



“One Northallerton One Planet” was formed in Feb 2021 with reps from each of the 5 churches in One Northallerton. We aim to be **“Church & Community working together to care for our planet by raising awareness, practical action & campaigning”**. Some of our achievements are:

1. Three churches (NMC, Zion URC and NLBC) declared a climate and environmental emergency at our Climate Sunday services in September 2021.
2. We held a market stall during Great Big Green Week in September 2021 to engage with the public. This created opportunities to provide educational materials about the climate crisis and to talk about why it matters to Christians, which was well received.
3. We are encouraging our churches to continue their journey of making their buildings, land and activities more eco-friendly, incorporating “creation care” into their regular teaching and worship, and encouraging lifestyle changes amongst their members to reduce their carbon footprint.
4. We supported the Young Christians Climate Network when they passed through Northallerton on their long-distance relay from the G7 in Cornwall to the COP26 in Glasgow. We provided refreshments at All Saints and some cyclists from Ripon to Stockton!
5. We organised a Town Hall Community Event in October “What can WE do about climate change?” This was well-attended by the public, with activities for kids and information stalls from ourselves and other groups promoting an eco-friendly lifestyle. This included Hambleton Wombles, North Yorkshire Rotters, Thirsk Friends of the Earth, Northallerton Has Heart, HARBUS (bus-user group), Warm and Well, Toy and book-lending libraries, the Willow Beck path group and Northallerton Secret Garden.
6. We collected over 200 signatures on a climate finance petition at our various events, which was presented in person to Rishi Sunak during COP26 in November.
7. Some of our group travelled by train to Glasgow and took part in one of the marches.
8. Three members (Liz Styan, Rachel Smith & Lesley Bustard) started the Applegarth Community Garden (at the end of Ashlea Road). They worked with the Town Council on the vision and planning, attracted some additional volunteers and joined the Incredible



Edible scheme. Volunteers put in the first plants on 22/2/22 and raised beds were added on 19/3/22. They have made their own Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Applegarth-Community-Garden-103222205634444> We look forward to it becoming a place where local people can stop and appreciate nature, as well as enjoy the Incredible Edible experience! <https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk/>.



9. One Northallerton One Planet has also been a catalyst for the formation of a community-wide climate group. Our community events have created a wider interest from individuals and groups, both within and outside the church. On the back of this, we realised we needed a new structure to allow wider action on the climate to grow and flourish within our community in a coordinated fashion. Thus in December 2021, CLIMATE ACTION NORTHALLERTON (CAN) was launched, which Sean Burleigh (from Northallerton has Heart) agreed to coordinate, with support from Sally Anderson and our One Northallerton One Planet (ONOP) group. CAN is affiliated to Friends of the Earth and will serve as an umbrella organisation for various community groups (including One Northallerton One Planet and the Applegarth Community Garden) so that “together we CAN make a difference!” There is currently a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Climate-Action-Northallerton-108338985032149>) and there are hopes for a website in the future.

**Climate Action Northallerton** joined in the Climate Coalition’s “Show the Love” campaign during February 2022, asking many local community groups to make green hearts to show our love for the environment. These were accompanied by messages, pledges and prayers. Many churches joined in, along with The Living Rooms, several church toddler groups, Girls Brigade, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Romanby Women’s Institute. These were then



brought together, as well as more hearts being created at CAN’s drop-in event at the town hall on Sat 26 Feb, sending messages to our local councillors and to our MP about the changes we would like to see locally and nationally to help combat climate change. Over 15 groups took part, more than 125 people came through the doors on the day, including several local councillors from both HDC and NYCC. Reps from Northallerton, Stokesley and Thirsk are meeting regularly with HDC.

It is hoped that in time we will be able to create new groups under CAN’s umbrella for specific projects such as greener transport, homes, food, waste and improving our local environment. The Applegarth Community Garden is one such group which is now gaining an identity of its own. A group to encourage safer cycling in and around Northallerton is currently being formed.

Please follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/OneNorthallertonOnePlanet](https://www.facebook.com/OneNorthallertonOnePlanet) and if you’d like to get involved, either through CAN or the churches group, please email us on [northallertonclimateaction@gmail.com](mailto:northallertonclimateaction@gmail.com) or [onenorthallertononeplanet@gmail.com](mailto:onenorthallertononeplanet@gmail.com)