

## **GSX Annual Report 2018-2019 'A Sustainable Future'**

This past year has been a time of change, campaigns and emergencies.

In June 2018 the GSX agm agreed to dissolve the GSX charity and set up a new Environment Network with a new steering group.

After consultation with the Charity Commission the charity was closed in November.

Many thanks are due to all the trustees that were involved since 2015.

Four of the trustees, Tony Green, Cath Edwards, Bob Ensum and Fred Packer joined the steering group, along with Rob Saunders, Chris Deaves and David Howard.

This group has written a new constitution and continued to develop the work of GSX.

The new website includes the Electric Vehicle Recharging strategy which was developed by Rob Saunders and has been shared with the Marches LEP and the local councils.

Rob has also been in consultations with the developers of the Ironbridge Power station site and works closely with Telford and Wrekin council on environmental issues and planning.

Bob Ensum has been involved in setting up the Shropshire Against Pointless Plastic network, with local groups being very active on the problems and solutions.

He has also worked on Affordable warmth and this is now linked to the Marches Energy Agency (MEA).

As coordinator and chair of GSX, I have been involved with the Shropshire council consultations, including the Local Plan review and the draft Local transport plan, working alongside SWT, CPRE and others.

We continue our links with Sustainability West Midlands (SWM) and the Shropshire council Voluntary community sector assembly (VCSA).

Regular newsletters have been sent by email to members while the website and facebook page have been kept up to date.

Several events have taken place, such as the Ludlow Green Festival, The Blackberry fair and the Telford Grow Local day.

Climate and Biodiversity emergencies are major issues. It is clear that we need to act now to limit global warming and protect nature. The UK Parliament and the local Oswestry, Ludlow, Bridgnorth and Shrewsbury town councils have declared a climate emergency, along with Shropshire Council. Hopefully Telford and Wrekin council and others will soon follow.

GSX looks forward to working with the councils on reaching Net Zero Carbon.

With all the recent challenges, this is an important time for local environment groups to continue their involvement in the development of 'A Sustainable Future'.

Tony Green (chair GSX Environment Network Steering Group) June 2019