

## Ardwick Climate Action -2024/5

**Ardwick Climate Actions'** mission is to protect our local environment through grassroots advocacy that engages the local community. Our work encompasses the renewing of green spaces, monitoring pollution levels, climate advocacy through community engagement.

That "Vision" has had some interesting outworkings in the past 12 months -as well as the hard graft of just maintaining what we have.

- Our **12 Green spaces** (<https://www.ardwickclimateaction.co.uk/arwick-stepping-stones>) have been maintained and improved – whether it is weeding the weed pits in the A6, repurposing plants from other events in these green spaces or just doing the “normal jobs” that are needed to keep them looking good. Sometimes this is just a few of us- at others its helping managing 100 students at their volunteering day!
- The **Green routes project** (/sites-1) has been enhanced with several grants - which means we have been able to add more Wayfinder signs, improve the access to them and been able to plant around them. We ran some walks with Manchester Museum (and had our MP turn up !). Recently we've been able to access funding to enable walks round these Green routes to be lead or facilitated by ourselves for different community groups.
- The development of the **Community allotment** on University of Manchester land, managed by residents and students has grown into a regular weekly activity with extra visits by community groups. This sits alongside the other community allotment that we created with our local scout group and we continue to run monthly session with the troop (3 age groups) in sowing, planting, and harvesting home grown veg.
- Our **campaigning for cleaner and safer roads** around our patch enabled 200 pupils to block the A6 4 times in a morning on a school day in the summer, as well as many green activities in the afternoon. In October we and the school had a visit from Andy Burnham who saw first hand what we had used his Green spaces fund for as well as the issues we face with air pollution
- We did not realise that campaigning would get us involved in **Exhibiting – but in Manchester flower festival, RHS Urban Show (at Mayfield) and RHS Tatton show (Tatton)** we were able to challenge a different audience into thinking about implications of Climate change and what some of the consequences and solutions maybe. It nearly killed us but what an experience!

### **So, whats planned for 2025....**

- Our focus on **Air pollution** remains and we want to see a crossing on the A6 so we can join up green spaces plus provide a safe route for our local community and school
- Look out for “**Silent Skies**”- **an exhibition at Manchester Museum** which again highlights the perils of unseen air pollution – a foretaste is already up in Brunswick Park
- We want to create a new “**Lydia Becker**” **garden** on the site of St Saviours Churchyard
- We will be **running walks** for various community groups (toddlers, Women's,' early years at school) and joining in with 4 walks around our green routes for GM Walking festival in May.
- And we still want to **maintain what we have** already have so our volunteer days (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, last Saturday each month) and weekly sessions (Thursday afternoons) at the allotments.

We always welcome volunteers to help out on our days, contact us via email ([ardwickclimate@gmail.com](mailto:ardwickclimate@gmail.com)) or via our socials to join in

Choel, Dan, Zoe, Jess, and Gordon

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