

ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE SOMERSET LEVELS

Event Raw Data
2020



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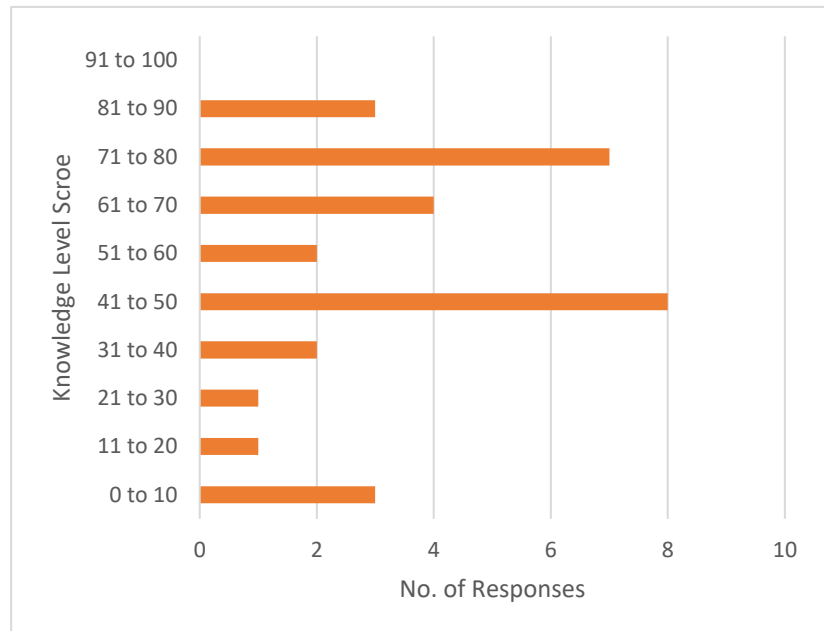
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Community Drop-in Days:

Q1. a) How would you rate your knowledge of climate change?

Score	Responses
0 to 10	3
11 to 20	1
21 to 30	1
31 to 40	2
41 to 50	8
51 to 60	2
61 to 70	4
71 to 80	7
81 to 90	3
91 to 100	0
Average	50



Q1. b) What effect, if any, does this knowledge have on you?

Comments		
Frustrated, Sad, Helpless, Resentment, Depressed, Hate, Guilty, Negative, Bored	Hopeful, Action	Frustrated Brave
Angry, Depressed	Frustrated, Positive, Action	Guilt Worried
Worried, Guilt	Frustrated, Mindful	Brave Positive
Guilt, Worried	Disappointed, Stressed	Frustrated, Disappointed
Disappointed, Action	Sad, Anxious, Action	Confident, Take Action
Frustrated, Sad, Action	Frustrated, Hopeful	Anxious
Frustrated	Negative, Frustrated	Worried
Frustrated, Hopeful	Sad, Annoyed	Positive, Frustrated
Sad, Annoyed, Love	Worried, Take Action	Worried, Sad
Fear, Annoyed	Forgiving, Take Action	

Q2. What is going to help our community adapt?

Comments		
Protect natural grassland	Zero carbon housing development	Education, Education, Education
More diverse wild plants on floodplain fields	No-dig gardening	Build eco-friendly houses, subsidised green energy
Accept that change is coming, work with nature to adapt	Don't build on floodplains	All new houses built with bigger gardens, less tarmac, more drainable driveways and more planting.
The sea is not rising	Bring back dew ponds Let the rivers flood the floodplains but protect the houses already there.	Education for everyone old and young
I think that homeowners of older properties should now be able to tarmac their gardens. They have to use sustainable options, at the moment they don't have to do this!	Don't plant trees on meadows which is still home to the wildflowers, these are carbon sinks in themselves. Grassland	I am not from this area, but I can see how this project could do a huge amount, once everyone has got the message that time is running out and adaptation is a 'must'. Adaptation is about what we can do in advance, and so so much better (and cheaper) than trying to clear up after the event.
Have water butts in my garden	Plant trees on the hills	More events like this - Annual
Build school playing fields as with temporary dams	More local food outlets & publicity More shared concern - through information and events More buses	Openness & optimism Understanding Community action Meeting & updates (timelines & deadlines)
Leadership from central Government coupled with local action	Exhibitions like this one. Very informative. Keep it up.	Committed and strong leadership - local, regional & national. Lots of partnership working

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<p>ALL new housing built to the highest environmental standards - Renewable energy, insulation, rainwater capture. MAKE the developers change and Regulate, Regulate, Regulate</p>	<p>More information events like this; practical tips, achievable tips</p>	<p>Realise socioeconomic benefits of adapting now & grow accustomed before it's too late</p>
<p>Stop covering driveways with impermeable surfaces</p>	<p>Education Support for small local projects Enabling individuals to implement small, beneficial changes</p>	<p>To ask minority communities to participate in local issues and to ask their point of view on global warming and other issues concerning flooding</p>
<p>We need to have rainwater butts in all properties, especially new builds (compulsory) No concrete drives Plant more trees even a small tree in a small garden will help.</p>	<p>Property level protection & resilience measures Natural flood management Building knowledge and community-based emergency plans Advanced flood/weather warning systems where possible Multi-agency planning & response</p>	<p>Local food production Support local initiatives for improving biodiversity Reduce the 'us and them' with the local farmers More direct instruction on reducing carbon footprint - how to More public transport! - affordable</p>
<p>Plant trees in the right places; where to plant and which varieties.</p>	<p>Knowledge, communication, planning and coordination</p>	<p>Thinking now about the changes to come and making realistic plans</p>
<p>Parish/town tool kits Environmental advice for defending planning applications Small groups working together</p>	<p>Make space from water so the rivers can flood onto the floodplains</p>	

Q3. Adapting the Levels has £10,000 for community adaptation.
How would you like to see this spent? What are your ideas?

Comments		
Leadership from central Government coupled with local action	More use of flooded fields and compensation for farmers	All new houses built with bigger gardens, less tarmac, more drainable driveways and more planting.
All new builds should have water butts fitted	Stop building on the flood plains	Build eco-friendly houses, subsidised green energy
Making all new-builds environmentally friendly. Green garage roof, water butts as standard and suds	Make flood alleviation schemes a condition for granting planning to developments. This was successfully implemented in Wedmore in 1976/7	I think that homeowners of older properties should now be able to tarmac their gardens. They have to use sustainable options; at the moment they don't have to do this! Leg
Make all our public buildings SuDs friendly	Keep investing in dredging the levels	Education for everyone old and young
To ask minority communities to participate in local issues and to ask their point of view on global warming and other issues concerning flooding	Local food production Support local initiatives for improving biodiversity Reduce the 'us and them' with the local farmers More direct instruction on reducing carbon footprint - how to More public transport! - affordable	Parish/town tool kits Environmental advice for defending planning applications Small groups working together
Plant trees	Eco new buildings	More events like this - Annual
Committed and strong leadership - local, regional & national. Lots of partnership working	Plant trees in the right places; where to plant and which varieties.	Thinking now about the changes to come and making realistic plans
Build school playing fields as with temporary dams	More local food outlets & publicity More shared concern - through information and events More buses	Start local scheme and supply water butts
Let farmers dredge the rivers Wrong	Exhibitions like this one. Very informative. Keep it up.	Education in the community
ALL new housing built to the highest environmental standards - Renewable energy, insulation, rainwater capture. MAKE the developers change	Education Support for small local projects Enabling individuals to implement small, beneficial changes (And request for funding)	Realise socioeconomic benefits of adapting now & grow accustomed before it's too late (mental health)

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and Regulate, Regulate, Regulate		
Stop covering driveways with impermeable surfaces	More information events like this; practical tips, achievable tips	Join local green groups - become active
We need to have rainwater butts in all properties, especially new builds (compulsory) No concrete drives Plant more trees even a small tree in a small garden will help.	Property level protection & resilience measures Natural flood management Building knowledge and community-based emergency plans Advanced flood/weather warning systems where possible Multi-agency planning & response	I am not from this area, but I can see how this project could do a huge amount, once everyone has got the message that time is running out and adaptation is a 'must'. Adaptation is about what we can do in advance, and so so much better (and cheaper) than trying to clear up after the event.
Education, Education, Education	Action!	Create a pond on community land
Renewable Energy	Bring back dew ponds	Openness & optimism Understanding Community action Meeting & updates (timelines & deadlines)
Knowledge, communication, planning and coordination	For the new generation to work with nature to restore the moorland	

Q4. General Thoughts & Comments

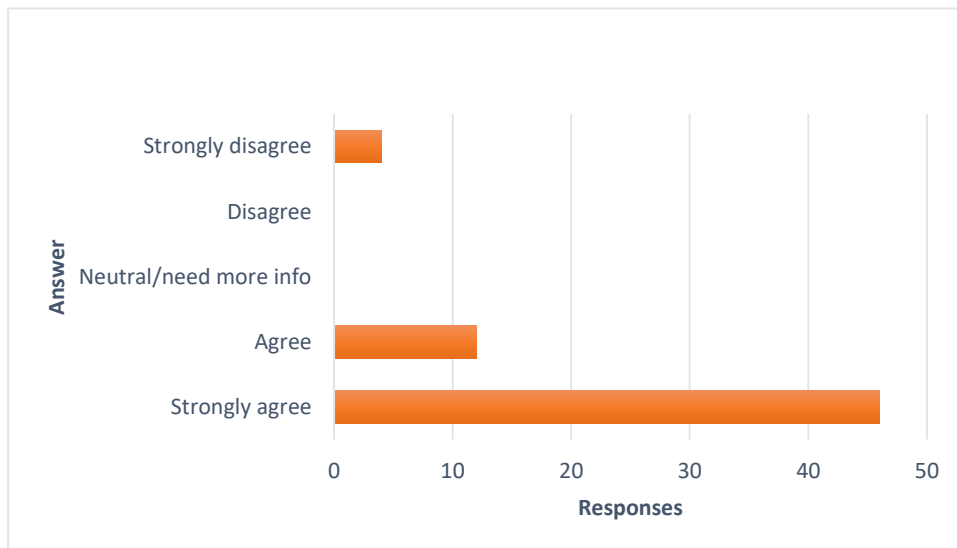
Comments		
Less water then more, water will become a rare commodity Could use in what future looks like.	What simple actions can my family take NOW?! TRAIL Marker 1	Working together has to be the way forward. This is the biggest challenge we all face.
With current emissions levels, how hot could it get?	Conserving water for times of drought - in situ	Never Again....
How do we change farming, so that it suits the new climate and is part of the solution, not the problem? Link to stop blaming farmers	Do you do outreach work with schools?... interested science teach gave email address	Very informative teaching aids to explain difficult concepts
Maize! When we go on walks with Somerset Wildlife Trust we need to car share!	Terminate all ongoing peat extraction now and licenses Sentiment needed - add to issues flagged section	Very informative to explain difficult concepts
Grade off bank edges and allow cattle to drink?	Farmers responsibility	Plant more trees but highlight challenges
Stop blaming farmers for problems we all created and need to solve together 2	Are current farming practices sustainable?	This is the BEST 'exhibit' I have seen to help me understand the concepts. I love the interactivity.
Stop cutting down trees	Great!	Maize!
Restrict housing estates that take no account of all the issues talked about here. Legislate for more sustainable building designs	Would be great to have this to scale for the Somerset area around Langport.	Fantastic exhibit. We have all got to stand up for our world and help to heal it for future generations.
At last! Someone is doing something to bring this climate change issue outside of politicians	Can we join up our thinking better? EA/NE/IDB/SCC...?	

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Q5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement:

"The management of water and flood defence on the Somerset Levels relies on infrastructure such as embankments, dredging and pumping. In future, Natural Process Solutions, which protect and restore the natural functions of the river catchments, floodplains and coastlines, also need to be a major part of the solutions."

Answer	No.	Percentage
Strongly agree	46	74%
Agree	12	19.30%
Neutral/need more info	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	4	6.5%
Total:	62	



Comments	
Agree, but it needs to be explained and quantified; how effective 'natural' methods would be at managing current and future flood risks. If money is spent on natural methods, what about the maintenance of all existing infrastructure.	Strongly agree! PLUS effective measures to restore soils above floodplains to reduce soil & water runoff. Needs government funding.
Strongly Agree	I agree, but want more monitoring to be done to build the evidence base
I agree all actions need to be utilised as much as possible with community approval	Rather than a 'reaction' lots of serious planning and spending needs to be done! Don't build on floodplains

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The statement is true to an extent. However, we people also need to be responsible for our actions - daily lives - how we live and interact with our environment	YES! Strongly Agree
Absolutely! and as quickly as possible...	Strongly Agree
We need more helpful interaction with landowners	Agree

Q6. What local opportunities are there for nature-based solutions to flooding and drought?

Comments		
<p>Ongoing tree planting sites All must try to help, no good thinking you won't be around for much longer, we have to think of future generations</p>	<p>Planting of hazel plantations on slopes above floodplains Willow in food areas Deep-rooted grasses on moors Rotation crops</p>	<p>Curry Rival projects - Curry Rival in Bloom</p>
<p>Tree planting on community/parish council - owned land. Create new dew ponds Assist/persuade farmers to reintroduce hedgerows and bring back smaller fields.</p>	<p>On streams and rivers place cordwood and branches to restrict the water that floods certain homes and businesses</p>	<p>Great project and knowledgeable people, thank you.</p>
<p>Land management, tree planting, agricultural changes</p>	<p>Local events that attract locals and neighbours to attend and interact with landowners & farmers. Talks on relevant subjects</p>	<p>Better land management. Use some for holding water/tress etc. to better manage and don't build too many houses, especially on the floodplains</p>
<p>Lots of re-wilding More trees of course, but not the only solution.... Water force heat pumps? Using the power of water?</p>	<p>Slow the flow in upland areas of catchments Floodwater storage on agriculture land/payment for landowners sensitive land management to retain water for longer Increase tree and hedge planting</p>	<p>Tree planting Rainwater gardens - sumps, tanks, ponds, reduce impenetrable surfaces Sharing good practices - informal open gardens, tree planting, composting how too.</p>
<p>Dig up some tarmac in the new developments and plant some vegetation.</p>	<p>Plant trees on Parrett banks</p>	

Q7. What will the Levels look like in 100 Years?

Comments	
Maybe large areas flooded in winter and intertidal areas...with communities protected by banks or moved to higher ground.	Agreed with - Maybe large areas flooded in winter and intertidal areas...with communities protected by banks or moved to higher ground.
Agreed with - Maybe large areas flooded in winter and intertidal areas...with communities protected by banks or moved to higher ground.	Agreed with - Maybe large areas flooded in winter and intertidal areas...with communities protected by banks or moved to higher ground.
Wetter, different plants and crops growing	Agreed with - Wetter, different plants and crops growing
	Agreed with - Wetter, different plants and crops growing

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Councillor Events:

Q1. What issues could get worse?

Comments		
	Langport	Wedmore
More flooding	X	X
Public health issues	X	X
More drought	X	X
Transport disruption	X	
Increase crime	X	
Less food production	X	
Inappropriate building	X	
Summer floods - Very bad news		X
Erosion of peat		X
Impacts on farm animals - flooding and lack of food during droughts		X
Mosquitos		X

Q2. What new issues might arise?

Comments		
	Langport	Wedmore
More houses/buildings flooded	X	X
road & rail	X	X
Sewage	X	X
Water supply issues	X	X
Water borne diseases	X	X
Loss of rural populations	X	X
Gas	X	
Power grids	X	
communications	X	
Damage to infrastructure:	X	
Issues with food production		X
Impacts on farm animals - flooding and lack of food during droughts		X
Changes in cropping- Rice paddies?!		X

Q3. How could this impact your community?

Comments		
	Langport	Wedmore
Need to re-think normalcy of flooding	X	X
Find areas to make space for flooding	X	X
Displacement of communities	X	X
Fairness - how can 'safer' community support	X	
Will we be here?	X	X
How do we collect excess water and store for droughts?		X
Sewage issues		X
Loss of rural businesses		X

Q4. What decisions do you make, or have influence over, that are 'climate Sensitive'?

Comments		
	Langport	Wedmore
Some power over planning: can refuse 20% of applications- can't refuse 80%	X	X
Try to ensure 'fit of purpose' buildings - Flood resilient and eco	X	X
Stop tarmac gardens - use gravel so water can soak away		X
Energy: Move parish buildings to green suppliers	X	
Move services we commission to green companies	X	
Push for water to be better managed - held during floods to be used in drought		X
Share the cost between all districts by bringing council tax into line		X
Transport:		
Lobby highways for reduced speed limits	X	
Create low emissions zones	X	
Re-instate train station	X	
Put in electric charging points	X	
Need to influence Central Government:		
Change planning policy to make new homes environmentally friendly	X	X
Call on IDB's to help make Government more aware of the issues - they only pay attention during the crisis		X
As elected officials	X	
Through civil disobedience	X	
HURRY UP!!!	X	

Q5. What powers and/or influence do you have to take-action?

Comments		
	Langport	Wedmore
Lobby MPs to make them look at flooding issues in Somerset as a whole		X
Lobby Government for more & tougher regulations	X	X
Educate local communities - Flood Aware!		X

Q6. What policy, regulation or social blocks are you aware of?

Comments		
	Langport	Wedmore
Parish can't refuse 80% of planning applications	X	
Big business blocking progress: profit driven	X	
Government:		
National planning rules need changing - too many houses in inappropriate places	X	X
If local Councillors don't build enough homes, they are forced to by central Government		X
General red tape: Exhausting and long-winded to do simple things	X	
Government don't recognise local issues	X	
Feelings of repression	X	
Inconsistency between policy & action:	X	
Parish & Town councils have little influence and can only provide opinions to District council.	X	
Parishes have little faith in the Districts local plans: Developer lobbying not environmental awareness	X	
Social attitudes:		
Lack of community spirit	X	
Farming community feel they have little influence		X