

Good Evening everybody.

My name is David Hincks, I live in Taunton and have been a member of Extinction Rebellion for nearly a year.

Extinction Rebellion is a relatively new phenomenon but it has been influential over the past year or so in radically increasing both public and governmental awareness of the climate and environmental crisis that is confronting us.

Extinction Rebellion remains concerned however that there are still many people, including probably some in this room, who do not fully realise the gravity of the emergency we are facing. Or, if they do recognise it, they are failing to act in a way that fully reflects that recognition.

All those in positions of power, such as in this very Council, hold an even greater degree of responsibility than normal for our future in these precarious times.

Unless suitable policies are implemented and fundamental changes are made swiftly we will simply run out of time. Time is of the essence.
Action is needed **NOW**.

While we have been running our daily vigil outside, we hope that some of our concerns have permeated, even if only subliminally, into the consciousness of the Council, its officers, staff and of course its Councillors themselves, and into the consciousness of the general public passing by.

We have not made a nuisance of ourselves, as the vigil has been a more subtle form of protest action for us than usual, but we hope it has had some effect, and that you have been able to recognise that there are many members of Extinction Rebellion who are just normal people, like yourselves.

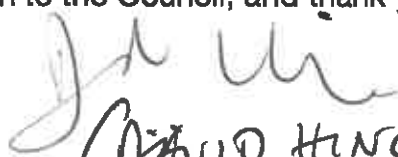
During our vigil we have collected signatures to a petition, from people who have just been passing by. We have not gone out of our way to garner signatures, and these are real signatures on paper, not just something people can do by a quick click on the internet.

The petition demands.....

- 1 The creation of a Citizen's Assembly to hold our local council authorities to account and oversee changes required to combat the climate emergency.
- 2 Immediate implementation of local policies to reduce carbon emissions to net zero within the Somerset area by 2025 and reduction of overall consumption levels.
- 3 Reversal or revision of any existing policies which increase net carbon emissions.

We have 23 pages of signatures.

It is now my privilege to formally present this petition to the Council, and thank you, for allowing me speak, albeit briefly, this evening.


(DAVID HINCKS)
145 Firepool View
Taunton TA1 1NY

VIGIL PETITION

Tell the truth.....net zero carbon emissions by 2025 and reduce consumption.....Citizen's Assembly

In 2019 Somerset West and Taunton Council and Somerset County Council declared a climate emergency. Urgent and radical action is required following these declarations and we, the undersigned, demand:

- The creation of a Citizen's Assembly to hold our local council authorities to account and oversee changes required to combat the climate emergency.

Immediate implementation of local policies to reduce carbon emissions to net zero within the Somerset area by 2025 and reduction of overall consumption levels.

- Reversal or revision of any existing policies which increase net carbon emissions.

C. D. HINCKS
145 Firepool V
Taunton
TA1 1NY

Signed Full Name Address Postcode

[Faint, illegible handwritten signatures and names in the petition table]

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