

Dear SDAP supporter,

We've been busy behind the scenes since we last wrote. Here's a quick roundup of what we've been up to.

### Plastic Free Champions

As you'll recall, a major part of our work to gain Plastic Free Community status for the district is about signing up small and medium-sized local businesses to be Plastic Free Champions (PFCs), and we've made some great progress with this. Here's a [blog from Beeswax Wraps UK](#), our very first PFC, about some of the things they've done to move towards having a plastic free office.

And here are our next three PFCs, all very worthy recipients of the award and such a pleasure to work with: Golden Sheep Coffee, Spacehoppers Co-Working and Harbour Business Supplies.



We have more on the way – watch this space – but we still need more businesses from across the district to start the process with. As before, we'd like to invite any of you who run a business yourselves, work in or know of a small or medium-sized Stroud district business who might be open to giving our free, simple programme a try, to contact Chloe on

[sdap@transitionstroud.org](mailto:sdap@transitionstroud.org) for details of how to become a Plastic Free Champion. In short, all they have to do is give up using single use plastic in at least three places in their supply chain and/or workplace. It's a great way to respond to consumer demand around sustainability, and we have great tools to help businesses identify all the plastic they might think about eliminating.

## Plastic Free Awards 🏆

This is a national award scheme (to “celebrate the eco-warriors protecting our nation from plastic pollution”), again run by SAS, with one-off awards in each of 10 categories, including Plastic-Free Venues & Events, Small Business Award, Plastic-Free Hero and Plastic Free Campaign. The nomination process is very simple and is open now if you'd like to put anybody or any campaign (ahem!) forward for nomination.

<https://www.plasticfreeawards.org.uk/> Nominations close on 27 Sep and judging will take place in October.

## Events



The summer holiday weeks have been a quieter time for events but last week Chloe visited new climate action group, [Carbon Zero Rodborough](#), to give a talk about SDAP and going plastic free at the Prince Albert pub – it was very well-attended and there was a lot of interest in our group’s work and how to take the first steps towards going plastic free.

Claudi is giving a talk on 21<sup>st</sup> September 10-12 as part of a fantastic week-long lineup of Sustainable Living events organised by Wotton Community Climate Action Group – all the details on [their Facebook page via this link](#). Claudis talk is free but booking is advisable.

Giving talks is a great way for us to get out into the community, meet our ‘Community Allies’ objective and spread the word about the benefits of living plastic free, so if you are part of a group or club (WI, sports club, playgroup etc) who might appreciate a talk along similar lines, do let Chloe know on this email address. \*NEW\* We also have a free questionnaire for community organisations, clubs and societies to help them find and eliminate single use plastic – let Chloe know on this email address if you’d like a copy of this.

Chloe (and family) and also took part in a Top of the Town litter pick with Green Party and youth club volunteers last week, and we will no doubt hold similar events over the autumn. We are also talking to various running clubs across the district about supporting ‘plogging’ events. Plogging (jogging and the Swedish ‘plocka upp’ – picking litter) is the idea of litter picking/cleaning up while you exercise – the first confirmed event along these lines will happen in Wotton – with the “Wotton Trotters” - on October 27th.

### **Plastic Free Schools**

With the start of term this week, we’d love to see some more of the Stroud district schools taking up the [Plastic Free Schools](#) challenge, with the marine conservation charity Surfers Against Sewage. As previously mentioned, this pupil-lead initiative is something on which schools work with SAS directly, but we’re very keen to hear how it’s going and to support in any way we can (helping with assemblies, sharing plastic-free tips across schools, etc).

If you have links to any Stroud district school, do please encourage them to take up the opportunity. And if you’re part of a school or have children of your own, you might find these [back to school tips from Plastic Free Penzance](#) useful:

### **JOB OPPORTUNITY \*\*\* Transition Stroud Coordinator**

There’s a great part-time job going at Transition Stroud for a self-employed, part-time, coordinator. The funding is £6000 per year for a two-year period.

The Coordinator will play a key role in enabling Transition Stroud to implement its strategy to contribute to the achievement of a carbon neutral district by 2030 and to build resilient local communities. The Coordinator will support and facilitate the work of the Transition Stroud Board (currently consisting of 9 volunteer Directors), including the organising of meetings and ensuring the implementation of decisions. Amongst a range of key tasks, the Coordinator will act as an initial point of contact, undertake a range of administrative and financial tasks, identify and pursue fund raising opportunities, liaise with Directors and

Action Group leaders, and contribute as appropriate to strategy development and implementation.

You can download the full job description [here](#) To apply please send Erik ([erikjohnw@gmail.com](mailto:erikjohnw@gmail.com)) a CV, a covering e-mail explaining why you want the job and are a strong candidate, and contact details for 2 referees. Also contact Erik if you'd like an informal chat about the post. The deadline for applications is the 11th September. Interviews will be held during the week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

### SDAP on social networks

Don't forget to visit us on social media – we're busy on Twitter ([@SDAP\\_Tweets](#)) and Instagram ([@strouddistrictactiononplastic](#)), and our active [Facebook group](#) is going from strength to strength. Do come and say hello!

### Next SDAP meetings

An important next step for us is our first official steering group meeting – one of the requirements of the SAS accreditation – which is happening on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30 until 8pm, at Ebley Mill. Here we will reflect on our work to date, what remains to be done to achieve 'Plastic Free Community' status, and where we might like to take the group next. The core team will all be there and anyone else who would like to attend would be extremely welcome. For catering, it would be useful if you could let Chloe know (on this email address) if you plan to attend.

We didn't hold our usual monthly volunteers' meeting in August as most of the core team were away. The next SDAP meeting will be on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 1pm at the usual place: Atelier, Lower St, Stroud. We'd love to see you there.

### And finally...

...people often ask me for Claudi's amazing list of where to shop plastic-free across the Stroud district, [so here it is](#). Happy shopping!

Best wishes,

Chloe Turner, Project Coordinator **Stroud District Action on Plastic** – [Transition Stroud](#)  
[Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#)  
NEW REPORT – [Plastic & Climate](#)

