

Eco Congregations Award: Report of St Anne's Parish, Shankill

Activities from 2018 to 2020

Shankill Action for a Green Earth - SAGE - was launched in October 2015 in response to Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si*. It was conceived as an ecumenical initiative between St Anne's R.C. parish and St James' Crinken C.of I. Our objective is to raise awareness in the village of Shankill of the causes of Climate Change and of our responsibilities as Christians, together with the wider Shankill community, to take actions to reduce our individual contributions to Climate Change and work towards making Ireland 'carbon neutral'.

We are now in our fifth year of activity. Much has been done in that period, some of it successful and some not. But we are committed to continuing our work, learning as we go from our and the successes of others, bringing new people into our work and being open to new ideas.

In November 2017 both parishes received the Eco Congregations Ireland award. Since then collaboration between the parishes on this issue has diminished somewhat, although overall relations remain strong. This following report relates to the actions St Anne's parish has carried out over the past two and a half years.



Church Related Activities

Prayer of the Faithful – The Parish continues to include a prayer for the Earth and Creation in the Sunday liturgy Prayer of the Faithful each week.

Lenten Activities – Each lent we have an exercise for parishioners to undertake around climate change. In 2018 we prepared a sheet with four boxes highlighting energy issues in the home. (see the attached example). These covered Heating, Hot water, Appliances and Lighting, with recommendations in each box derived from the SEAI Home Energy tips. We invited parishioners over the Lenten period to pick a tip from one of the boxes each week and implement it during Lent and beyond, making it into a lifetime habit. We headlined the exercise with Pope Frances' exhortation that "*An awareness of today's ecological crisis must be translated into new habits*". (L.S.)

In 2020 we launched a **survey** in Lent to **measure the carbon emission footprint of the parishioners**. This was similar to what we had seen in Booterstown parish. Over 300 forms were distributed during the Masses of the second Sunday of lent. Using the Friends of the Earth on-line calculator each person was asked to complete the form. The results are still being computed. The Covid 19 restrictions have frustrated us in this regard. However, the underlying purpose of the exercise was to make each household aware of their footprint. When possible we intend to call a meeting, present the results and discuss what actions we, as individuals might take to reduce our carbon usage. [Appendix1]

We mark **Earth Day** and the **Season of Creation** in the church with displays of materials and other items such as a globe. In 2019 the globe carried 'flames' to indicate the bush fires in Australia and 'feet' to show the disparate levels of carbon usage across the world.

On appropriate Sundays we have excellent sermons from the Parish Priest on Creation matters.

Parish Networking

Word of our endeavours has spread to other parishes and we have been invited to speak to parish groups about our experiences in establishing SAGE. We have spoken in Clontarf, Booterstown and Mount Merrion. We have urged these parishes to join Eco Congregations Ireland as a first step in becoming an Eco Parish.

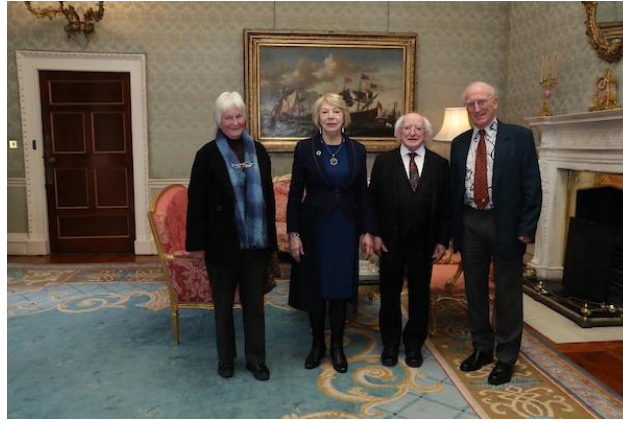
We have been invited to address the Bray deanery meeting in October this year. One of our members has been invited to join a committee in the Archdiocese of Dublin to promote Laudato Si in the parishes. He has also addressed the priests of Cloyne Diocese (November 2019) and a conference co-sponsored by the Diocese of Waterford and Lismore, together with Waterford County Council where all the parishes of the diocese participated (May 2018). St Anne's Shankill was also used as a case study at the conference organised by Trócaire and the dioceses of Ferns, Ossory, and Kildare and Leighlin in March 2020 on "Caring for our Common Home, bringing Laudato Si alive in our Parish Communities".

For Christmas 2019

Public Awareness – Raising

In April 2018, as part of our Lenten activities, **Duncan Stewart, RTE presenter of ECO Eye and Environmentalist**, gave a public lecture on **How Communities can respond to the Crisis of Climate Change**. This was followed by small group discussions (about forty were in attendance) and a series of initiatives were suggested and passed to the committee for further discussion. We worked through many of these and implemented a number of them. The suggestions covered such ideas such as asking the local coffee shops and pubs to use compostable or recyclable coffee cups; showing the new Al Gore film. The actions taken forward were actions to invite the local National electoral candidate to meet the community and debate Climate Action.

In March 2018 we were represented at the launch by President Higgins of **Desertification - Ireland's role in this global challenge**, Ireland's support for the Great Green Wall by Kathie and Patrick Davey in Áras an Uachtaráin



In May 2019 **Lorna Gold of Trócaire** spoke on her book “**Waking Up to Climate Change**”, which looks at Climate Change from the point of view of a mother and her family. The talk was very well received and led to an animated discussion. (See political advocacy below)

In July 2018, in conjunction with **SEAI**, we held an “**Energy Fair**”. We leafleted 2000 homes and invited householders to come to an event where they could meet experts who would show them how to save money on their energy bills and facilitate a changeover to a new supplier. This was also the opportunity to promote energy conservation with the householders. Unfortunately the turnout was poor, despite considerable effort being put into the event. We were philosophical about it – you win some and you lose some! Probably it was not a good time of year because the response on the doorsteps had been very positive.

Each Christmas Shankill Business Community run a street party “Christmas in the Village”. For the last three years we have taken a stall to focus on energy, environmental and biodiversity issues. We have given away many ‘bee hotels’, pollinator planting advice and publicity materials from the SEAI. Interest, especially among children has been very gratifying.

Political Advocacy

In SAGE we strongly believe that only **radical political initiatives** will deliver the levels of change necessary to meet our obligations as a community and country to tackle Climate Change. Mindful of Pope Francis’ exhortation to vote for politicians “*who do not shrink from the problems of climate change but show real leadership and responsibility for future generations*”, we have engaged with our politicians, both locally and nationally.

As Lorna Gold’s lecture took place in the middle of the local elections campaign we invited candidates to come along. Six did so, representing FG, FF, SF and Lab. Each was given two minutes to speak following the lecture and a lively debate ensued. Three of them were subsequently elected.



Author and climate activist Lorna Gold with local election candidates

In 2017 We produced a submission to the **Citizen's Assembly for Climate Change**. [Appendix 2]

Election Hustings: For the 2020 general election we repeated our Election Hustings of 2016. We had a crowd of sixty or so and again six candidates, two FG, including a minister, two FF, the Greens and PBP. It was a lively affair, focusing only on Climate Change. Three of those present were elected. Alas, the minister lost her seat!

Fridays for Future: Between two and four of our committee are very committed to the School Students Fridays for Future campaign, inspired by Swedish teenage activist Greta Thunberg. They have been attending weekly outside Leinster House in solidarity with the youngsters, flying the Shankill Action for a Green Earth banner. Since the Covid crisis travelling and group demonstrations have not been possible, so instead we have put up the banners for SAGE and Fridays for Future each week at our gate beside the main road. The response has been very positive from passers by. Currently this demonstration is in week 80



Weekly Demonstration



November: Faith Group demonstration



On September 20th, 2019, the day of the school pupils strike, we organised, with the agreement of the principals of the three primary schools in the parish, a protest in the church grounds after school hours. Up to a hundred children and parents participated over a two hour period. For part of the time we were joined by local politicians. The passing traffic blew their horns in solidarity!



In 2019 and 2020 we made submissions to BusConnect Corridor13 presenting our view that Climate Change and the Environment should be the prime underlying principle for the redesign. One member attended a meeting called by Minister Bruton to explain his approach to Dublin transport. [Appendix3 and 3a]

Education

Thumbprint Campaign

In Oct 2016 the SMA fathers (Society of African Missionaries) launched a programme in response to the Pope's encyclical "Laudato Si", which presents the urgency of Climate Change and the

responsibility of Christians to address the issues of Climate Justice by changing personal lifestyles to reduce the impact each one of us makes on the Earth, our common home.

A structure was formulated combining video presentations showing the impact of global warming especially in poor and developing countries with statistics covering energy use, relative use of raw materials and pollution, together with examination of how our actions contribute to the worsening of the situation, what changes could be made and an invitation to change our own personal lifestyles to become more planet –friendly.

The presentation ends with an invitation to place your thumbprint on a card with a promise to take action in various suggested ways as a sign and reminder of one's commitment to climate justice. The programme is designed for presentation to adult groups and also for schools at different age groups.

Two members of the parish SAGE group signed up to make presentations to schools. Over the past three years a number of visits were made, chiefly to 6th classes, as part of the confirmation preparation and to first years and Transition years. In all, about ten visits were made. The response was very positive and return visits were requested in subsequent years. It was pleasing to discover that many of the children used public transport, cycled or walked to school and some of their parents were already using electric cars.

During the **World Meeting of Families** SAGE worked on the stall of the SMA helping to present the Great Green Wall. The presentation culminated in a presentation of the virtual reality film of the same name showing the life and community effects of the project.

Biodiversity

Having heard presentations from **Fr Seán McDonagh and the National Biodiversity Data Centre** we decided that SAGE should take an initiative in promoting biodiversity. Drawing on the NBDC booklet **“Faith Communities – Actions to help pollinators”** we made a proposal to our Parish Council that we should promote bee friendly pollinating plants in the church grounds.

A radical proposal to turn the lawns into wild Irish meadows proved to be an initial step too far, but we agreed on a new bed, approximately 40sq.m, of pollinator friendly plants. We applied to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and secured a grant of €400. A limited parish collection raised a similar amount. The bed was dug and planted in September 2019 –



September 2019



May 2020

Further pollinator planting has now been added along borders in other parts of the grounds.



Dry border and rain harvesting



Hoheria and echiums



Front border

Shankill – A Sustainable Energy Community (SEC)

Promoted by SAGE, Shankill became a Sustainable Energy Community under the SEAI Better Energy Communities scheme in 2017. Since then we have worked extensively with them in developing a community response to energy conservation. We secured a €20,000 grant to prepare a community energy Master Plan which will allow a rational and structured basis to plan for future energy saving and restructuring in Shankill.

We have been supported in our work by designated SEAI mentors. In December 2019 three of our group participated in an SEAI workshop held in Athlone Institute of Technology on promoting Community Renewable Energy Projects.

We are now investigating the viability of developing such a project. We are proposing a link-up with a community in the rural hinterland of Shankill to develop a project jointly, to be funded by the LEADER programme.

Meanwhile we continue to promote SEAI domestic energy conservation grants at events like the Shankill Christmas Fair where we take a stall, resident association AGMs and similar events.

The Future

After four years of activism we decided to take stock. The world has changed, climate change is now in the political mainstream. What can SAGE continue to contribute?

In February 2020 we held a planning workshop resulting in a Strategic Options Paper to guide our work for the coming three years. (Appendix 4)

Appendix 1

Shankill Action for a Green Earth – SAGE

Strategic Options

Shankill Action for a Green Earth was initiated in July 2015 as an ecumenical response to Pope Francis's encyclical **Laudato Si** involving the three churches in Shankill - St Anne's, St James at Crinken and Rathmichael.

Over the past four years SAGE has been active at local, county and national level, holding events, participating in wider forums such as the **SEAI Sustainable Energy Community Scheme**, and advocating at national level through **Stop Climate Chaos and Fridays for Future**, holding **election hustings**, making submissions to national consultations and processes. We have also assisted **other parish communities** to begin their own work in tackling climate change. We were recognised as an **Eco congregations Ireland parish** in 2017.

We recognise that in the past four years **awareness around the climate change issue has changed dramatically** and it has become a political priority for all parties. In recognition of this we have developed new goals and strategies to guide our work for the coming five years.

Our Vision

SAGE envisages a sustainable world which enables a dignified life for all people and all future generations.

Our Mission

SAGE works to raise awareness of the causes of climate change amongst the residents of Shankill and beyond, and our responsibilities as both Christians and citizens to counter these.

Strategic Goals:

We will work to achieve our mission by **increasing our Impact**, thus having greater influence on climate change initiatives both locally and nationally. We will do this by

- **Growing in size** and being more rooted in the community
- **Increasing awareness** in the community resulting in more concrete actions in both energy conservation and generation, and biodiversity
- **Being well networked** with other climate action organisations in the community, through the diocese and the Dublin region, and at national level.

Initiatives

Establish a **working group** to investigate the feasibility of a **community energy generation project**; secure funding for a feasibility study

Create a **working group to focus on the SEAI relationship** and secure funding for a community house insulation scheme

Strengthen our **participation in the DLRCoCo Public Participation Network**

Create a **liaison group to support efforts in the schools** to educate the pupils about the and integrate this within the wider community

Continue to **work at parish level to integrate care for the Earth into the parish life** through liturgy, talks and reflection and parish based projects

Reach out to **other parishes**, particularly through our local deanery, and share our experiences with them.

Seek **support from behavioural psychologists (SEAI)** to inform ourselves about how we can be more effective in engaging the community in our work.

Continue to hold **events, such as public lectures and workshops**, to attract both parishioners and the broader community to inform them of the climate issue.

Be more **active on social media and recruit people with real expertise** in this work to manage our website and other media.

Make contact with the **Clonakilty Cool Community** and see what we can learn from them. Network with other groups eg: **Cabbragh Wetlands**, Co Tipperary to share experiences.

Continue to **link with other Shankill based groups** – Tidy Towns, Residents Associations, etc to promote climate change initiatives.

Evidence of Success:

SAGE will be **well known in Shankill** and seen as a **leader in Climate Justice** resulting in greater public participation in our projects;

There will be **visible change in Shankill** such as e-cars charging points and solar panels, more cycling and walking (to school) leading to a measurable decline in energy use;

We will have developed an effective **community energy generation project** together with a successful home insulation campaign;

We will be **integrated into the local schools**.

We will have influenced **other parishes**, working directly and through the Dublin archdiocese, to promote active parish initiatives similar to SAGE

At a **national level** we will have contributed through our **political activism** to Ireland reducing its greenhouse gas emissions and on course to reach the **2030 targets**.

Appendix 2.



HOW BIG IS YOUR FOOTPRINT?

As we begin Lent, we ask you to participate in a Parish-wide survey about your resource usage and your carbon footprints.

We at SAGE believe that current levels of resource consumption are unsustainable, because there is a limit to the resources available on earth and to the earth's capacity to absorb our waste products. While we in Ireland may not see a harmful change in our environment, we know that people across the world are suffering from droughts and fires, floods and rising sea levels, and harmful pollution of air and water. We are helping to cause this harm to others by our unbridled consumption and waste.

We believe that by making a few changes in our habits, we can start to mitigate the harm we have caused to the earth that we share with our neighbours around the world.

We are asking you to go to the Friends of the Earth website and use the Carbon Calculator to get an idea of how big of an environmental impact you are making in your daily life. It will only take about five minutes of your time. The address is:

www.foe.ie/justoneearth/carboncalculator/

When you complete the process, please note your result on the form at the bottom of the page and return the form to the box in the back of the church marked "Carbon Footprints". We will tabulate the results and share them with the Parish.

Thanks for your time and participation,
Shankill Action for a Green Earth



My emissions are as follows: Home heating:_____ . Hot water:_____ . Powering the home:_____

Land Transport:_____ . Air flights: _____ . Food emissions: _____.

Total emissions HOME: _____. Total Emissions Transport:_____. Total Direct Emissions:_____

Indirect Emissions:_____. Share of infrastructure:_____

My Total Annual Emissions of Carbon Dioxide is : _____

I am interested in hearing more from SAGE YES _____ No thanks _____

Please email me at this address: _____

Please text me at this number: _____

Appendix 3.

SAGE - Shankill Action for a Green Earth SUBMISSION TO CITIZEN'S ASSEMBLY 2017 ON TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE.

SAGE is a community based organisation in Shankill, Co Dublin. Its objectives are to raise awareness about climate change in Shankill, advocate for effective government policies and promote energy conservation in the homes and businesses of Shankill. **Our emphasis in this submission is on how communities can be supported to play their part.**

COMMUNITY ENERGY PRODUCTION AND SAVING

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) is promoting **Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC)**, encouraging people, institutions and businesses to retrofit buildings, to reduce energy use in transport and to produce renewable energy.

Much more needs to be done if Local Authorities, Partnership Boards and Leader Programmes are to promote Sustainable Energy Communities as a means to reduce CO2 emissions, provide local employment, and save money. We need to:

- Encourage communities to build community solar power stations, enabling the energy generated can be sold on the grid.
- Provide financial incentives to provide neighbourhood heating domestic heating.
- Begin to eliminate the turf and solid fuel burning power stations immediately.
- Experiment with wind and wave power generation and new forms of storing energy.
- Plant greater numbers of appropriate trees to decarbonise the environment by carbon sequestration.

- Each Tidy Town village in Ireland should emulate the Shankill “Trees for All” project where one tree was planted for each resident in the Community. In three years 13,500 trees were planted around the village. A single tree sequesters more CO2 than is produced by a car travelling to Beijing and back.

TRANSPORT

SAGE believes that the main emphasis in transport policy should be on public transport/cycling and walking. Specifically we want:

- Better planning to reduce travel distances.
- An increase in the number of electric vehicle charging points.
- Maintaining the subsidy for electric cars until their average cost equals that of fuel-driven cars.
- A time bound target to ensure that all buses are electric.
- Promotion of car sharing and the extension of the GoCar network.
- Provision of more and better quality cycle routes. separated from other traffic

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture is a high contributor to GHGE due to the production of methane in the dairy, sheep and beef industries and the production of nitrous oxides from nitrogen fertiliser and manure/slurry. We urge that in the short term:

- Effectiveness trials should be run on using seaweed as a supplement for feeding cattle and sheep. This could reduce (GHGE) by 99%. If successful, provide financial incentives to use the additives on a larger scale (taking into account the danger of overharvesting seaweed on an industrial scale).
- Promote a move towards mixed farming, reducing GHGE and limiting farmers’ vulnerability to fluctuating markets and climate change.
- Increase afforestation and fruit and vegetable production, thus improving self-sufficiency reducing the production of GHGs.
- Reduce the emissions of nitrous oxides through better management of nitrogen fertiliser/manure.

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY

Ireland is Europe’s third highest per capita producer of GHGE. As such we also contribute to the devastating effects of climate change on already poor communities in the developing world.

While we need strong policies and leadership at Government level we also need a willingness to make personal lifestyle changes and channel these into real political action to reduce Ireland's Green House Gas emissions. We need a well-funded campaign to encourage:

- Energy Conservation in the home
- Reducing agricultural emissions, for example by reducing the amount of Beef and Lamb in our diets

- The use of Public Transport, walking and cycling
- Increased afforestation and tree planting of appropriate trees in appropriate places

Appendix 4



SAGE presentation to NTA/BusConnects.

SAGE [Shankill Action for a Green Earth] was established in 2015 to develop awareness of the critical importance of Climate Change, to establish activities in Shankill to mitigate the escalating damaging consequences of climate change if we take inadequate action to limit our national greenhouse gas emissions, to support the maintenance of an optimum environment and enhance biodiversity and to improve the understanding of, and commitment to solving Climate Change among our politicians.

Our Comments on the Route 13 Bus Corridor will be made from the perspective of the absolute necessity of taking action on climate change, something which must involve every citizen and every organisation, as made clear by Mr. Richard Bruton and to minimise environmental harm caused by the proposals.

Sage makes this presentation assuming that the bus corridors and other changes to the Dublin transport system are intended to improve the broad range of public transport in order to make a significant contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Thus it becomes necessary to consider Route 13 as part of a broader perspective than just the effects of the proposal on the village of Shankill.

Reading the section of the 2017 National Mitigation Plan concerned with transport, it is clear that the focus is on transport in general, it is also very vague with little in the way of clear proposals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. There are no policies discernible with the intention of strongly encouraging people to transfer from private motor transport to public transport, bicycles or walking. It is clear that the thinking of the NTA does not include a national policy designed to sharply decrease the 19.8% of national greenhouse gas emissions due to transport. For this to be done it is

essential that NTA and BusConnect policies are designed to move a significant proportion [majority] of journeys from private to public systems.

Returning to issues relating to Route 13 in general and Shankill in particular:

1. Why is it proposed to reduce the number of bus journeys through Shankill from 13 to 8?
2. Why is it proposed to change route 145 so that it no longer serves Heuston Station and instead almost entirely duplicates the route 155?
 - a. Both of these changes reduce the incentives to change from private to public transport.
 - b. Both changes sit oddly with the claim in Bus Connect News of 7th February last that there will be a 27% increase in journeys.
3. What is the evidence that journey-time savings of 40 – 50% can be made on BusConnect route 13? And what proportion of that time is it suggested would accrue in Shankill? Many different sources are absolutely clear that current delays to the buses travelling through Shankill are either non-existent or trivial. Significant delays either occur in Bray town which is not part of the BusConnect Route 13 plan, or en route due to the number of passenger stops required or due to the stopping of vehicles in the bus lanes, taxis and delivery vehicles being the most common. If alternate buses were 'express' with limited stops, we would suggest, Shankill, Foxrock to connect with 46 series buses, Stillorgan and UCD and Donnybrook onwards. This would greatly reduce journey times for those taking the longer journeys.

In general transport could be greatly improved by the establishment of a feeder bus service between Bray Dart station or better, the new station proposed at Woodbrook, Shankill Dart station, Loughlinstown Hospital and the LUAS, currently at Brides Glen. This would have the added benefit of reducing the demand for free parking. At present Shankill Dart parking is inadequate and over-spill causes problems for the local estates during the working week. Luas parking is at capacity both at Brides Glen and Carrickmines.
4. Unlike many other named parts of Dublin, Shankill has a very strong identity as a village which residents greatly value. The proposal to effectively put a four lane highway through the village is totally unacceptable to the village of Shankill; it would have the effect of dividing the village, making contact between east and west [new and old] much more difficult. It is reasonable to expect that traffic on the road will increase in the future due to the amount of building proposed for the local area, which in principle could lead to delays, however one possible way to deal with this is to install traffic lights at either end of the village which will give priority to the buses. Obviously this would result in delays to private transport but this would have the desirable effect of encouraging private transport into public transport. If pull-ins were installed at the bus stops, which could be done with minimal disruption to pedestrian or cycle movements, this would facilitate the movement of necessary private transport.
5. Besides being concerned with issues of energy management relating to Climate Change, SAGE is also actively concerned with the environment and biodiversity. Shankill is a village which has a wonderful range of mature and developing trees which support a wide variety of bird, animal and insect life. Over 15,000 of these trees have been planted with the support of Dunlaoghaire Rathdown County Council, Shankill Tidy Towns and Crann, one for every inhabitant of Shankill. It is clear from reading the BusConnect proposal for Shankill that the plan includes the felling of a very large number of mature and developing trees, a proposal which would have the most serious consequences for the ambiance of the village, reverse a long term program of enhancing our village

environment and it would also be contrary to the needs of Ireland where maintaining our capacity to capture carbon is critical, as is the maintenance of biodiversity as explained in such detail in the recent United Nations report.

6. At a recent meeting convened by the EU in Mount Street each of the three speakers from Pontevedra in Spain, Paris and Amsterdam stressed the same points: to change an entire city requires:
 - a. A clear plan to move the city to lower greenhouse gas emissions.
 - b. That this plan equally importantly will make the city a more pleasant place for residents, due to much reduced pollution and greater safety and ease of moving around based on pedestrianisation, greater use of bicycles, Public transport and far fewer cars. Experience shows that people then move back into the city to live thus greatly reducing private car journeys.
 - c. All this to be done by improving public transport in favour of private.
 - d. Emphasising the importance of engaging the public and listening to their concerns and knowledge of local conditions. Planning officials must be prepared to walk the proposed routes and discuss proposed changes with interested locals.
7. In general it is essential that public transport is given full priority over private if private transport is to be reduced to the extent necessary to have any significant effect on Climate Change, which has to be our top priority. This will have two effects
 - a. Public transport will become more attractive as it is facilitated to keep accurate schedules.
 - b. Private transport becomes less attractive as it becomes subject to more delays, this will encourage change in transport habits in favour of the public systems.
 - c.
8. Public transport must be seen as an integrated whole comprising bus, rail, bicycle and pedestrian systems.
 - a. Thus it should be an integral part of the planning process to ensure that private transport can easily integrate with public, to facilitate this it is essential that there is plenty of free parking available at park and ride connections, often rail but also bus. Bus transport should be frequent and reliable and should as far as possible allow easy exchange between systems and routes, as it appears the bus connect restructuring aims to do, all with decent shelters.
 - b. In general there should be a move to provide free parking and transport on all commuter routes as this will have considerable drawing power to bring private transport into the public system as it would provide considerable savings over fuel and parking costs. Congestion and other charges could add further incentives to change over.
9. In view of the climate change emergency the entire transport system should be converted to electric as soon as possible and the capacity of the Luas at least doubled with corresponding changes in the parking facilities. This would clearly require some new thinking on controlling transport in the

City Centre. One possibility would be to terminate alternative LUAS trams at Stephen's Green on the South and Parnell on the North side.

10. Members of SAGE are deeply concerned members of the community of Shankill and greatly value the village atmosphere which is nurtured so well by the many organisations we have functioning in Shankill. The proposed Route 13 changes will do immense damage to the ambiance of the village, will produce no significant improvement in bus journey times and rather than contributing to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will make the situation worse. Such serious damage to a community and to the national carbon plan for no discernible benefit is totally unwarranted.

Signed on behalf of SAGE:

Patrick Davey

Appendix 5

Leaflet Distributed at Shankill Christmas Fare



SAGE is our local Sustainable Energy Community

We aim to:

- Assist householders and businesses to become energy efficient and thus save themselves money through Better Energy Community schemes.
- Being a Sustainable Energy Community allows us to maximise benefits and minimise the costs of energy saving works.
- Like us on www.facebook.com/SAGEShankill/ to learn more about grants available to
- Like us on www.facebook.com/SAGEShankill/ to keep up to date with progress on our projects
- Like us on www.facebook.com/SAGEShankill/ for updates and news
- Raise awareness of energy sustainability and climate change issues.
-

17 Ways we can all save energy & care for Earth's finite resources

1. Walk or bicycle to school / work / shops.
2. Use public transport when possible.
3. Boil only enough water for what is needed.
4. Where possible replace normal shower heads with water reducing heads. The savings could be €200 or more per year.
5. Turn off lights which are not in use.
6. Plant Trees
7. Eat less beef and lamb to reduce methane.
8. Replace dead bulbs with LEDs. (Keep receipts and check the guarantee. LEDs don't always fulfil it)
9. Reduce draughts but without causing condensation.
10. Block unused chimneys with a chimney balloon.
11. Borrow a better energy kit from SAGE to check insulation and energy use, temperature of fridge and freezer, water flow in showers etc.
12. Close curtains and keep them behind radiators.
13. Fix reflective surface behind radiators.
14. Screen the letter box or put a box outside.
15. When cooking, cover pans and casseroles.
16. Do not leave water running when washing teeth
17. Consider using electric heating instead of bottled gas.

Appendix 6

Notice in SCAN, the Shankill Community Magazine



NOW IS THE TIME.

SAGE is looking to recruit home owners wishing to improve the energy efficiency of their houses.

30% grants available.

Professional energy audit with costings for the various upgrade options.

You choose the work to be done from the supplied list.

Professional Management of the project.

Planning to be complete by 31st July 2018 and works will be completed by 31st October 2018.

Because a group of properties will form a single project the cost per unit will be lower than undertaking the work as an individual household.

The Credit Union has agreed a preferential rate to finance energy saving projects organised by SAGE

For further information or answers to questions please contact: Patrick Davey:
pjdriv@gmail.com Subject line: Questions

To confirm agreement to partake in the energy audit and to take part in this project please contact : Patrick Davey: pjdriv@gmail.com and use Energy Audit as subject line.

Confirmation of interest by Monday 16th July.



**Thursday 26th April 2018,
8.00pm
Resource Centre, St Anne's Parish,
Shankill.**

DUNCAN STEWART.

**How Communities Can
Respond to the Climate
Change Crisis**

Appendix 8



**Shankill Action for a Green Earth -
SAGE**

Election Hustings

**Meet the Candidates for the Dún
Laoghaire constituency to discuss**

Climate Change

**Thursday January 30th at 8pm
St Anne's Parish Centre**