

## Re-Use/Refurbish Notes from Green Drinks Newport 21

- Promote effective re-use and refurbishment of items within Newport. Require major developers to provide facilities/space for re-use/refurbishment activities or to fund these activities within Newport. This could be through a variety of vehicles, including:
  - Swap Shops. Swap Shops or Give and Take Days are events that promote the free exchange of re-useable goods. These events provide the opportunity for individuals to bring, take or bring and take reusable goods away from the event for free. This swapping of goods helps promote diversion from landfill, saves money and reduces carbon footprint. Community Swap Shops usually run for a few hours, three or four times a year. First Newport Guides has been running an annual swap shop for their members and associated families for several years; they enjoy the activity very much, and a similar event that is open to all town residents could also prove to be very popular.
  - Refurbishment. A Repair Café would provide the opportunity for individuals to get assistance from volunteers with small repairs to items that still have lots of life left in them. For example, assistance with simple bicycle repairs, sewing repairs or jewelry repairs. The nature of the repairs on offer at the Repair Café would depend on the volunteer expertise available for that particular event. Repair Cafes started in Holland, and now number 400+ worldwide. There are 12 Repair Cafes in UK to date. See <http://repaircafe.org>
  - Swishing. This involves the swapping of clothes and accessories only, unlike Swap Shops which encompass a much wider range of goods.
  - Charity shops. Investigate local charity shop collection policies for those who are unable to deliver items (perhaps through lack of personal transportation) to local shops themselves.
- Architectural Reclamation Centre. The presence of an architectural reclamation centre within Newport would offer a vehicle for those individuals who are, for example, renovating a house, to provide items in acceptable condition for others to re-use. This sort of activity keeps items out of landfill, and reduces the demand on dwindling natural resources required to manufacture unnecessary new items.
- A furniture recycling scheme exists within Telford & Wrekin. Promotion of this scheme, together with the promotion of the new furniture charity shop in Newport, would limit the amount of furniture unnecessarily sent to landfill.
- The sharing economy. Streetbank is an online network that promotes the sharing of items with neighbours. For example, in one street 10 residents could own large ladders or hedge trimmers. However, if neighbours knew that each was willing to share/loan these items, this would reduce the need for everyone to own these large, expensive, hard-to-store items. Streetbank has been enormously successful in certain areas of UK. See <http://www.streetbank.com/splash>

### Recycling

- Promote a widening of recycling culture in Newport. For example, plastic bags can only currently be recycled at Waitrose. More outlets for recycling plastic bags would be useful.
- Creation of a recycling/reclamation/re-use site in Newport.
- Ban of plastic bags.

### General Greener Living Challenge

- Monthly promotion of different greener living challenges, tackling a new habit or activity each month. For example, see Somerset's Green 2013 challenge, which encompasses activities such as clearing out the clutter to a Swap Shop or charity shop, using leftovers effectively, cutting food waste, and using a compost bin. See <http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/more/green-routine-2013/>

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