

...under new management...

Nothing abstract about what is going on:
our climate changes under our stewardship
no longer denied but a decay recognised not accepted—
all our own fault: humankind's that is
our accelerated development
our industrialisation
our carbon fuel reliance
our plastic masque that needs to end
our Amazon destruction delivered
our torching of icecaps issuing icebergs
our species' extinction evolved
our fracking North Sea licensing
it's not too late but some things must change...

what must be done by us
yes, by us, to be Mother kind
this our biggest challenge
in our time of crisis:

it is to act more responsibly
no more Just Stop Oil protest tactics
single-issue politics to the fore
as we cross fingers and welcome:

our new recycling of the world
our new transport (it's electrifying!)
our new paper pulp produced
in partnership with plantations
our areas of outstanding natural beauty designated
protecting land, landscape, flora and fauna
our animal sanctuaries and restored habitats

our growing without pesticides
so that our soil can reproduce its art
in the colours of cherry blossom and copper beach
the flowered fields for Flanders in hedgerows
the yellow hosts loved not lonely
under new management
this gallery of natural exhibition
behind protective glass to frame
masterpieces reclaimed of
a beauty the simple snowdrop shows

Peter Longden