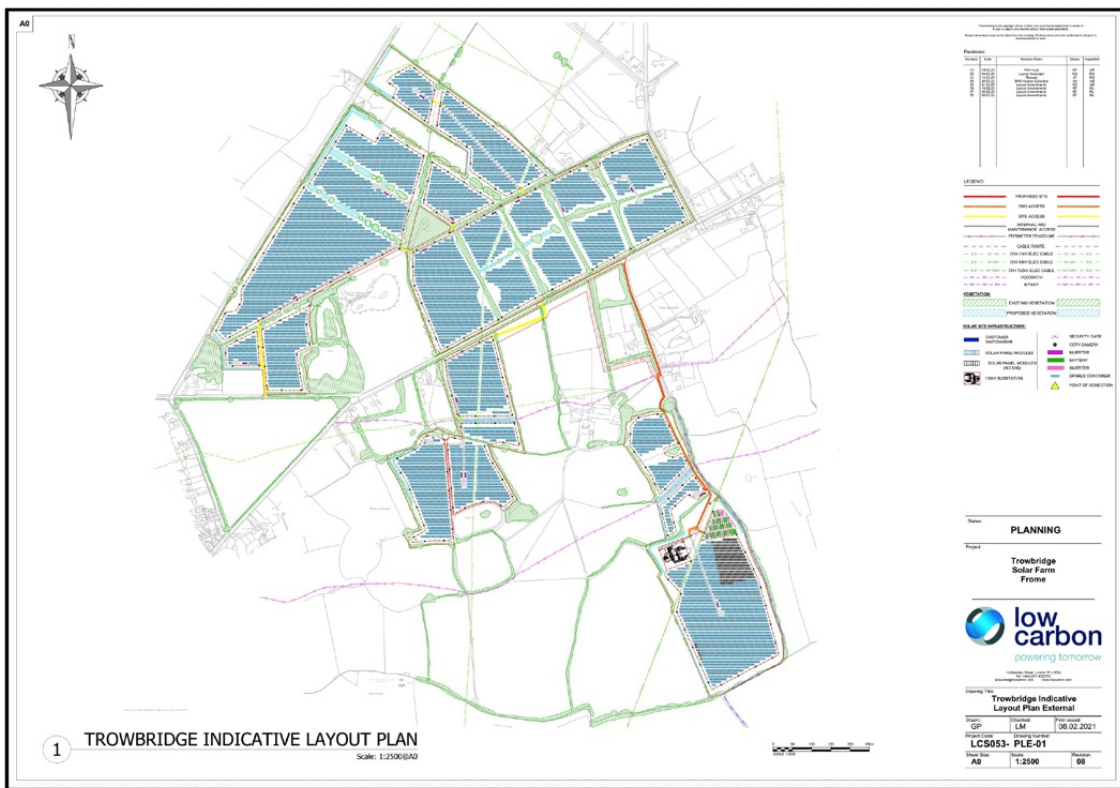
I think I've written previously that the goal was to reach 100 subscribers by the end of the year...and that target is in sight! This edition of the Newsletter will land in 85 in-boxes, and hopefully - with a following wind - that can be increased to the magic three figures by December. With that in mind, if you know someone who might be interested in joining us, feel free to forward this issue. New subscribers can sign-up here:

<https://mailchi.mp/4b503e0ba20c/initial-sign-up?>

Plus - if you're interested in joining the Rode, Beckington & Norton St Philip Climate Emergency Group, you would be very welcome. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 17th October in Rode Memorial Hall, starting at 7pm**. Email me in advance if you'd like to come along.

Jim

[jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com](mailto:jim.mcauliffe@btinternet.com)



### Proposed Solar Farm in Rode

The planning application for the proposed new Solar Farm in Rode was due to be submitted in July, but has been delayed, and is now expected to be lodged with Somerset Council towards the end of this month. Low Carbon (the company behind the application) has made a number of changes to the indicative plans which had been made public earlier this year. These changes include the removal of the "triangle" (the land bounded by Rode Hill, Bradford Road, and the A361), which had been a concern raised at the consultation event held in May. Other feedback included comments in relation to:

- Use of agricultural land



- Working with local schools
- Clean renewable energy to the local area
- Increasing biodiversity

In total just over 70 local residents attended the consultation event, with 38 opposed to the development, 28 supportive, and 8 neither supportive or unsupportive.

Provided the application is lodged by the end of this month, the October Newsletter will contain a lot more information about the proposals. And the issue is the major agenda item at the Climate Emergency Group's next meeting (October 17th).



## Buses!

More good news regarding local bus services...Both Firstbus with the D2/D2X and Faresaver with the X34 have made changes to their timetables, with effect from last Sunday (3rd September). There are a host of small adjustments to nearly all bus times - but the really important news is that all services are retained throughout the winter, including the much expanded range of D2 services to Bath, and the new D2X, which were introduced at the time of the last timetable change in April.

Plus - there are also a few extra buses!

via NSP, Rode and Beckington to Frome (en route from Bath). These are essentially repositioning journeys that First had previously run along the A36 but which they are now running through the villages. These will be useful for anyone needing to get into Frome early, either to get to work or perhaps to go for an early morning dip in the Frome swimming pool.

Also, on Saturday nights, there are now a couple of really late-night buses back from Frome (again these were repositioning trips that previously went along the A36, but will now be coming back through Beckington, Rode and NSP), thereby enabling local residents to get a bus back home after a late night event in Frome, especially at The Cheese & Grain - the last bus from Frome now leaves Market Place at 00:28.

September is the annual CATCH THE BUS MONTH, and Somerset Bus Partnership is organising nearly 30 events across Somerset this month - meaning there will be more such events in Somerset than in any other county! If you missed their stand in Frome Market Place last Saturday, look out for them at the **Frome Cheese Show on Saturday 9th September**.

Huge thanks to Peter Travis, whose suggestions to Firstbus resulted in the additional services, and who campaigns tirelessly for improved public transport across Somerset (in particular in this part of the county). And, of course, thanks are due to Firstbus for taking those suggestions on board. As ever with our bus services, it's a case of "Use it or lose it"....and if you're not a regular bus user, this month is the perfect time to get into the habit! Single fares remain at £2 until the end of October.

Timetables are available online here:

D2: <https://www.firstbus.co.uk/bristol-bath-and-west/plan-journey/timetables?search=D2%3A+Bath+--+Rode+--+Frome>

D2X: <https://www.firstbus.co.uk/bristol-bath-and-west/plan-journey/timetables?search=D2x%3A+Bath+--+Frome+DIRECT>

Faresaver: <https://faresaver.co.uk/timetable.php>

# BUS MONTH



## GET ON BOARD SEPTEMBER 2023

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### Trains!

If you found the time in last month's Newsletter to read about my rail & ferry travels to Norway, then you may be interested in a couple of great articles about long distance train travel published in last Saturday's Guardian newspaper. Links are below, with the second article describing an epic journey from York to Tangier.

<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2023/sep/02/why-rail-is-the-best-way-to-travel>

<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2023/sep/02/my-epic-three-day-trip-from-london-to-morocco-by-train-and-ferry>

[PS: I'm delighted that at least two of Brighton & Hove Albion's Europa League fixtures will enable me to follow the Seagulls on their historic European adventure by train! I'm off to Marseille in October and Amsterdam in November. I promise to keep any feedback very brief!]



# Somerset Tree Strategy 2023 - 2033

As part of the [Somerset Tree Strategy](#), Somerset Council is appealing to local landowners to support the goal to increase the county's tree canopy by providing suitable safe places where young trees native to Somerset can thrive. The Council is also looking for suitable sites that could accommodate raising trees from seed. This starts with a small space the size of a table to host seed trays and in the second year, would need enough space to host the seedlings in pots.

If you have pockets of land that you want to convert into a copse or woodland (or know of someone who does), Somerset Council can provide support with free trees and advice on planting and care.

To register your interest, email [climateemergency@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:climateemergency@somerset.gov.uk).

And on a smaller scale, we can all help support Somerset's indigenous trees by gathering local seeds and bringing on seedlings. Much more information can be found here....

Tree Council guide: How to identify tree seeds: <https://treecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Seed-Gathering-Season-seed-identification-guide.pdf>

Tree Council guide: How to prepare tree seeds: <https://treecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Seed-Gathering-Season-growing-trees-from-seed.pdf>

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## **Sustainable Fancy Dress!**

And finally - Share Frome is launching Fancy Dress Hire this month....more news soon, via their website - <https://sharefrome.org/>





# FANCY DRESS HIRE



**LAUNCHING  
September  
2023**

**SHARE**  
*threads*  
SECONDHAND CHILDRENS COSTUME HIRE

## WE'RE NEARLY READY

We have been busy washing and drying all the costumes that we've had donated to us at SHARE and our two new volunteers have been starting to fix any that needed attention before they are available to borrow.

We have photographed most things and now just have the task of adding everything to the library so you can browse and reserve your costume through our online catalogue.

**GET READY FOR OUR SEPTEMBER LAUNCH!**



[www.sharefrome.org](http://www.sharefrome.org)

[office@sharefrome.org](mailto:office@sharefrome.org)



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Rode Climate Emergency Group · 17 High Street · Rode · Frome, Somerset BA11 6NZ · United Kingdom

