

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **Nuclear power to close down by 2022:** EDF said Hinkley Point B power station will be decommissioned no later than July 2022. The site started generating electricity in 1976 and station director Peter Evans said he was 'proud of what we have achieved'. ([bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk) 20/11/2020)
- **Peat compost is 'environmental vandalism', Monty Don says:** TV gardener Monty Don has joined horticultural and environmental charities to call for a ban on the use of peat in compost by 2025. Without a legal ban, important peat habitats will continue to be destroyed and it will be hard for the Government to meet its goals to boost nature and tackle the climate crisis, they say. ([telegraph.co.uk](http://telegraph.co.uk) 25/11/2020)
- **There are microplastics near the top of Mount Everest too:** Researchers analysing snow and stream samples from the National Geographic and Rolex Perpetual Planet Everest Expeditions have found evidence of microplastic pollution on Mount Everest. While the highest concentrations of microplastics were around Base Camp where hikers and trekkers spend the most time, the team also found microplastics as high up as 8,440m. ([sciencedaily.com](http://sciencedaily.com) 20/11/2020)
- **Farmers will need to 'cut CO2 emissions and wildlife loss' to access funds post Brexit:** As the UK leaves the EU and its common agricultural policy next year, the government will immediately begin phasing out direct payments to farmers in England, with a view of ending them completely by 2027. The money saved will be redirected to new schemes that will pay farmers to harness their land to protect wildlife and boost carbon stocks through actions such as tree planting and restoring soils, the government says. ([independent.co.uk](http://independent.co.uk) 30/11/2020)
- **Beavers build first Exmoor dam in 400 years:** Beavers have built their first dam in Exmoor in more than 400 years, following river restoration work by the National Trust. ([telegraph.co.uk](http://telegraph.co.uk) 30/11/2020)

*and finally.....*

- **Fungi insulation panels to be grown at Watchet's ex-mill:** The project is a partnership between bio-tech firm Biohm and local social enterprise Onion Collective in a bid to 'reinvigorate' Watchet in Somerset. Enough insulation, moulded from long thread-like roots of fungi, is expected to be produced for 10 houses a month. ([bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk) 20/11/2020)
- **Police investigate I'm a Celebrity over fears non-native bugs may be escaping:** Rural crime offices from North Wales police are looking into complaints that non-native creatures such as cockroaches, maggots, spiders and worms could threaten wildlife in the 100-hectare (250-acre) estate surrounding Gwrych Castle, where the show is being held this year. ([theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com) 24/11/2020)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

Aardvark have launched their Nutrient Neutrality Calculator, in an effort to break the deadlock for planning developments impacted by the Dutch N case. The system follows Natural England Guidance but has included a cost of treatment for package plant module added on, this will be increasing important when discrete developments cannot connect to a mains and achieved an offsetting standard. Aardvark are working in partnership with an installer to provide a turn key package solution.

For all the Aardvark news go to [www.aardvarkem.co.uk](http://www.aardvarkem.co.uk).

Click [HERE](#) to view the list of Aardvark technical services and team contacts.

