

Residents call for action on climate change and biodiversity loss

On **Friday 3rd July** we had a **capacity audience** in the Memorial Hall to watch a 50-minute film and take part in a follow-up discussion on **climate change and biodiversity loss**.

The event was introduced by Jonathan Walsh, and the discussion was facilitated by John Marsham, Professor of Atmospheric Science at the University of Leeds and member of Climate Action Ilkley.

The film is based on the *National Emergency Briefing*, which was delivered by **leading UK climate scientists** and other independent experts in Westminster in November 2025.

It sets out the powerful evidence for the climate and nature emergency we face along with **solutions that could benefit people, nature, national security and the economy**.



The turnout showed that many people in Addingham want to understand these challenges and, more importantly, know **what can be done**.

It confirms the results of a village questionnaire survey we conducted in 2023 which showed that 90 – 95 % of Addingham residents were either “**concerned**” or “**very concerned**” about climate change.

(see https://www.climateactionaddingham.info/CCQ_CAA_Final%20Report.pdf)

The film has now been shown in over 3,400 venues across the UK. There is still chance to see it if you missed our own showing, see the NEB interactive map <https://www.nebriefing.org/screening-map>. In our local area there are **screenings coming up** in

- Ilkley at Christchurch Methodists on the Grove on **23rd October**

- Silsden at the Methodist Church on **29th October**



In our meeting, attendees were invited to sign a public statement calling on HM Government to broadcast a **nationally televised briefing** presented by independent experts to explain the seriousness of the climate and nature emergency, the solutions, and the choices. They were also encouraged to write to MP, Robbie Moore, to thank him for writing to Prime Minister Keir Starmer, but also to ask him to formally support the call for such a briefing. Since the meeting Robbie Moore has now written to the new Prime Minister, Andy Burnham.

We believe that, just as governments communicate clearly with the public during other national emergencies, such as the Covid pandemic, **people deserve straightforward, science-based information**

about the risks posed by climate change and nature loss and the actions needed to address them.

Professor Marsham said at the meeting *“disinformation is widespread and a televised briefing would highlight the positive impacts that come from action. Contrary to the current anti-net zero narrative being pushed by some, an orderly and just green transition is an economic opportunity that both delivers growth across all regions and creates jobs.”*

At the end of the evening Geoff Mills described some of the actions being taken locally by our different community groups including:

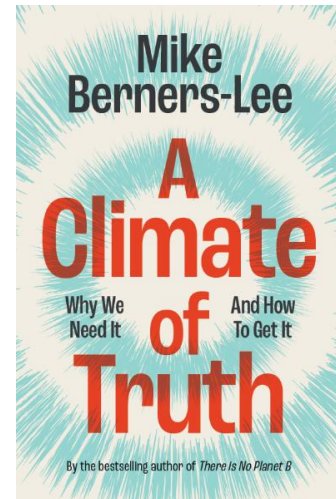
- Our **CAA Zero Carbon** group helping residents improve their home energy efficiency and reduce their carbon footprints
- **St Peter's Church**, striving to become an eco-Church and achieve net zero by 2030
- Our **CAA Zero Waste** group, organising Jumble Trails, the pop-up refill shop, and promoting recycling opportunities
- The **Allotments and Gardens Association** committed to promoting rainwater harvesting systems across the village, starting with allotments
- Our **Primary School** with its Climate Action Plan committed to meeting net zero by 2050, with sustainability embedded throughout the curriculum
- **Friends of the Wharfedale Greenway** promoting active transport better for the environment and for people's well-being



- The **Environment Group** together with **CAA** creating more wildlife-friendly space and restoring land for nature throughout the village, and
- The **Golf Club** with its management of the golf course in a wildlife friendly way

We all need to act! There are many ways we can do our bit, keeping the pressure on Government, seeking to understand the issues better and acting locally to reduce our heavy footprints. Here are **some suggestions**:

- Sign the **petition** asking Government to hold a televised briefing: nebriefing.org/take-action
- Host a **screening of the film** in your community group: nebriefing.org/host-the-film. It doesn't need to be fancy and we, CAA, can advise
- Watch the full version of the expert briefings: <http://tiny.cc/NEB>
- Read a book! **A Climate of Truth** by Mike Berners Lee is an excellent introduction: <https://climateoftruth.co.uk/>
- Read about the work of the **UK Climate Change Committee**: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/>
- **Talk** about climate change and nature loss to others: <https://larger.us/ideas/lets-talk-climate/>
- **Sign up** to our CAA email circulation list and check our website to keep abreast of local activities <https://www.climateactionaddingham.info/>



To sign up and for further information **email Rick Battarbee** at aeg@addingham.info