Winchester Climate Action Network

WeCAN

Summary report from baseline surveys of **community groups**

June 2021

Winchester Action on Climate Change and
The Centre for Sustainable Energy for
Winchester City Council

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Results of Winchester Community organisations surveys

1. Who filled in the survey of community groups?

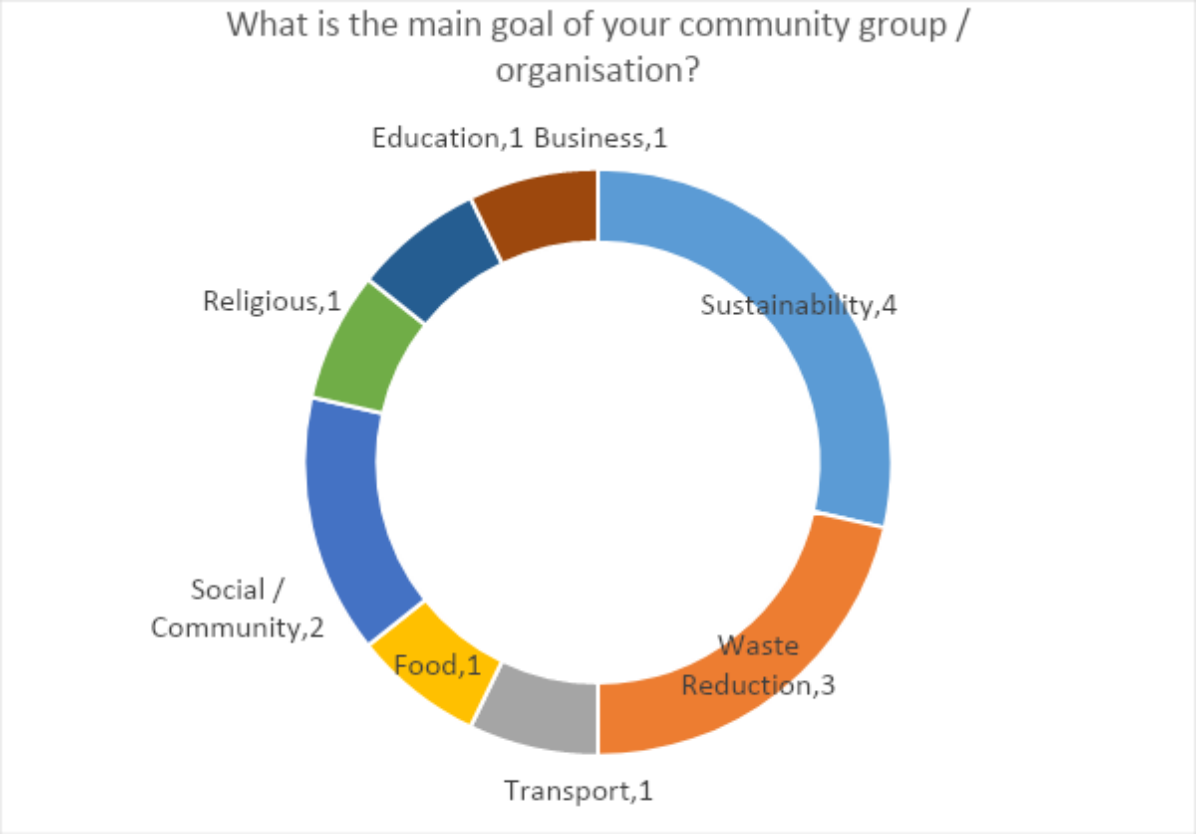
16 Organisations responded to the survey, including:

- Perlins Community Project,
- The Sustainability Centre, Hampshire
- Winchester Food Partnership
- Winchester Green Week
- Christ Church Winchester
- MOD DCLPA Worthy Down
- Winchester CTC
- Lara’s recycling/waste group
- South Wonston Recycling
- Winchester Litter Pickers
- Winchester Business Improvement District
- St Mary's church, South Downs Gateway benefice

(Four didn’t name their organisation)

2. Focus of participating community groups and organisations

Of the 15 groups responding to the survey, about a quarter had a main focus on sustainability and climate change, and a quarter on recycling, waste reduction or tackling litter. The other half of respondents were from a broad range of interests including food, transport, social support and care, a church community, education setting and business support.



What is the main goal of your community group / organisation?

- A sustainable planet
- Reduce Greenhouse emissions and increase biodiversity, supportive of each other's group.
- To offer the adults we work with opportunities and a genuine role in their community.
- We are a learning and study centre, a beacon for sustainability, based in the heart of Hampshire's South Downs National Park in the UK. We are an authentic model of sustainability. We share practical solutions to inspire and enable people to become the planet protectors and change makers that our world needs. We offer an immersive, practical and creative approach to education. We inspire and support change-makers. We make it possible for everyone to be part of eco evolution in action.
- To promote a healthy and sustainable food culture
- Festival to celebrate and promote action on sustainability, climate change,
- Church of England parish church
- Reduce Carbon Footprint / Sustainability
- To encourage cycling
- Recycling
- To raise awareness of the importance of recycling and to recycle items that are hard to recycle via the household recycling bins using existing recycling schemes.

- Keeping Winchester as litter free as possible.
- Business led organisation focused in Winchester City Centre
- Engaging with church and village community

3. Area covered by groups

Six of the 15 respondents covered all of Winchester District (and further); three focussed on Winchester and surrounds with four respondents focussing on other specific parishes.

- Hampshire and South-East region, nationally and internationally
- All of Hampshire including Southampton and Portsmouth
- Hampshire wide

- Winchester District overall
- Winchester District
- All of Winchester District; currently predominately in Winchester City and Wickham areas

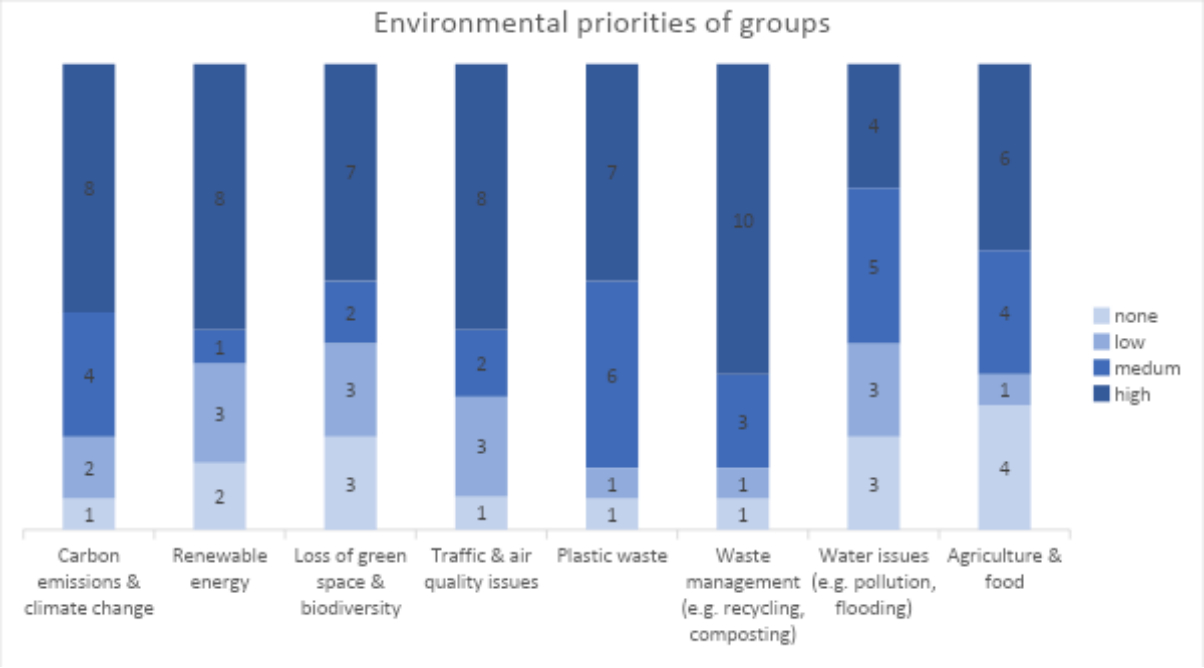
- Winchester, Abbotts Barton
- Across the city of Winchester
- Twyford, Winchester

- Christ Church, Stanmore and Oliver's Battery
- Worthy Down Station / South Wonston
- South Wonston
- Kingsworthy

4. The priority of environmental issues for groups

In order of priority, respondents selected the environmental issues for their groups as:

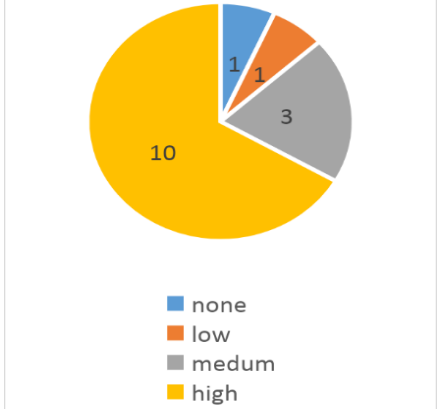
1. Waste management (e.g. recycling, composting)
2. Plastic waste
3. Carbon emissions & climate change
4. Traffic & air quality issues
5. Agriculture & food
6. Renewable energy
7. Loss of green space & biodiversity
8. Water issues (e.g., pollution, flooding)

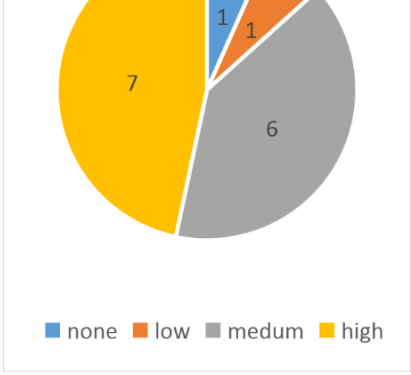


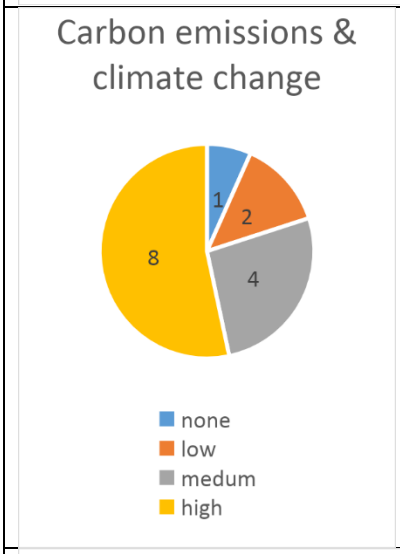
Other issues groups raised as priorities:

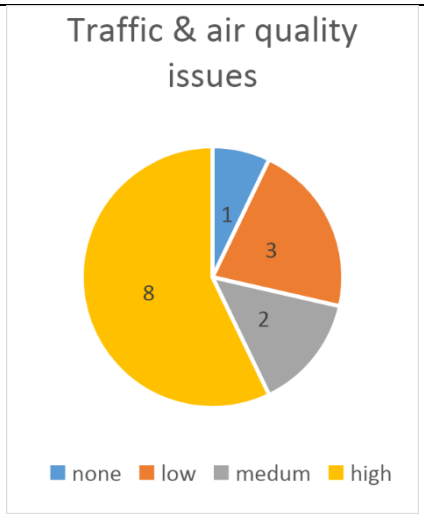
- *People care, Earthcare and Fairshares*
- *Council policies, proposed fossil fuel and renewable energy installations.*
- *Health and well-being*
- *Partnership and collaboration*
- *Climate Justice for the global south - high priority. Engagement with community and schools - high priority. Praying and teaching about environmental issues - high priority. Lifestyle adjustments - high priority*

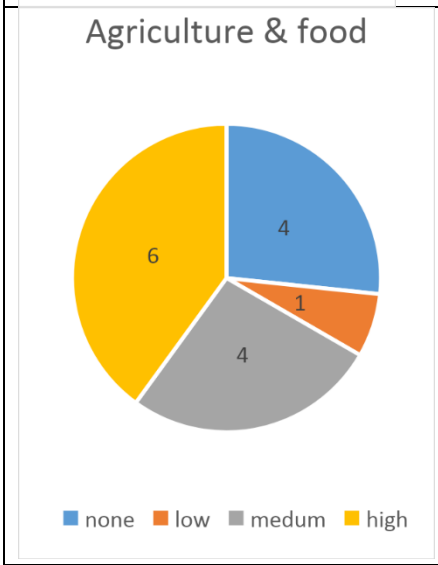
These pie charts show the priority level for each topic or issue:

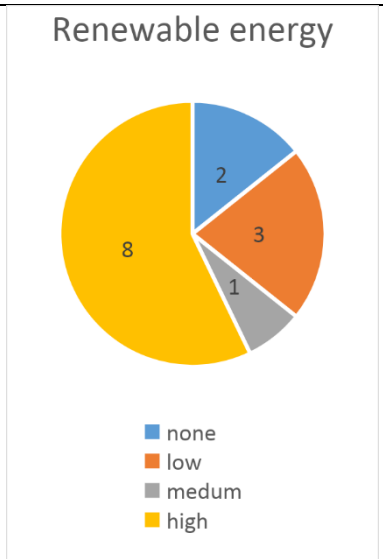


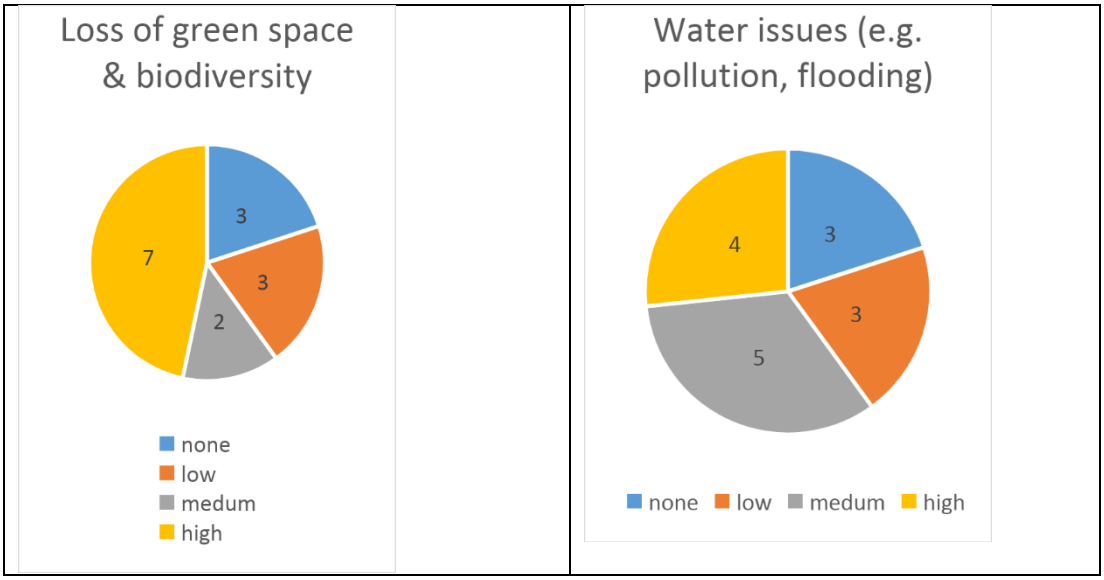






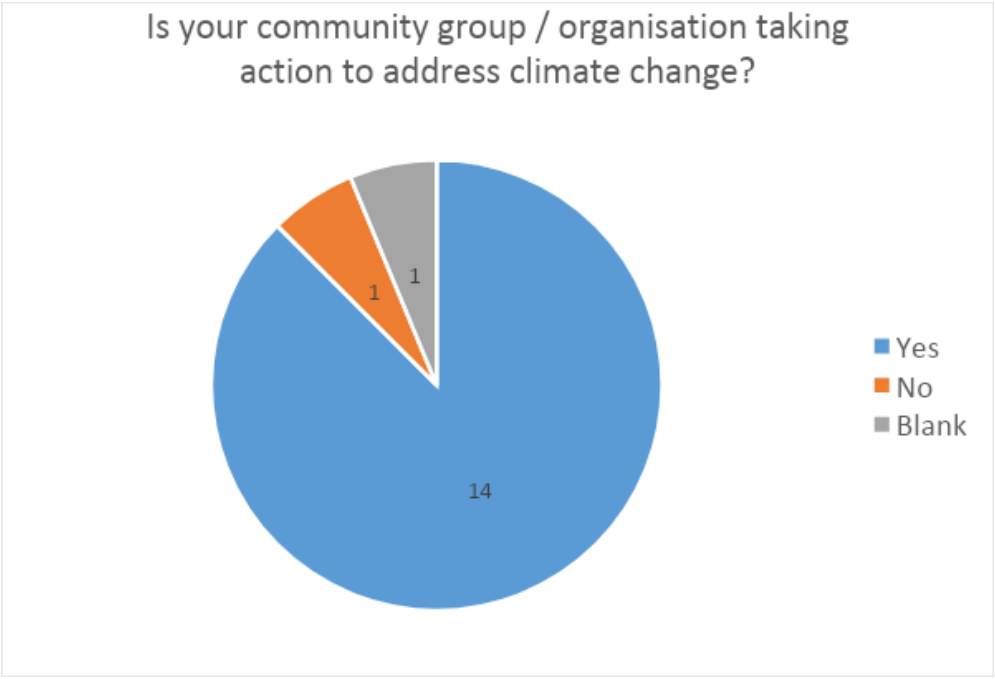






5. Is your community group / organisation taking action to address climate change?

Fourteen groups reported that they were taking action to address climate change.



6. Tell us which of these activities your community group / organisation is already engaging with, or would like to, to address climate change?

About half the groups responding to the survey were either already engaging, or willing to engage in most of the activities listed to address climate change, although there was less experience and interest in encouraging domestic energy efficiency and promoting renewable energy.

In order of popularity, the topics were:

1. Promoting sustainable waste behaviours (e.g. recycling & composting)
2. Influencing local & national government to act on climate change
3. Promoting sustainable food growing and consumption practices
4. Improving the energy efficiency of community and commercial buildings
5. Promoting green travel (e.g. bus, walking, cycling, electric vehicles)
6. Promoting renewable energy
7. Increasing tree cover in your local area
8. Encouraging residents to improve the energy efficiency of their homes



Other activities community groups reported undertaking, or wishing to:

- *Earthcare; people care and Fairshares, Food and Farming, Wellbeing, Outdoor Education*
- *Social events to encourage dialogue on environmental issues*

7. Barriers to activities addressing climate change

A wide range of barriers were highlighted including political and community will, group capacity and access to resources, lack of appropriate infrastructure.

- National and local government policies
- Yes, we would like access to land so we can develop a food forest. Supplying future generations with natural resources and food.
- I would need to ask the group for their response. There would be a lot.
- Our model of working is to promote what others are doing so our direct influence on any of these issues is minimal
- Although caring for God's earth is a key element of the Church of England's mission, it is not the most important factor for our parishioners - bringing people to faith and sustaining people in their faith is considered to be the most important work of the church whilst care for the environment is a supporting aspect of faith.
- Only a small group and no capacity
- Having picked up litter and separated recyclables we have a lack of recycling bins across the city and the loss of bottle banks following introduction of kerbside collection.

No answers were provided for the following questions:

Would your community group / organisation like to take action on climate change in the future?

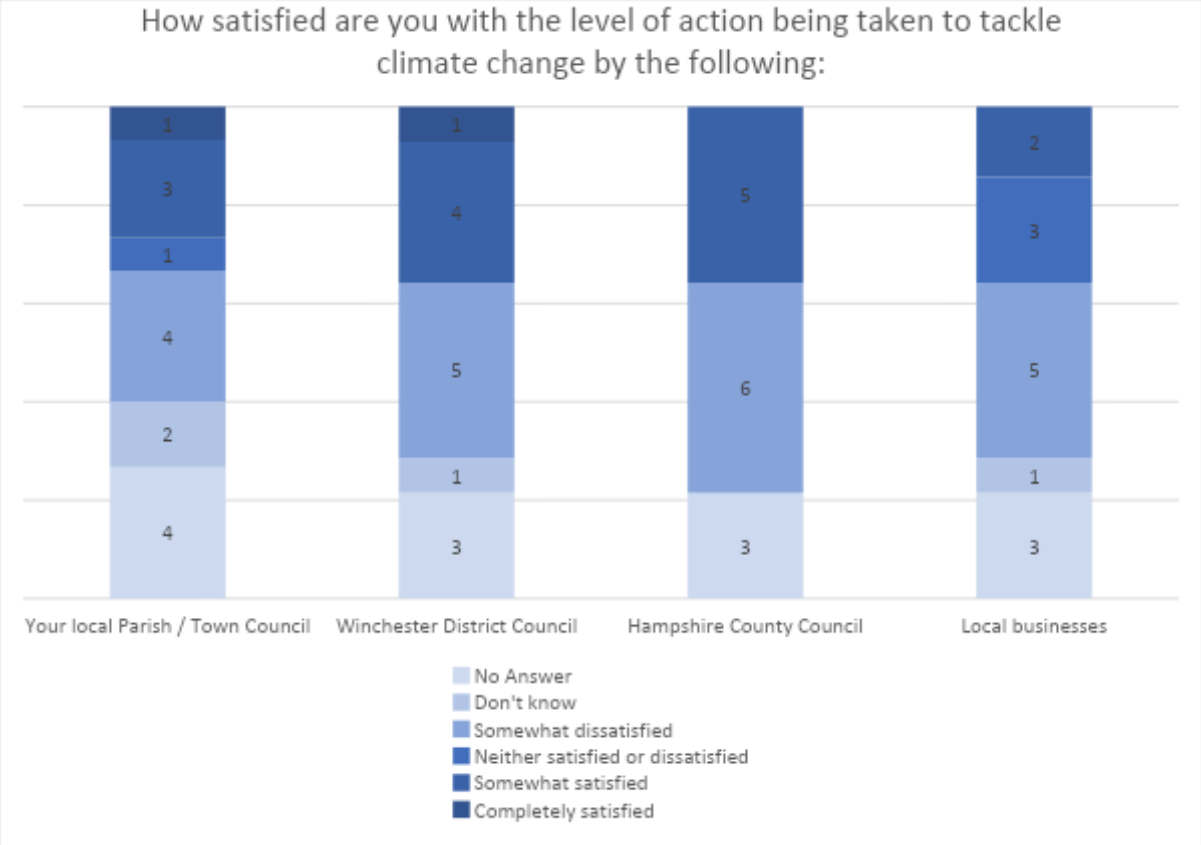
Are there factors preventing you from taking action?

What might help you start to take action?

Are you facing any key barriers in undertaking these activities?

8. Satisfaction with the level of action being taken to tackle climate change by local authority and business

For ‘Your parish/town council’; Winchester District Council’; ‘Hampshire County Council’; results were pretty evenly spread between those who were satisfied or dissatisfied. For local business, the majority of respondents were dissatisfied.



9. What actions would you like to see the above stakeholders taking to address climate change?

The groups responding requested local authority and business stakeholders to show leadership and act with more urgency, improve infrastructure for sustainable transport and waste minimisation, and develop initiatives to encourage residents to live more sustainable lives.

- More urgency; more real commitment; much less doing all the wrong things, especially in transport
- Initiatives to encourage local people to have access to organic or naturally grown food. More opportunities for people to start small farms. Small is beautiful.
- Practical action, policy framework, community support, carbon reduction programmes and funding
- Highlight the urgency for major cuts in greenhouse gas emissions to meet near future targets to reach net zero emissions.
- Taking bolder decisions to ensure the district is cutting emissions through systems for transport, renewable energy sources, greener homes, and sustainable food production
- Road and transport changes to reduce car use and promote walking, cycling and buses. Better recycling options for households, especially for food waste. Better incentives for businesses to reduce waste and to reuse and recycle. Promotion of businesses that actively pursue green policies - e.g. reduced rates. Better planning for new housing to reduce reliance on cars and to build on brownfield sites and not greenfield spaces.
- More information through doors raising awareness
- Far better household recycling facilities, Hampshire and Winchester are a long way behind other local councils. Better/Clearer information about what can/can't be recycled. Increased public transport from South Wonston - it's just not convenient for anyone with a busy lifestyle. It also needs to be cheaper. At the moment we are classed as being just outside the city zone which just doesn't make it very cost effective to use.
- More attention paid to the provision of recyclable wrapping/packaging; more collection bins/points for wrapping and packaging; more cooperation from fast food outlets taking responsibility for their impact on the local environment
- Engagement and collaboration
- Regarding all that they do - policies and procedures through the lens of climate change

10. What support could these stakeholders offer to help you achieve your group's aims?

Survey responses suggested the stakeholders could lobby for change; increase access to local assets and such as land for tree planting or infrastructure for recycling and composting; engage with community initiatives; provide information and promote individual action and community level initiatives.

- Access to land.
- expertise, training, funding, networking, resource sharing
- Lobby Government to give Local Authorities the money, tools and support to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Participation in the festival in order to grow the visibility of the movement of organisations working in a sustainable future
- Keep promoting the green agenda, implement green policies and communicate the importance of addressing the climate crisis through individual responsibility as well as through local initiatives and actions.
- Advice
- Grants for bins. Already had a grant from KWPC
- Better household recycling facilities e.g., compost bins increase the amount of items that can be recycled via the household bins. Some hard plastic recycling facilities throughout the area. At the moment there are only some at Sainsbury's Badger Farm which is quite a way to travel to from South Wonston.
- See above
- Advice, information, support
- Leading by example