



# Sustainable Chulmleigh working towards a greener future...

## **Sustainable Chulmleigh AGM = 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 2024-25 Annual Report and Finance Statement**

It's been a busy year since Spring 2024!

Members of Sustainable Chulmleigh meet regularly as a 'committee' to plan and make decisions, usually once a month and anyone interested is always welcome to get involved.

- We now have 511 signed up to Facebook and 89 email addresses receive our newsletter written by Jack. Kelly set up an Instagram account to try to 'capture' younger environmentalists. We also have a regular column written by Claire, in 'Your Chulm'. Through these mediums...ideas, discussions, locations and events that encourage sustainability, can and are, often shared.
- This is in a year where we have launched our website. Just last month, it received 436 hits or 'visits' to explore it and feedback has been very positive as it is a place to find out about everything related to Sustainable Chulmleigh from our events past and present to our minutes, about some of our volunteers and a host of useful links and information.
- Since Spring last year we have also achieved the following:
- Held two nest box building sessions and then volunteers have helped to locate and monitor declining bird species as part of the national pied flycatcher project and in conjunction with the BTO.
- Held two repair cafes to encourage sustainability by repairing over 100 items that might have otherwise ended up in landfill.
- We gave a talk to the local Chulmleigh Cub pack as part of their Environmental Conservation Badge January
- We were invited by North Devon Biosphere to attend their Nature Recovery Plan workshop.
- Launched an annual wildflower walk and chalk which was warmly received, especially by younger families who followed the trail and learnt about local wildlife flowers.
- Launched the national 'blue hearts' campaign here in Chulmleigh that encourages people to leave parts of their garden wildlife friendly and now Chulmleigh primary school is trialling this at their school, too.
- We have also subscribed to 'Eco Kids' for the school.
- Met with members of the community and our parish church to discuss the use of the closed churchyard as a wildlife friendly space accessible especially for families with a mud kitchen (now in place) nature trail, wildflower areas and seating to compliment the two benches already funded by Sustainable Chulmleigh.
- Approached both the school and the Parish Council (attending one of their meetings) to try to forge links between groups. The lead for wilder communities from the DWT attended with us and told the PC how DWT can support them.
- Launched an annual plant hunt at Cadbury Cottage.  
Cadbury Cottage is located just north of Chulmleigh and part of it is being developed as a wildlife haven with community access for Sustainable Chulmleigh events and for the general public by prior arrangement. With thanks to our North Devon Biosphere animator for acquiring a number of grants and a lot of hard work by Jack Smellie and David Chidgey (owners of Cadbury Cottage) and many volunteers e.g. we have had two sessions of tree and hedge planting where many gave up their time to help including members of Ashreigny and Riddlecombe Nature Recovery Group, everything is starting to take shape.
- Sustainable Chulmleigh has hosted a number of entertaining talks; one on permaculture and two on wildlife. Many from SC have supported other local events like the rural cinema film 'wilding' and the local swift group. We also had our annual stall at Chulmleigh Old Fair and a stall at the first South Molton Community Eco Fair.



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- In conjunction with North Devon Biosphere, we also hosted the film 'Six Inches of Soil' (a film about a farmer/smallholder and market gardener farming more sustainably and wildlife friendly) which was then followed by a Q and A session with a panel of local farmers and smallholders.
- We have recently acquired a community allotment on the new Chulmleigh allotments and having joined CAG (Community Action Groups) and gained a grant from them, will see this space become an area for community food growing.
- Our main fundraising events have been two coffee mornings.
- The upcoming 2025 diary is already full!
- Thank you to everyone for their time and commitment to making Sustainable Chulmleigh so successful.



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## FINANCIAL NOTES

<b>1 FUNDRAISERS</b>	
Heyswood Open Garden	£ 320.00
Cadbury Sanctuary Plant Hunt	£ 96.00
Claire Doorstep Plant sales	£ 68.00
Nick random sharpening	£ 20.00
Town Hall Coffee Morning	£ 460.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 964.00</b>

<b>2 GRANTS RECIEVED</b>	
Tree Council	£ 448.00
CAG Resource Futures Insurance	£ 180.13
CAG Allotment Start Up	£ 300.00
National Trust Grant 1/2	£ 2,140.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 3,068.13</b>

<b>3 ACTIVITIES/EVENTS</b>	
Repair Cafes x2	£ 79.00
Talk/film x4	£ 19.17
Nestbox building	£ 29.40
Blue Hearts	-£ 146.16
Allotment	-£ 57.75
Churchyard (Mud kitchen)	-£ 60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>-£ 136.34</b>

<b>4 PROMOTION/WEBSITE ETC</b>	
Cards/banners/leaflets/screen etc	£ 433.81
Web hosting	£ 107.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 541.31</b>

<b>5 INSURANCE</b>	
Main group insurance (covered by grant)	£ 180.13
Extra insurance (CS)	£ 63.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 243.13</b>