



Annual Report

2010 – 2011

*Enabling positive actions through
sustainable resource use*

Company Reg. No. 4552388

Registered Office:
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Background

Cornwall Waste Action (CWA) is a small community based civil society organisation, operating as an independent 'not for private profit' company limited by guarantee.

Significant CWA activities for the period 10-11 included environmental project development and delivery, community events and the provision of support services to a range of organisations.

The continuing aims and objectives of CWA are:

Aims

- Advance social action and community managed initiatives that enable resource efficiency.
- Work in collaboration with other organisations, on activities that facilitate sustainability.
- Increase awareness of the social and environmental challenges of climate change and resource depletion.

Objectives

- Provide opportunities that enable communities to take practical actions to become more effective in their management of resources, through environmental initiatives.
- Develop project partnerships and collaborative work that supports a wide range of environmental activities through innovative outreach work
- Enable individuals, communities and businesses, to reduce their environmental impact through services and advice that support sustainable resource use.

Governance

CWA has maintained a dedicated and experienced Board of Directors for the period; they are responsible for the organisation's strategic direction and development. The current Board was elected at CWA's previous Annual General Meeting, from the membership of the CWA Network and partner organisations. The current board is made up of seven people with reputable backgrounds and knowledge with a familiarity of the wider voluntary sector.

The management of CWA operational activity is delegated to the Co-ordinator, Guy Doncaster; this includes the management of financial and administrative activity, project delivery, consultancy services and staff management.

The Board remains legally responsible for all activities of the organisation, including matters delegated to staff. The Board meets quarterly and receive reports from the Co-ordinator, to oversee that the aims and objectives of the organisation are being maintained within CWA activities.

CWA Personnel for 10-11

The Board

Claire Brown	
Guy Doncaster	Company Secretary
Ian Jones	
Gary King	Chair
Dave Mildren	
Julia Pollard	
Luci Scholes	
Elizabeth White	Treasurer

Staff

Guy Doncaster	Co-ordinator
Lally Henty	Finance & Admin Worker
Marie Libert	Compost Development Worker
Sarah Sejahtera	Community Art Development Worker

Key Volunteers

Matthew Spittle, Marina Sala and Andrew Stevens

Community Volunteers

CWA operates with the support of a large casual volunteer base, whose support enables a range of community projects to be delivered. This includes over 100 compost mentors and over 50 local people attending beach cleans.

Review of activities

Changing Communities

This key CWA project reached its final year in 10-11, funded through Capacity Builders, Improving Reach Programme.

This financial support has allowed CWA the capability to develop collaborations with a range of community organisations, to enable the creation of new environmental projects.

Our main focus has been to support mainly volunteer run community groups, or small voluntary sector organisations with little staff. By means of capacity building provision, which has included funding and enterprise proposals, additional project activity and increased volunteering opportunities.

Organisations supported for this year include:

- Community Greenspace
- Barrack Lane Allotment Group
- Chyan Community Field
- Cornwall Scrapstore
- Plan-It Earth
- Tamar Grow Local

Each organisation assisted has another partner organisation besides CWA, supporting the new project. The aim of Changing Communities is to create new sustainable enterprises or funded activities, through collaboration. CWA's role is to facilitate the partnerships, liaise with other support organisations, as well as provide mentoring, advice and information.

Throughout this programme, we have provided ongoing guidance and practical help that has improved both the governance and profile of participating community groups. These support services have enabled CWA to expand its range of activities and sustain infrastructure support for community groups. Importantly it has provided CWA with the competence to operate as a Second-tier organisation, as well as delivering frontline projects.

Compost Mentor Scheme

Started in 2009 and funded via the Big Lottery Fund's, Local Food programme, this scheme is the CWA element of the Cornwall Community Food and Composting Project, which is a partnership with Cornwall Neighbourhoods for Change and The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens.

Through the scheme CWA offers free training and support to local people to become Compost Mentors: volunteers who encourage and help members of their community to compost. All volunteers attend a workshop and are provided with composting equipment. Once they have attended the training participants begin to mentor within their own social networks. Households who receive mentoring and help from the volunteers to start composting, also receive free compost bins and kitchen caddies.

During 10-11 this project successfully recruited over 50 compost mentors in Mid-Cornwall, with training provided in Newquay, Truro and St Austell, whilst we also promoted composting throughout the county at community events.

Penzance Wormery Project

Working in partnership with Penwith Environmental Network, CWA established a pilot project to promote greater home composting through the use of wormeries. The project is based in Penzance and provides free training and equipment, to local people without gardens.

Community Waste Art Project

A project working in partnership with Cornwall ScrapStore, providing over 20 workshops, with a range of community groups throughout West Cornwall. With the aim is to provide varied creative experiences, teach and revive old crafts, but importantly highlight the need to reduce waste

Small Community projects

A number of small funded projects were carried out throughout the year such as Tree Dressing, whilst further activities are scheduled for the next year, enabling greater environmental awareness and community engagement. Events planned include community workshops promoting waste reduction and gardening, as well as beach cleans.

Consultancy Services

CWA has increased its income generation, through a range of consultancy services to community partners and other organisations including the public sector throughout 10-11. Services provided for this period include Advisor and Assessor work for the Big Lottery, Project Management for community groups, Waste Audits and Feasibility studies for the public sector.

Developments

The organisation needs to focus on additional income generation through greater provision of services and we are currently working on some new initiatives to expand this area of activity.

We are also keen to increase our involvement in beach clean activity throughout the county, working with hard to reach groups from disadvantaged communities.

CWA are hoping to expand its composting activities, through additional funding, as well as income generation through Compost Doctor Services to the private and public sector.

We would like to develop new behavioural change work and waste awareness, through new partnerships and are planning new project activity that supports collaborative consumption.

CWA Financial Report

Is contained within the Company's Statement of Accounts, for this period and is presented at the Annual General Meeting and is available on request.

Summary

The period of 10-11, has been a successful year due to good funding revenue and developing income generation streams, allowing the organisation to expand its range of activities.

However, we need to be cautious of the organisations future, as challenging times are ahead; we therefore need to access more funding streams and progress enterprise opportunities.

Guy Doncaster
Co-ordinator

09/11/11