

## Report of Oct 20 Sustainability Fair

People asked the 14 stall holders for inspiration and advice at our Sustainability Fair, on the afternoon of Saturday October 20, in Fairmilehead church. This was co-hosted with the Eco-congregation. Ian Murray MP and Scott Arthur Councillor opened the Fair with a welcoming double act. This may look like political bias but was a circumstantial chance. The two Conservative councillors sent apologies, as the date clashed with holidays, and supportive good wishes. The Sustainability Champion for the city, Councillor George Gordon SNP joined us on the day – so promoting sustainability has cross party consensus.

Eleven of the visitors added to a chart what they do now and what they may take up as steps to creating more sustainable lifestyles. Ten of these eleven already try to have at least one active travel /car free day a week. The eleventh put a ? for 'will start'. Nine already chat about climate change to stimulate political action, and two will start to do so. Six said they have at least one veggie day a week but only one hoped to make that change. On waste, six claimed that they rescue and recycle an aluminium can from the street each week while three may start to do that. Five people already invest in renewables, either by having installations at home, or by contributing to a project. Four more will start to help renewables. A pleasing number of actions already happening. If we have stimulated people to do an extra ten new actions between them that will be a good result.

Visitor numbers were OK but more would have been encouraging. Was the title Sustainability Fair a turn off? What title would suggest a fun afternoon, interesting and relevant ? Please send us your suggestions and we will try them out on the unsuspecting public.



Ian Murray and Scott Arthur



Listening to the welcome at the Fair