

## Transition Town Haslemere

### Link Councillor Update – Claire Matthes

November 2020

Transition Haslemere continue to hold their monthly 'Green Drinks' on Zoom. The allotment has been cut back, tidied up and 'put to bed' for the winter as members turn their minds towards a Christmas event. This will be entirely dependent upon restrictions lifting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December and will adhere to whatever guidelines are in place at the time. Dylan's Ice Cream in Weyhill has invited Transition to have the book stall that usually features at the Farmers Market, outside the ice cream parlour on the morning of Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December. If the weather is fine there will also be a gazebo offering a simple, sustainable Christmas craft activity for children. Members are collecting sticks and fir cones from walks as resources for the day. We are hopeful that this can take place but mindful that it may have to be cancelled.

Transition Haslemere are involved with the wider community in looking at and discussing Active Transport ideas for Haslemere. Following an October walkabout meeting with Adrian from Surrey Highways, members joined in an online meeting with other community stakeholders including Haslemere Vision. There is such a wide array of ideas a plan was sketched out to hold a public meeting in February 2021 and also to look at the Your Fund Surrey scheme:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/surrey-matters/community/100m-for-community-projects>

As mentioned in my last update to Full Council as link councillor, discussions about a Repair Café for Haslemere slowed over lockdown, but members have now started looking at plans to build up to the full Repair Café concept (a good nearby example of which is in Farnham <https://frc.cfsd.org.uk/>), with a series of small, socially-distanced repair workshops. This would help gradually build up a base of both volunteers and community interest. It's early days for these discussions but Transition plan to form a small working party to flesh out the ideas in January. They will also invite members of the wider community to join them – such as Love Haslemere Hate Waste and the St Stephen's Eco Church Green Team. This repair workshop concept is very much inspired by work already being done to great community benefit by Transition Town Totnes, helping to 'bring people together, relaxing and learning new skills, build networks and move our community towards self-reliance and resilience, create a fundamental sense of 'can do' and feelings of positivity, creativity and empowerment, establish and nurture links between old and young as skills are passed on'.....and more benefits besides!

<https://www.transitiontowntotnes.org/groups/skillshares/>

**If you'd like to know more, get involved or receive the monthly newsletter, email [info@transitionhaslemere.org](mailto:info@transitionhaslemere.org)**

**Claire Matthes**