

Do something for your local environment

In this issue, we look at things we can do for our local environment.

1. _____

Want to grow your own vegetables or keep a few chickens? Or do you think you have green fingers and would like to put them to work? There are almost one hundred allotment sites available on a first come, first served basis. If you're interested and can guarantee maintenance of the plot, then give us a call. All leases are for three years.

2. _____

Do you drive to work? Could you cycle or maybe take advantage of our new car share scheme? We hope that these two initiatives will make our environment a better place, as well as reduce congestion on our roads. Signs for the new cycle lanes are clearly displayed. If you're interested in car-sharing, please log on to our website and sign up.

3. _____

Next week is *Keep Your Town Tidy* week and we are hoping that everybody will see the

difference. You will all have noticed that new bins have been placed along the high street and the notices indicating new fines of £100 for dropping litter. Our community wardens will be patrolling the streets and have the power to issue an on-the-spot fine to anyone caught littering. With your help, we can keep our town clean.

4. _____

This month sees the introduction of a new recycling system to make rubbish collection cleaner and easier. We will be providing all households with three new bins. The green one is for recyclable rubbish, such as paper, glass, plastic and card; the brown one is for garden and food waste, such as vegetable peelings and leftovers; and the black bin is for all other rubbish. New collection times will be announced soon.

5. _____

Grants of up to £1,000 and a subsidy on loans are available for homeowners who want to install solar panels. Fitting solar panels can also potentially make you even more money: you can sell surplus energy back to the grid and not only help the environment but help your pocket too.

Read the leaflet and answer these questions:

1. What might cost you 100 pounds?
2. What can you have for three years?
3. What is available to people who want to install solar panels?
4. What are the two ideas for reducing the amount of traffic on the roads?
5. Which bin do you use if you want to throw away bottles?

LISTENING 1

Listen to the short excerpt from a radio show and answer the questions below.

How many differences between the story in the leaflet and the story mentioned in the radio show did you hear? What were they?

LISTENING 2

Listen to a podcast “Energy of the future” and put these topics in the order that you hear about them:

fossil fuels _____
ground source heating _____
hydropower _____
solar panels _____
wind turbines _____

Listen again and decide if these sentences are true or false.

1. There are three differences between fossil fuels and renewable energy. **T / F**
2. Solar panels have become much less expensive since the year 2000. **T / F**
3. There are no problems with using wind turbines. **T / F**
4. Ground source heating is perfect for producing electricity in cities. **T / F**
5. Climate change can have a negative effect on hydropower. **T / F**