

## **South Huish Parish Council Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

### **APPENDIX A: Community Compost Scheme update provided by Emma Gray**

- 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022 – my first SMASH meeting – agreed to look into the viability of a community compost scheme. Produced a short report for the next meeting.
- Carried out visits to other local schemes:  
South Brent – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
Ashprington – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023

#### Conclusions:

1. Need a site of approx. 300m<sup>2</sup>
  2. 3 open-sided compost bins
  3. Storage facility for tools, volunteer stuff – small storage container
  4. Space for larger compostable material for SHDC to come and break down every 2-3mths
  5. Reasonable access for cars to bring material to site and for SHDC tractor and chipper to come in and out
- May 2023 – Registration of Interest completed on SHDC website
  - June 2023 – put in grant application to Co-op – update Jan 2024 – bid not successful
  - 7<sup>th</sup> June – Ben Bryant (SusSH compost mentor and Devon Community Compost Network) attended SMASH meeting to explain next steps for a community compost scheme
  - June-July 2023 – questionnaires sent out to both South Huish and Malborough parishes via post offices and both newsletters. 30 responses – example of some of the results:  
52% signed up for brown bin collection in 2023 – same as SHDC wide  
100% said compost scheme would be useful  
81% said they would use it  
55% would volunteer  
70% would bring compostable material to site
  - October 2023 – Home Compost Roadshow to take place on 28<sup>th</sup> – had to postpone because of very poor weather conditions – rebooked for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1-4pm.
  - November 2023 – 8<sup>th</sup> Nov – Sustainable South Hams Change Makers meeting re: community compost schemes.  
Outcomes:  
Partnership between SusSH, Devon Community Composting Network and SHDC  
Pilot scheme will include: Community Compost Scheme pilot – Marlton (using it as a template for further schemes); brown bin conversions; roadshows and public engagement; compost clubs (at street level).
  - 6<sup>th</sup> December meeting with Rob Redding – Site Manager SWW and Ben Bryant – SusSH Compost Mentor and Devon Community Compost Network.

Explained to Rob what a community compost scheme would look like and how it would function. Discussed where it might be sited on SWW site and what is needed to get set up

Agreed in principle with Rob but he will require a short report from me and Ben to set out in more detail what the community compost site would need – size, component parts (composting area, secure storage for tools, etc). Also what documentation would be required to 'green light' the scheme – permissions, licences, possible planning consent from SHDC, set up a working party to set this in motion and then start to market the scheme, recruit and train further volunteers, etc. Agreed to write a report post both PC meetings.

- 16<sup>th</sup> Jan – short report given to SHPC meeting – **ACTION – SMASH needs approval from SHPC to support the scheme.** (This has already been given by MPC at the November 2023 meeting).
- Next steps – rough timetable
  1. Nov '23 – May '24 – Find and secure a site
  2. February '24 – SHPC to minute approval to support to scheme
  3. May – Oct – work with Ben Bryant and SHDC to secure funding for setting up a scheme, form working party for this
  4. Nov '24 – Jan '25 – Recruit volunteers, set-up scheme in situ
  5. April – open scheme to the two parishes

Emma Gray -SMASH – co-ordinator for Community Compost Scheme