

EDUCATION

Education to:-

- Schools
- Communities
- Individuals
- All sectors

The Vision 2028

- more aware
- living sustainably
- stronger communities

Getting there

Find out about:-

- sustainable schools -
 - 1) LEA
 - 2) schools
- community skill sharing -
 - 1) baking
 - 2) sewing
 - 3) woodwork
 - 4) growing food

BUILDING

- 1) super insulation – improving existing housing stock
 - 2) Reduction in reliance on national grid/energy supplies – CHP, small scale renewable energy. Embrace new design and technology. Moving away from ‘traditional’ inefficient design
 - 3) Construction Materials –
 - avoid CO2 intensive concrete etc. (low impact)
 - Eco Villages – integrated into existing communities – Accessible to all
 - Low income housing
 - Mass production – to enable low cost, well designed houses.
 - Low-cost, self build straw bale/cob housing
 - Reclaimed building materials
 - Transportation involved in construction
 - Large amount of existing building stock within Penrith, how can these be improved?
- (1) Options available? E.g. solid stone wall house
 - (2) Cumbria has one of the highest levels of Fuel Poverty
 - (3) Issue of improving energy efficiency of existing building stock

Agriculture, Forestry and Farming

mike@edenarchitecture.co.uk

Food produce and farming methods

- 1) INFLUENCE the local population to source locally produced produce
 - through existing markets/cafes/restaurants
 - through school initiatives
 - through PACT events
- 2) IDENTIFY local assets
 - available land
 - allotments
 - orchards redundant
 - disused land
- 3) ENGAGE the farmer lobbying groups to break the supermarket dependence
 - Cumbria farmers networks
 - Cumbria organics

In order to

- reverse the current farming policy. (subsidy driven/intensive methods)
- shorten the route from farm to shop
- raise farm gate value/income

Work for

- Smaller family farms. Reversing the trend of intensive farming/large agri-business
- Break the supermarket dependence - local produce supplying local demand (i.e. re-forge the route from farm to customer)
- Convert families to seasonal produce (less food miles/global trade)
- Encouraged financially to farm sustainably. (i.e. larger return/value of their produce). Agriculture must not continue to be subsidised
- Encourage take up of family allotments (demand needs lobbying by PACT)

ENERGY PROJECTS

1) AWARENESS RAISING REGARDING INSULATION

Thermal imaging camera

Piece in the Herald

Leaflet?

2) RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR PENRITH

Plan local and appropriate scheme for Penrith

3) INFORMATION

Comparisons of different forms of renewable energy

TARGET - what do we use? Do we know this?

- reduce energy consumption by 50%
- insulation
- new-build and retrofit
- appliances
- Community Heat & Power scheme in the New Squares area
- Photovoltaics on every school and community building
- Solar Thermal on every house

RESOURCES AND WASTE

Vision for the Future

- Prevent waste in the first place. E.g. minimal/reuseable/compostable packaging
- Longevity of Products – repair, better quality, reuse
- Alternatives to plastics
- Sustainable use of local resources
- Zero waste
- Promote re-use culture
- Widespread home/community composting
- Re-skilling –
 - rug making
 - Stone masonry
 - Pottery
 - Jam (food preserving)
 - Weaving
 - Carpentry
- local producers – making, selling and repairing
- move away from consumer (disposable) culture
- local waste re-processors

Achievable Projects

- 1) Plastic bag ban
- 2) Community composting
- 3) Freecycle available to all – More reuse– bring back jumble sales

TRANSPORT

TO achieve in 20 years time

- less car use
- goods by railways and canals
- re-open local train stations
- re-open branch line
- Penrith Park & Ride
- Better cycle paths
- Cyclist awareness (lesson for drivers)
- Walking
- Car-sharing

Three Projects

- 1) Lobby local and central government groups – on improved public transport, trying to get people out of their cars, etc
- 2) Tax breaks – for use of more environmentally friendly transport – change attitudes to car use and cycling
- 3) Public Transport – more “FLEXIRUNNER” services

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

LONG TERM GOALS

- maintain green spaces around and within Penrith
- use spaces better – multi-benefits. E.g. food, recreation, biodiversity and leisure
- maintain school grounds and use them for education
- greater trees of all types
- more wildlife and habitats
- use nature's bounty to sustainably supply resources
- use built environment to deliver biodiversity. E.g. green roofs

THREE PROJECTS

- 1) map green space and how it is used
- 2) school ground project with children
- 3) Penrith parks for Penrith people (and nature)

FOOD

By 2020

- dietary changes
- traceable ingredients
- local ingredients
- food production
- education – schools, colleges
- mapping availability of foods
- allotments
- local bread
- reduced packaging
- reduced mileage
- farmers markets
- food sharing
- study what CAN be grown locally and how to prepare it
- community land trust
- loaned land
- community gardening
- incentives for buying local
- public procurement and traceability of local produce

Three Projects

- 1) Food mapping of Penrith – what and where
- 2) Allotment availability and skill education. Tools/resource sharing
- 3) Unused garden growing space and surplus produce availability distribution

ECONOMY

- 1) WHERE ARE WE NOW – undergoing a general major financial re-adjustment. The current economic model of what a ‘successful’ economy is is too simplistic. It needs an overhaul. We need to re-thing what economy IS.
- 2) WHERE WILL WE BE IF WE DO NOTHING – we would rather not dwell on it
- 3) WHERE WOULD WE WLIKE TO BE IN x YEARS TIME
- 4) WHAT ARE OUR SEED PROJECTS – (see below)
- 5) WHY SHOULD PENRITIANS GET INVOLVED? (“WHATS IN IT FOR ME?”) – Why would they WANT to get involved (rather than ‘should’. – “I perceive benefit from getting involved in project x” Everything that happens has to translate down to a personal level. i.e. “I can see myself and my own life changing to accommodate this”

PROJECTS

- 1) We are arranging to meet again
- 2) Grow more raw materials locally. E.g. bamboo and hemp – farm diversification – for energy and manufacture.
- 3) Build a database of existing working solutions – local, national and international examples (don’t re-invent the wheel). This will begin in November.
- 4) Build in more collaboration, cooperation and mutuality into the local economy – there are better ways of organising human activity than the current ‘business as usual model’ – e.g. cooperatives. – Start by identifying existing businesses – see what they are doing and how they might be assisted.
- 5) General research on local money systems – local currency, swap shops, LETS, Credit unions, etc.
- 6) Education – offer workshops to members of the other working groups as to what and how principles of economy work, and can work better. Economy impacts on almost everything that we do.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Did not produce anything (I think the group was too small)

One suggestion to see the group is – education about healthy living. Live for wellness rather than treat illness. Research and demonstrate how a low impact sustainable integrated community can have positive health benefits. i.e. the benefits of a healthy active and stimulating life.