



# DISTRICT FACTSHEETS

## CHERWELL



Picture: Bridge Street Community Garden, Banbury

### OPPORTUNITIES IN CHERWELL

Increasing the number of CAGs and level of activity

Fostering a localised district 'sub-'network for greater collaboration

Increased collaboration between local town councils to maximise resources available to support local groups

Potential for greater engagement with schools and young people

Increased collaboration on environmental intersection with social justice issues eg. fuel poverty, community cohesion, mental health and social isolation.

## WHO IS COMMUNITY ACTION GROUPS OXFORDSHIRE?

CAG Oxfordshire is a network of more than 100 community action groups working across Oxfordshire to make it a safer, fairer, greener, more sustainable place to live, work and visit. We support our members to set up and run activities that take action on issues impacting the environment, our communities, and our everyday lives. The CAG network delivers a number of projects and initiatives



### AREAS OF IMPACT

- Tree Planting and Mapping
- Biodiversity and Rewilding
- Liveable Streets and Active Travel
- Material Waste Reduction
- Food Sustainability and the Local Food Economy
- Tackling Food Waste and Food Insecurity
- Sustainable Energy
- Community-Centered Housing and Spaces



### SUPPORT CAG OFFERS

- 1:1 Member Support
- Training and Workshops
- Insurance Advice and Grants
- Special Project Grants
- Peer to Peer Support and Collaboration
- Network and Partnership Development
- Newsletters and Marketing Support

# OUR YEAR AT A GLANCE



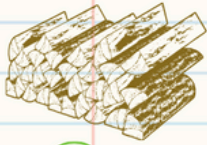
201,248

Volunteering hours were recorded, more than double those for 22-23 demonstrating the continued dedication of network volunteers to contribute their time and energy to community action within Oxfordshire.

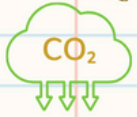


Events and activities were held across the county, reaching over 120,000 participants

These activities resulted in...



1,654 TONNES  
of non-food waste being diverted



1,695 TONNES  
of carbon dioxide emissions prevented

£5,938,350

The total financial output, including the value of volunteer time, grants and income from across the network

8,847



678 TONNES

of food diverted from waste and redistributed, cooked, eaten or processed



1,194

Bikes were repaired by groups such as Cyclox, Broken Spoke, and Rose Hill & Iffley Low Carbon saving £396,408



*This data was collected from 65 groups in our network of 111 groups from April 2023 to March 2024*

## CURRENT CHERWELL CAG MEMBERS:

THERE ARE 14 ACTIVE CAG MEMBERS BASED IN CHERWELL, REPRESENTING JUST OVER 10% OF THE NETWORK:

### Banbury Community Action Group

Set up in 2013 to run free local community projects on food, waste, transport and energy. Projects include the Bridge Street Community Garden who run activities every week for groups and individuals to access local green space.

### Bicester Green

A centre for skills, sustainability and second hand stuff. They operate by intercepting items that are destined for landfill and use them as a catalyst for learning in their workshops through skill sharing.

### Biodiversity Bloxham

Aims to get local residents and families involved in making a more wildlife friendly village and considering the impact on the local environment.

### Cherwell Collective

Empowering the community to reduce waste and lower our carbon footprint. Projects include the Cherwell Larder Marketplace, surplus cafe, Climatarian Kitchen, and by growing food for the community in Harvest @ Home and Waste Innovation Station, which directly repurposes nonfood

### Deddington Environment Network

A local and growing community of residents and businesses who care about sustainability, climate change and biodiversity.

### Elmsbrook Community Organisation

A community organisation encouraging residents to live a healthy, environmentally friendly lifestyle.

## CURRENT CHERWELL CAG MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

### **Grassroots Bicester**

Established in October 2010 by a group of local residents who share a common interest in sustainability and community spirit.

### **Hook Norton Community Land Trust**

Set up in June 2019 to enable the community to develop a small group of 12 affordable, sustainable homes that will enable local people in need of housing to remain living in the community of Hook Norton.

### **Hook Norton Low Carbon**

Their purpose is to improve the energy efficiency and reduce the carbon footprint of the community by promoting the implementation of carbon reduction and renewable energy initiatives at a local and individual level within and around Hook Norton.

### **Incredible Edible Hooky**

Working locally to build a sustainable future by creating a community inspired to grow, cultivate, cook and share locally produced produce.

### **Kidlington Abundance**

Aims to reduce food waste by turning surplus fruit into a resource distributed freely to the community. They organise practical community events which encourage social interaction.

### **Langford Orchard Group**

A one-acre site in the middle of Bicester, restored by local volunteers.

### **Orinoco Banbury**

Our mission is to banish boredom and save the planet using creativity and play to inspire the reuse of materials. Over its 25 year history, Orinoco has saved lorry loads of interesting resources from ending up in landfill.

### **Steeple Aston Community Orchard Group**

The Steeple Aston Community Orchard on Water Lane is run volunteers to take care of the garden which has been donated to the Parish.

### **Sustainable Duns Tew**

Focuses on addressing some of the key environmental issues facing the local community. This includes carbon-footprint reduction, waste reduction, recycling, promoting the use of local resources, reducing food miles, biodiversity in the local area.

### **Sustainable Kirtlington**

Set up in 2007 to explore ways of working towards sustainability in various aspects of the life of the community: energy-saving and energy-generation, local food production, sustainable transport, waste and recycling.

