

PLUMPTON PLASTIC CHALLENGE



Thank you to those of you that attended the first meeting in September and thank you to everyone who has shown interest in joining the Plumpton Plastic Challenge Group since.

It was very clear from the meeting that there was real enthusiasm for a second meeting to really start to change things, and we will make that happen.

If you want to watch two of the videos we showed please click on the following links – and please do share them with others:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/44586290> (David Attenborough being amazed at Blue Planet II impact)

<http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/the-uk-plastics-pact> (Together we can)

Many of you will also have watched ‘Drowning in Plastics’ presented by Liz Bonnin screened on 1 October. If you haven’t yet seen it or want to share the link with your friends please go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0bmbn47>. We can guarantee that once you have got over the shock of what we as humans are doing to the world, you will want to stand up and do something.

We asked people at the meeting to list Ideas for Individuals, Ideas for Venue Outlets and Ideas for the Community of Plumpton as a whole. There were over 50 ideas which are listed at the end of this note. We can’t make them all happen – everyone can do their part at an individual level. For example, to start with the two of us are going to have a go at using bamboo toothbrushes, reduce our use of clingfilm and take containers to the farm shop so we don’t get our meat and other produce wrapped in plastic.

If you would like to lead on one of the community ideas please let us know. Good news – the Parish Council has agreed already to install recycling bins at the Village Hall – a great first step.

For starters, shall we all trial for the next few months a **PLASTICS FREE FRIDAY**? Pass the word around the village and next time we meet, let’s review how easy or difficult it was for everyone to make just one day completely plastic free – so no bottles, food wrapping, chocolate bars and drinks in plastic

We will also try and have a ‘plastics-free’ suppliers’ event – watch this space!

TAKE ACTION – BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

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OUTPUT FROM PLUMPTON PLASTIC CHALLENGE MEETING 26 SEPTEMBER 2018

COMMUNITY IDEAS

- 1 Create a directory of businesses providing plastic free goods both locally and nationally
- 2 Encourage families to measure how much plastic waste they in one week
- 3 Hold a Plastic Free Friday diary day
- 4 Better emphasis on environmental conditions as part of the planning process (to be enforced by LDC and PPC)
- 5 Set up a Plumpton Plastic Challenge Facebook account
- 6 Create a forum where people can place ways of reducing the use of plastic
- 7 Form a partnership with the school
- 8 Recycling collection every week and refuse collection once a week.
- 9 Lobby LDC to install appropriate recycling bins and local collection of waste batteries
- 10 Hold Plastic Free events in the village to show what can be done
- 11 Install local recycling bins for plastics not accepted at kerb side, e.g. magazine covers etc
- 12 Ask school to run a competition for pupils to suggest plastic reduction ideas
- 13 Work towards Plumpton Collectively acting against Plastic
- 14 Make sure people know that recycling is the last resort – it is expensive as it must be cleaned first. Avoiding use in the first place is better
- 15 Publish regular articles in the Parish Magazine about reducing plastic use
- 16 Find a business that will collect all the non-kerbside plastic waste from a central point in the village.
- 17 Village Hall must have a recycling and plastic policy

LOCAL OUTLET IDEAS

- 1 A plastic plan committee involving a rep from school, shop, racecourse, college, pubs. church, MOP (more than one person)
- 2 Residents can become members of a plastic group -sticker for windows, get challengers and access the stats to boost the community “feel”
- 3 Annual fundraising event
- 4 Central battery recycling point (more than one person)
- 5 Use paper bags (rather than plastic) in shop for all fresh produce and fish&chip van (More than one person)
- 6 Stock more local produce in the shop – less plastic as locally delivered
- 7 Utilise more recycling bins – Seton.co.uk supply cheaper versions
- 8 Start a water refill scheme involving shop, pubs, local businesses, college etc
- 9 Remove plastic straws and cups from all outlets (more than one person)
- 10 Remove plastic sauce bottles and sachets from pubs
- 11 Reduce business rates for local businesses which move to plastic free
- 12 Shop could sell refills for washing up and detergents (more than one person)
- 13 Encourage local producers to supply without plastic wrapping, e.g. fruit, veg, cheese
- 14 Use reusable coffee cups (more than one person)
- 15 Campaign across all outlets the 4 R's
- 16 Ask outlets to offer deposit return
- 17 Install a water fountain at the playing field

IDEAS FOR INDIVIDUALS

- 1 Trial Charlotte's Cupboard
- 2 Trial the Soap Society products
- 3 Find a local milkman and avoid plastic bottles
- 4 Stop using clingfilm – use foil, greaseproof paper or similar
- 5 Use boxes for storage of leftovers
- 6 Buy in bulk as a group and refill from that
- 7 Just stop buying products wrapped in plastic – find an alternative
- 8 Buy a reusable coffee cup and take it to work, to the shops
- 9 Wash and reuse plastic water bottles – they'll last for months
- 10 Try a shampoo bar
- 11 Use soap bars and not gel in plastic bottles
- 12 Visit farm shops/markets and take your own bags (more than one person)
- 13 Stop farm shops wrapping fresh meat in plastic – take a box with you or tin foil
- 14 Use a bamboo toothbrush
- 15 Take a reusable water container on journeys – don't buy water
- 16 Take packed lunches rather than buy from a shop or petrol station (more than one person)
- 17 Pick up any loose plastic you find
- 18 Don't use plastic string in the garden or elsewhere – use natural twine