



# Every Action Counts

Welcome to the first issue of the Colehill Parish Council, Every Action Counts, newsletter. We will be bringing you up to date information on a quarterly basis, with tips about how we can all help to reduce our impact on the environment. We would love to hear your thoughts on this newsletter, and any ideas you may have to help the environment so that we can share them with the community. Please send thoughts and contributions via our feedback form on the Colehill Parish Council website.

We hope that you find Every Action Counts interesting and informative.  
Councillor Maria Roe



## Winter is coming...

Have you ever thought about where the energy comes from when you turn on the lights, boil the kettle or switch on the heating? Over the years we have moved from using one fossil fuel (coal) to other fossil fuels (gas and oil). When we use fossil fuels to produce electricity or heat our homes we are releasing toxic substances like carbon into the atmosphere. This makes things worse for our planet because global temperatures rise. Furthermore, air pollution from the refining of fossil fuels is bad for our health.

Clean energy is generated by the sun, wind, water and biofuels (gas released by rotting food and agricultural waste). The energy we use in all our homes accounts for one quarter of the UK's carbon emissions. If you haven't done so already, now might be the time to rethink your energy provider.

Friends of the Earth work closely with Good Energy and Ecotricity - both are gold standard suppliers, but there are many other suppliers to choose from and it is easy to switch either online or over the phone with no disruption to your supply. [www.bigcleanswitch.org](http://www.bigcleanswitch.org) is a helpful website which details different suppliers.

## And the good news is...

Do you ever feel that all news is bad news? Well, here's some good news for a change. The UK has made a big leap forward in decarbonising the electricity system, and whilst there is a lot more to do, this is something we can take a moment to celebrate.

The organisation Carbon Brief reported recently that UK renewables (sun, wind, water, and biofuels) have generated more electricity than fossil fuels in the months of July, August, and September. In 2010, ten times more energy came from burning fossil fuels than from renewable energy.

## What happens to our food waste?

Eco Sustainable Solutions in Piddlehinton turn our food waste into soil improver, compost and renewable energy. It's a messy business but they process a whopping 250,000 tons of our organic waste every year. Some of this will become agricultural fertiliser and the methane gas is turned into electricity. If we didn't use our food caddies and all this food waste went to landfill the methane would be released into the atmosphere and increase greenhouse gas emissions.

Please send any feedback on the newsletter and/or ideas that we can include in future newsletters via the Feedback form on [www.colehill.gov.uk](http://www.colehill.gov.uk)