



Great Green Bedwyn

Helping us all tackle climate change

www.greatgreenbedwyn.org.uk



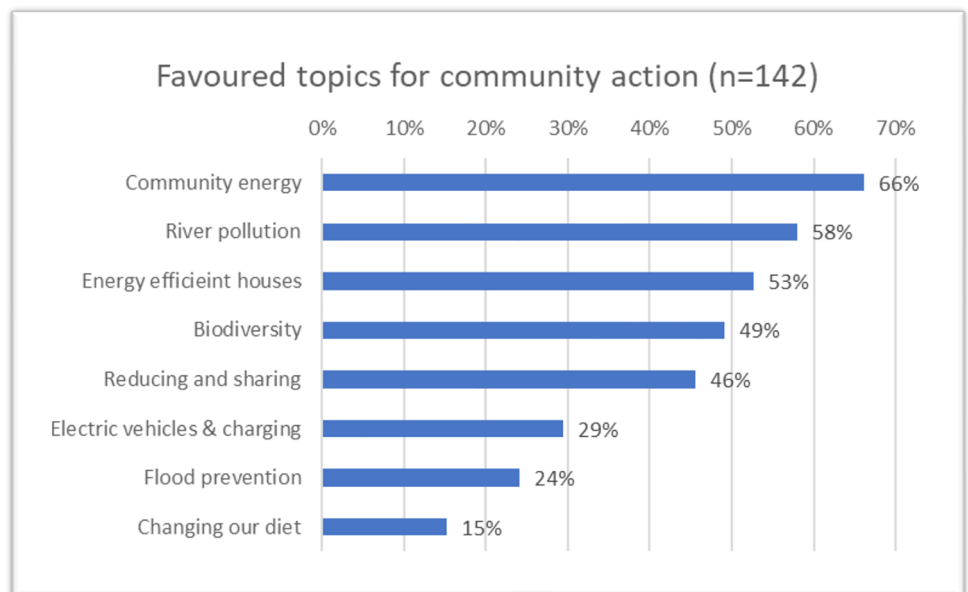
Sylvia Wyatt

What is Great Green Bedwyn?

Great Green Bedwyn is helping our community understand what the climate emergency means, share ideas about how to reduce our carbon footprints and support nature recovery, and help us identify community actions to address these. We are also helping people find practical, affordable ways to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. We are supported by Great Bedwyn Parish Council and in our second year after a first year funded by National Lottery's "Together for Our Planet" programme.

Priorities for action

At the outset in February 2022 we surveyed the whole parish and canal boat residents. Analysis of the 145 responses revealed that two thirds of people were already aware of climate change and felt we were already experiencing it, and that local flooding was a significant risk. The graph shows the climate-related topics which attracted the greatest support.



In our first year...

Guided by these survey results, we held several open meetings including on how to improve home energy efficiency, community energy, how rain gardens can reduce surface water runoff and how farming is becoming more nature-friendly. We also ran an Ecofair at Great Bedwyn school attracting over 250 people and “show and tell” events on nature recovery in gardens, demystifying electric cars and green home technologies. We also carried out home heat loss surveys using an infrared camera and developed good links with other local groups, including:

- Southern Streams (our local cluster of 30+ farms around Great Bedwyn)
- ARK (Action for River Kennet) around reducing run-off and river pollution
- Great Bedwyn Primary School to explore low carbon heating and rooftop PV
- Participating in the HEAT (Hungerford Environment Action Team) Repair Cafe
- Sustainable Marlborough and their Big Green Week
- Wiltshire Climate Alliance on the role of rural villages in tackling climate change

Activities in 2023 include the UK’s first community rain gardens project

Our priorities for 2023 are:

1. Reducing runoff into rivers and sewers. Working with Action for the River Kennet (ARK) and funded by Thames Water we are running the UK’s first community rain gardens scheme to reduce surface water runoff and flood risk. Rain planters and rain gardens are being installed by volunteers at nearly 20 locations across the village (including the school, GP surgery and Village Hall).

2. Supporting nature recovery. We held a well-attended evening meeting on regenerative farming and two walks on Southern Streams farms to understand more about mixed farming methods, soil and river health and are planning more events with local farmers this autumn.

3. Home energy and reducing carbon emissions. We are supporting renters and homeowners to reduce their energy use by carrying out infrared camera heat loss surveys and running a second Green Open Homes event to showcase green technologies on the weekend of October 14-15, with other climate action groups.

More details about these are on Great Green Bedwyn’s website and Facebook page.

Will you help us?

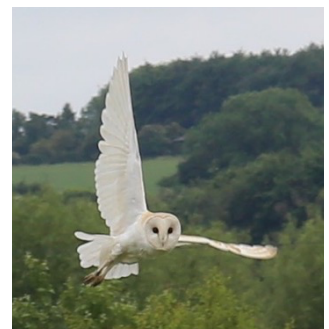
Climate change is a challenge but there are many activities we can do locally and getting involved will help us all make a real difference. Please help us to develop and implement a climate



action plan for our local community, follow Great Green Bedwyn on Facebook or join our email list on climate matters by scanning this QR code, or contacting:

GreatGreenBedwyn@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support !





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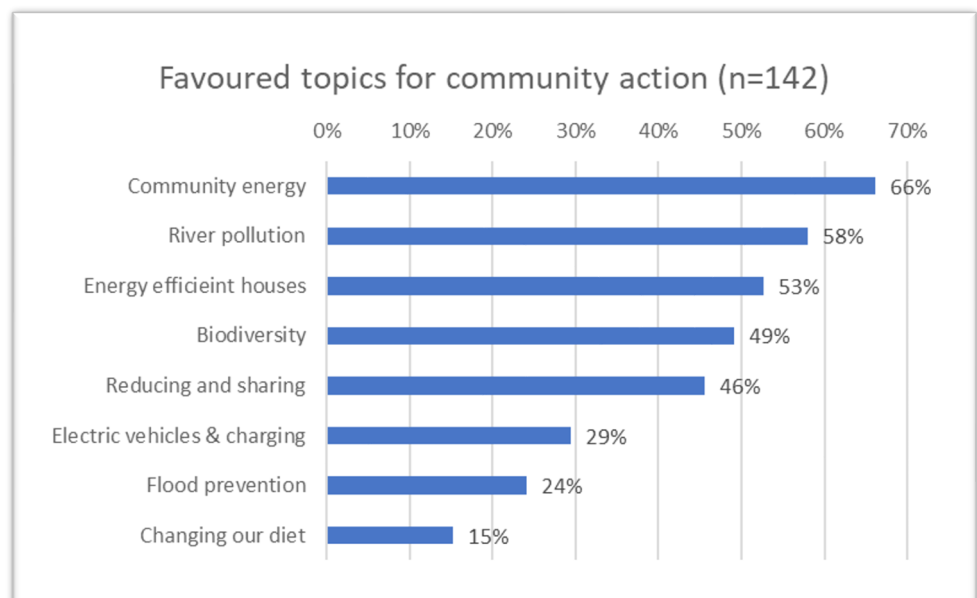
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Jeremy Wyatt