

We are delighted to report to you that the Sustainable Pendeen event about Electric Vehicles, held on 24th August this year, was very well supported with over 200 attendees.

While people enjoyed seeing the new electric cars on display, they were particularly interested in seeing the locally owned e cars and hearing from their owners about performance, costs, mileage etc. E car owners were kept busy through the day taking passengers around the village to experience an e car ride first-hand. Similarly, new and owned e bikes were in demand and riders could put them through their paces and hear from owners how useful they were. Inside the Centre of Pendeen, there were stands about car-clubs, lithium mining, car chargers and much more, all stimulating questions and discussions through the day.

The written and verbal feedback has shown that people enjoyed the event, learnt from it and several were stimulated to make plans and / or take actions to move towards electric cars or bikes, car share or car-clubs. Thirty-one people completed our questionnaire asking for their comments about the event and it's subject, and a further 24 wrote comments and posted them on our 'Have Your Say Wall'.

As organisers, our aim has been to encourage discussion around the topic and we promised to relay pertinent comments to the appropriate authorities. We are now pleased to complete this task through this letter to you.

The comments covered the following issues:

- The need for central government to take the lead in promoting, subsidising/incentivising electric vehicles and charging points.
- That all new builds should have charging points and off-road parking.
- The need for there to be a comprehensive network of charging points that increases ahead of demand and is distributed geographically evenly and fairly.
- That charging points need to be available to those who live in flats, terraces and other homes that may not have off road parking.
- That electric vehicles should use renewable energy and that we will need to have enough renewable energy as their use grows.
- That electric vehicles need to be more accessible, not just for the rich/higher earners. What about financial help to cover setting up electric car shares/car pools?
- The need for an integrated, reasonably priced/subsidised electric public transport system. More frequent and cheaper buses that include difficult to get to rural areas. Some people don't drive, others cannot afford cars.
- Recognising that 15% of a car's lifetime carbon footprint is in its manufacture, and similarly in scrappage and disposal. The answer is not scraping vehicles but to use them to the end of their lives, as long as they are running as efficiently as possible.
- Outlaw drivers who keep their engines running while stationary, or even when parked, on ground they need the air conditioning on.

We trust that these comments will be viewed as helpful and make a contribution to informing the development of increasingly environmentally friendly and sustainable policies.

There will be further Sustainable Pendeen events at The Centre of Pendeen, indeed one about living more sustainably in our homes is already arranged for 9th November this year. We will continue to collect the views of attendees and send their comments to appropriate agencies and individuals.

We thank you for your attention and hope that you will be able to attend one of our events.

Sandra Coak, Chair of Trustees and Event Organiser, The Centre of Pendeen

Jane Haslam, Event Organiser, The Centre of Pendeen

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