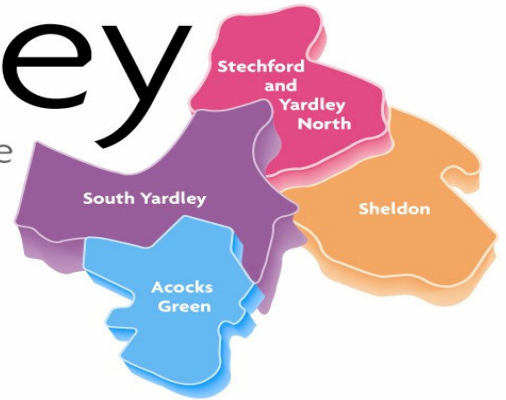


# Your Yardley

Your Services Yours to Enjoy Yours to Influence

Issue 7

June 2008



**Birmingham Climate Change Festival**  
**May 31-June 8 2008**  
**The world's first climate change festival**

Climate action is about reinvention - not self-denial. Reinvention and redesign of the way our cities work. Of course this will involve some trade-offs. But they are worth making because the rewards are so great - healthier, fairer, and more prosperous places.

So the climate change festival will help people to see their city through new eyes. It will prompt us to think about a low carbon city and dare to dream what it might be like. Your city could be transformed over the next ten years into a beautiful, competitive, world class environment.

The festival organisers promise something very different to other campaigns about sustainability. **No guilt and no finger wagging. This will be collective, dramatic, sociable and fun.** Events throughout the week will range from community-based projects to a hothouse event for professionals working in the built environment sector, and a green day for schools.

And what does a sustainable city really feel like? Well, it's got beautiful public spaces which make walking and cycling safe and obvious choices. Well designed homes, offices and libraries. More trees. Cleaner air. Suburbs well integrated with the city centre. And more independence - local networks, local services, local markets. A less stressful, more efficient place to live and work.

By contrast, the costs if we fail to tackle climate change are high - for any city. It means a noisier and more polluted environment. It means growing social inequity, with people on low incomes least able to afford flood insurance and the rising costs of energy. High carbon cities in the future will be less competitive in an age of personal carbon allowances. They will fail to capitalise on new sustainable business opportunities, and most firms will be reluctant to relocate there.

This is a fate which Birmingham will avoid. The city pioneered the carbon-based industrial revolution, and the city now intends to apply the same spirit and skill to becoming sustainable. During the festival, it will launch an ambitious plan to drastically reduce carbon emissions over the next 18 years.

The aim is to make the festival an annual event, involving at least eight cities in 2009, and going international in 2010.

## **BE THERE—DO YOUR BIT FOR YARDLEY AND BIRMINGHAM**

### **Holder Road Community Centre -TO LET**

We have a small community centre (not much bigger than a tenants hall) on Holder Road, Yardley (just off Coventry Road) available to let, on a short term basis (max 2 years).

It is in need of some maintenance to electrics, alarms and possibly roof but generally it's not in bad condition. Yardley have no budget to transfer for any revenue spend so whoever takes it will have to be wholly responsible for it on a full repair and maintenance basis.

We are keen to see it used for community purposes so if there are any groups from within the Constituency who are interested in discussing the possibility of taking a short term lease on this building and have the necessary resources to both maintain it and afford the lease to be negotiated through Birmingham Property Services, they should contact **Richard Hulbert at the Constituency Office (0121 675 5492, richard\_hulbert@birmingham.gov.uk) by Monday, 16th June 2008.**

### **Dates of June Meetings**

**19th** Constituency Strategic Partnership 6.30 pm  
@ South Yardley Library

If you have information you would like to share via this newsletter please contact Lorraine Newman on 675 1304 or email: [lorraine.newman@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:lorraine.newman@birmingham.gov.uk)

