

Thatcham Town Council

Full Council

29th January 2024



Agenda

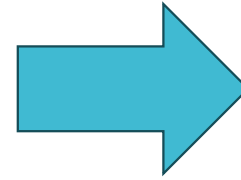


www.eco-friends.org.uk/

1. Who Are Eco Friends?
2. Why we are supporting Plastic Free Communities
3. 2023 and 2024
4. How Can We Help each Other?
5. Questions

6. Appendix:
 - Our Allies
 - Our Champions
 - Single Use Plastic Ban in England

Who are EcoFriends (West Berkshire)



Two Objectives:

1. To obtain Plastic Free Community Status for both Thatcham and Newbury
2. To help the people of West Berkshire improve the circular economy and reducing carbon emissions. Through the creation of an eco-Hub;
 - reduce
 - reuse
 - refill
 - repair
 - recycle



Why we want to be a Plastic Free Community?



- We believe that a lot of people are trying to do the right thing and reduce their impact on the environment but it's difficult to know which shop, businesses and community groups that are taking steps in the right direction.
- On the flip side, we know a lot of businesses and community groups that are doing the right thing and should be recognised for it. So, rewarding them for doing so seems like a win-win.
- We feel that if these companies take care of their packaging, then they are likely to have the right environmental ethos throughout their business.
- *Surfers Against Sewage* run the Plastic Free Communities award, which is recognised across the country with over 900 communities on board.
- It rewards small businesses as Plastic Free Champions and larger business, community groups, schools and communication channels as Plastic Free Allies. We currently have *53 Champions & Allies in Thatcham* (and 59 in Newbury).
- By providing this award to companies reducing plastic, we're not only focusing on Plastic, but also on the ethos of that company.
- Giving people the knowledge of which businesses and organisations they should support.
- Having Thatcham Council on board is a big part of helping raise awareness and help everyone in the community reduce their single use plastics – thank you.

What Does 'Plastic Free' actually mean?

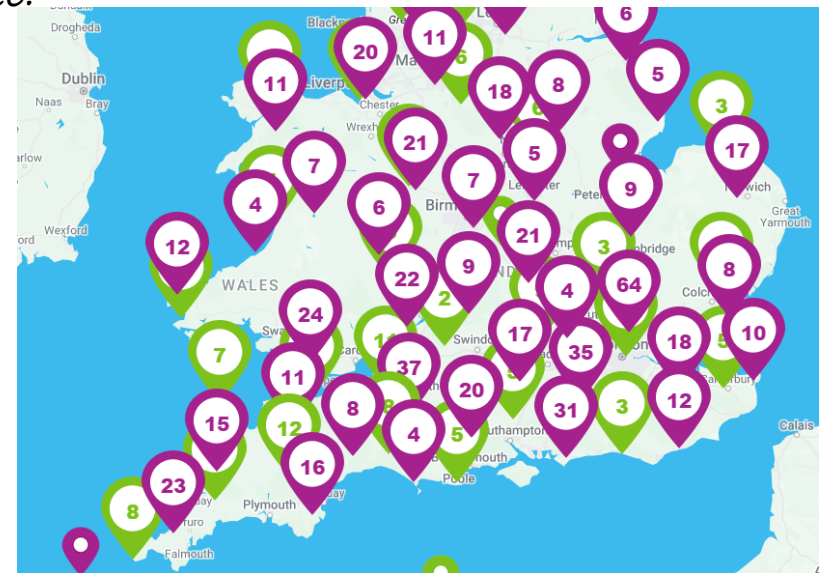
What does 'Plastic Free' actually mean?

We do not expect communities to be totally plastic free. Our aim is to tackle the single-use plastic crisis, so that's the avoidable stuff that's everywhere. Things like:

- plastic drinks bottles,
- disposable coffee cups,
- sachets,
- bathroom plastics,
- excessive food packaging,
- takeaway containers etc.

These are the things that have a huge impact on our environment and which we can make changes to eliminate.

9 1 2
**COMMUNITIES
SIGNED UP
AND COUNTING**



Why we want to be a Plastic Free Community?

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE SURE WE KICK OUR ADDICTION TO AVOIDABLE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC, AND CHANGE THE SYSTEM THAT PRODUCES IT

38

MILLION

plastic drinks' bottles are bought every day in the UK

112000

PIECES

of plastic packaging leave UK supermarkets every minute

8000000

PIECES

of plastic pollution find their way into our oceans

Less than 1% of the 2.5 billion coffee cups used in the UK each year are recycled

28 wet wipes are found per mile of beach. 93% of sewage blockages are made up of wipes.

The UK uses a staggering 38.5 million single-use plastic bottles every day, of which around half end up in landfill, being burnt or in the environment

Plastic bags fragment in 100-300 years depending on thickness and size, but will remain at large in the environment indefinitely.



Our Objectives to gain Plastic Free Community Status



THE 5 OBJECTIVES

1

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Local council passes a resolution supporting the journey to Plastic Free Community status.

2

BUSINESS CHAMPIONS — LOCAL BUSINESSES

Work with businesses in your community to help them reduce single-use plastics.

3

COMMUNITY ALLIES

Inspire the wider community to spread the plastic-free message.

4

COMMUNITY EVENTS & ACTIONS

Mobilise your community. Hold a clean-up or mass unwrap or other events to raise awareness.

5

SET UP A STEERING GROUP

Form a group of local stakeholders and meet at least twice a year to take your community campaign forward.

- Devised by experts
- Designed for effective grassroots action
- Proven framework
- Keeps focus
- Helps you say 'no'
- Quickest route to success

Thatcham

100% Complete

100% Complete
24 Champions Approved

100% Complete
30 Allies Approved

100% Complete

Monthly meetings in progress

As of last week: we are going for full approval!!!

Plastic Free Champions

Single Use Items Removed

PLASTIC FREE THATCHAM
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

24
Champions

All remove 3
types of single
use plastic

10,668 a
year

PLASTIC FREE NEWBURY
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

21
Champions

All remove 3
types of single
use plastic

97,584 a
year

'What difference can I make?'

Total:

108,252

2024 Increased Visibility

2023 Achievements

- Thatcham Town Council Guide
- Newbury Town Council Climate Emergency Working Group
- Thatcham Town Council Environmental Working Group

- SAS Blog

2024 Plan

- Encouraging our Champions and Allies to shout about us! And us about them

Steering Group Set Up:

We have Thatcham and Newbury Councillors on our steering group, as well as representatives from core employers and independent businesses.

Steering Attendees

Name	Representing
Carlie Norwell	Business Development Manager, A-plan Insurance. Soon to be Howden
Dale Campbell	Business Owner, Posy London
Hannah Roche	Front of House and Events Manager, The Corn Exchange
Jenny Kirby	Plastic Free Gold Champion, Business Owner; Thatcham Refillable
Jeremy Cottam	Thatcham Chamber of Commerce
Justin Pemberton	Councillor, Thatcham Town Council. Also sits on the West Berkshire Council representing Thatcham East
Nikki Coome	Chair of Eco-Friends West Berkshire, Business Owner; Inca Homes
Penny Locke	Business Owner, Penny Post
Sam Carpenter	Marketing Assistant, Rivar Sand and Gravel
Sarah Slack	Councillor, Newbury Town Council
Tom McCann	Councillor, Thatcham Town Council



66

Our Plastic Free Champions are essential to moving to a circular economy. By reducing, reusing and refilling our Champions ensure we are reducing landfill and our carbon footprint one step at a time.

Nikki Coome, Plastic Free Community Lead for Newbury and Thatcham.

HOWDEN

Are proud to support

PLASTIC FREE THATCHAM

SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

Reduce, Reuse, Rethink

www.eco-friends.org.uk/plasticfreethatcham

2024 Increased Visibility

2023 Events attended

Sustainable Living Market

Sept – Wash Common

Sept – Waterside litter pick

Nov – Newbury Racecourse Fireworks

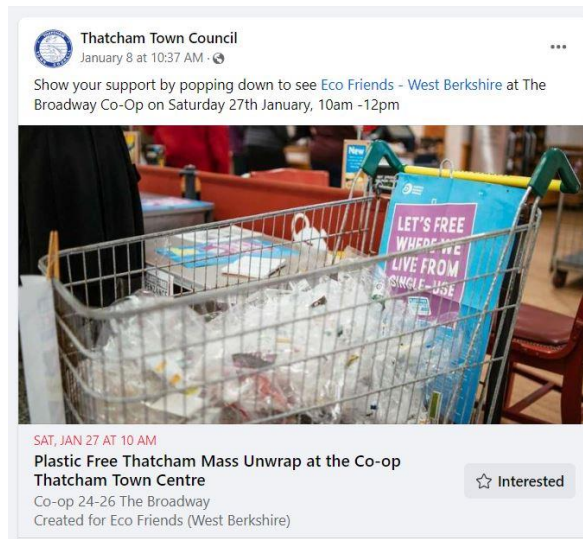
Nov – Hampstead Norreys Candlelit Market

2024 Events planned

27th January – Mass Unwrap

9th March – Sustainable Living Fair, The Corn Exchange

30th June – Thatcham Family Fun Day



2024 Events Charter

2023 Events Charter Adoption

- Hampstead Norreys Candlelit Market
- Thatcham Town Council (work in progress)

2024 Introduction

- Shaw House Events (work in progress)
- Newbury Town Council (TBC)
- The Corn Exchange (TBC)

As delivery partner or service user, we ask you to reduce your single user plastic (including biodegradable, compostable and recycled options), focusing on the ten main 'offenders' and not using, providing or selling any of the following:

- Plastic carrier bags
- Disposable coffee cups and lids
- Single-use plastic cups
- Plastic food or product packaging
- Balloons & balloon sticks
- Plastic straws (banned by law)
- Plastic cutlery (banned by law)
- Sachets
- Bathroom plastics
- Plastic drinking bottles

How Can We Help Each Other?

Please:

1. Continue to support and adopt the events charter
2. Continue to support our events and promote us in any literature / emails / social media and elsewhere
3. Continue to support our monthly steering meetings – Thank you Justin for being a proactive member
4. Consider a Single Use Plastic Audit
 - Already completed for Newbury Town Council and Hampstead Norreys Community Shop
5. Consider adopting and promoting more water refill stations and gumdrop
6. Is there anything else you are doing that we can help you with?



Eco Hub



- Creation of a website that focuses on the four areas that are responsible for $\frac{1}{4}$ of an individual's carbon footprint each:
 - Food Waste & it's Packaging
 - Energy Consumption
 - Transport
 - Everything Else
- Were applicable centring on recycling and then directing people to refill, reuse, repair, reduce and refuse each of those items.

Work In Progress

Any
Questions?



Hub e: contactus@eco-friends.org.uk

Plastics e: plasticfree@eco-friends.org.uk

w: eco-friends.org.uk

f: [ecofriendswb](https://www.facebook.com/ecofriendswb)

i: [ecofriends_westberkshire](https://www.instagram.com/ecofriends_westberkshire)

Appendix: Plastic Free Allies

Ally Name	Type	Status
Shaw House	Building / Organisation	Approved
Razzamataz Newbury (Business)	Business	Approved
Tropic with Tracey (Business)	Business	Approved
Christine Crerar	Business	Approved
Gardner Leader	Business	Approved
Boogie Mites West Berkshire & South West Oxfordshire	Business	Approved
Ewemove Newbury Estate agents	Business	Approved
West Berkshire Sustainable Community Facebook page	Community Communications	Approved
Thatcham and Newbury Plastic Free, Recycling and Zero Waste Facebook page	Community Communications	Approved
Penny Post	Community Communications	Approved
West Berkshire Sustainable Community Instagram Page	Community Communications	Approved
Newbury Registry Office	Community Organisation	Approved
Newbury Friends Of The Earth	Community Organisation	Approved
1st Wash Common Scout Group	Community Organisation	Approved
Time to talk	Community Organisation	Approved
Educafe CIC	Community Organisation	Approved
Apple day in Newbury	Community Organisation	Approved
Newbury Central Library	Community Space	Approved
Greenham Common Control Tower	Community Space	Approved
West Berkshire Museum	Community Space	Approved
Newbury Town council - Elsie Kimber Room	Community Space	Approved
SustainHUBle Eco Market (Event)	Event	Approved
Shaw House	Event	Approved
Newbury Vegan Market	Event	Approved
Greenfest	Event	Approved
Newbury Apple Day	Event	Approved
Chieveley Village Market	Event	Approved
Corn Exchange Swap Shop clothing, books and toys	Event	Approved
Sustainhuble Saturday Market	Event	Approved
WELFORD AND WICKHAM C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL (School)	School	Approved
SHAW-CUM-DONNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL (School)	School	Approved
Ladybirds Preschool	School	Approved
Trinity School Newbury	School	Approved

**PLASTIC FREE
NEWBURY**
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

30 Allies

29 Allies

**PLASTIC FREE
THATCHAM**
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

Ally Name	Type	Status
Kate Dempsey Neal's Yard Remedies Organic Indepe	Business	Approved
Greenham Business Park	Business	Approved
"Me Time" The Body Shop At Home	Business	Approved
A-Plan Insurance Thatcham	Business	Approved
Thatcham and Newbury Plastic Free, Recycling and Z	Community Communications	Approved
West Berkshire Sustainable Community facebook p	Community Communications	Approved
Penny Post	Community Communications	Approved
West Berkshire Sustainable Instagram page	Community Communications	Approved
Mini Sustainable Living Market	Community Event	Approved
Candlelit Market	Community Event	Approved
Thatcham Town Council Civic awards 2023	Community Event	Approved
Thatcham Litter Pickers	Community Organisation	Approved
West Berkshire Sustainable Community	Community Organisation	Approved
League Of Friends West Berkshire Community Hosp	Community Organisation	Approved
Swings & Smiles	Community Organisation	Approved
Newbury Cancer Care	Community Organisation	Approved
Thirtover Place	Community Organisation	Approved
Nature Discovery Centre	Community Organisation	Approved
Thatcham Chamber of Commerce	Community Organisation	Awaiting Approval
Slimming World Thatcham	Community Organisation	Awaiting Approval
Thatcham Library	Community Space	Approved
St Barnabas Church	Community Space	Approved
Sustainable Living Market - Thatcham & Newbury	Event	Closed
Thatcham Car Boot Sale	Event	Approved
Greenfest (Event)	Event	Approved
Kennet School	School	Approved
Parsons Down	School	Approved
i college inspiration	School	Approved

Appendix: Plastic Free Champions

Small, independent
Businesses

BUSINESS		STATUS
Adam Kirby Technologies	Edit	In progress
Ben's Berkshire Bees Limited	Edit	Accredited
Claire Black – Marketing Mentor & Coach	Edit	Accredited
Claire Willsher Ltd	Edit	In progress
Cocktail Runner LTD	Edit	In progress
Crazydayz Doughnuts	Edit	Accredited
Crumbs and Corks	Edit	Accredited
DJC Garage Equipment Services Ltd	Edit	Accredited
Emporio Green Army	Edit	Accredited
Greenalls barbers	Edit	In progress
Happy Hedgehog Designs	Edit	Accredited
Inca Home Moves	Edit	Accredited
Jewellery By Emma Roy	Edit	Accredited
Knowing Sewing	Edit	In progress

Made by Sam	Edit	Accredited
Moving Forward Removals	Edit	Accredited
Off the scale catering	Edit	In progress
Orcadian Fudge Company	Edit	Accredited
Red Kite Glass Studio	Edit	Accredited
Rivar Sand and Gravel Ltd	Edit	Accredited
Sandra McArdle Jewellery	Edit	Accredited
SHOECARE of THATCHAM	Edit	In progress
Silver Clay Academy	Edit	Accredited
Sunday Tea	Edit	Accredited
Thatcham Refillable	Edit	Accredited
The little zero waste home	Edit	Accredited
THORAN Retail Ltd	Edit	Accredited
TK Tiling	Edit	Accredited
Waney Edge Woodcraft	Edit	Accredited

24 Champions

PLASTIC FREE
THATCHAM
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

<https://www.eco-friends.org.uk/our-champions-allies>

Appendix: Plastics Ban



ENGLAND

**PLASTIC FREE
COMMUNITIES**
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE
Freeing where we live from single-use



Appendix: Plastics Ban



ENGLAND

- From 1st October 2023
- Applies to a 'person, in the course of business'
- online and over-the-counter sales & supply
- all types of single-use plastic, including biodegradable, compostable
- new and existing stock
- items wholly or partly made from plastic, including coating or lining

Appendix: Plastics Ban

ENGLAND

Exemptions

You can still supply single-use plastic plates, bowls and trays if:

1. you are supplying them to another business
2. the items are packaging (pre-filled or filled at the point of sale)

Examples of this type of packaging include:

- a pre-filled salad bowl or ready meal packaged in a tray
- a plate filled at the counter of a takeaway
- a tray used to deliver food



Exemptions

You can still supply food or drink in polystyrene containers if it needs further preparation before it is consumed.

Further preparation could mean:

- adding water
- microwaving
- toasting

Appendix: Plastics Ban

- Replace /
Reuse /
Refill

SINGLE USE ITEM

PLATES, BOWLS & TRAYS
CUTLERY
STIRRERS
STRAWS
COTTON BUDS
BALLOON STICKS
POLYSTYRENE CUPS
POLYSTYRENE FOOD
CONTAINERS
POLYSTYRENE CONTAINER
LIDS

FIRST STEPS

PAPER/BAGASSE
WOOD
WOOD
PAPER
PAPER/CARD
PAPER/CARD/STRING
PAPER – PE lined or PLA in line
with local waste management
BAGASSE/CARD
BAGASSE/CARD

WINNING MOVES

REUSE

REUSE – silicon sets

REFUSE

REFILL