

Brighton Cohousing newsletter May 2008

brightoncohousing.org.uk: Learning about cohousing and linking people who are interested

Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to come with us to visit Springhill Cohousing in Stroud on 7 June. See below.

Our next meeting is 4 May. See below.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please email info@brightoncohousing.org.uk saying 'unsubscribe'. If you know anyone who would like to receive it, please pass this on.

Julian Howell

What's been happening in Brighton Cohousing

On Thursday 17 April, two of us went to our first [Transition Brighton and Hove event](#) – a pair of talks on peak oil. It is challenging information, but the gathering movement towards sustainable living is uplifting at the same time. It was well-attended and there was good energy there. We are going to affiliate the Cohousing group with Transition Town Brighton & Hove, to extend our networking capacity.

On Friday 25 April we had our first meeting of respondents to our 'matchmaking' [questionnaire](#). Half of the respondents turned up (ie 16 people)! It was a lively meeting and has encouraged us to do more networking and socialising.

On Monday 28 April three of us met representatives of the [Ethical Property Company](#). They develop office spaces for community groups (they own the Eco Centre in Brighton) but are considering helping develop a cohousing project. They are in discussion with the [National Cohousing Network](#) and with local cohousing groups to see what might be possible. We found it encouraging that developers are beginning to take an interest. Having a developer involved would make setting up a project more possible.

Things to do, people to meet

Open meetings at the Phoenix Community Centre, Phoenix Place, Brighton.
[See website for directions.](#)

Sunday 4 May, 4–6pm

Sunday 1 June 3–5pm

Sunday 6 July 3–5pm

Come for a chat about cohousing and meet others who are interested. Network! Maybe a group wanting to set up together will emerge.

Earthship Brighton tour

In the morning of Sunday 1 June there is one of the fortnightly tours of Earthship Brighton. If you would like to meet up there, let us know. See www.lowcarbon.co.uk/tours for tour details. (We have our own meeting in the afternoon – see above – we could make a day of it).

Visit Springhill Cohousing in Stroud

On Saturday 7 June they have an open afternoon with opportunity to ask questions and to view at least one of their homes. At least two of us are going for the day. Contact us as soon as you can and we will work out how to get there together. See www.springhillcohousing.com.

Eco Open Houses – June/July

During two summer weekends of 28–29 June and 5–6 July 2008 people will be able to visit eco-houses in Brighton and Hove who will be opening their doors to the public. Eco Open Houses is a joint project between the Brighton Permaculture Trust, the Low Carbon Trust and Brighton & Hove City Council. Visit www.ecoopenhouses.org for more information.

Threshold Centre in Dorset

The Threshold Centre is a cohousing project whose development from a farm with holiday cottages has been held up for years by planning objections. Their revised plan has at last been approved by the planning committee and is awaiting full council approval. The Threshold Centre holds 'creating cohousing' weekend workshops, which are a great way to get thinking about doing it yourself. The next one is 13–15 June. They also do gardening weekends and breathing space breaks. See www.thresholdcentre.org.uk.

Dream Life Group in Lewes

They aim 'to research, create and live in a sustainably designed and managed owner-occupied low energy housing development on urban fringe'. See http://groups.google.com/group/dream_life_group

Antonia Online

The temporary name for the blog site for an eco-village project being developed in Brighton. See <http://villagejourney.ning.com/>

Join Brighton Cohousing

Please join us! For only £10 per year you can become a member of Brighton Cohousing which entitles you to vote at general meetings and maybe other benefits we have yet to work out. It will also help us to organise more events and outings. There is a joining form on our [website](#). (Don't worry, you can still come to meetings and get the newsletter if you don't join, but it would help!)

Calling all roving reporters

If you hear of any news or interesting information or publications we can pass on, please let us know.