

Hampshire County Council Community Projects Parish Event 1st February 2023

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How Parish Councils can get involved in community energy



Community Energy Pathways in Hampshire

- CES has been working with Hampshire County Council since 2021.
- Initially through the Community Renewal Fund but recently signed a new contract to continue the programme for two more years
- Supported the development of four new groups and the growth of an established group (Energy Alton).
- Established a Community Energy Hampshire Steering group to encourage joint working and collaboration between areas.
- Supporting the groups to develop a pipeline of solar PV projects of around 1.5MW.
- Developing an energy champions programme for the groups including training and skills development support.
- Micro business energy pilot currently underway with Energy Alton which will be rolled out to other areas.

Examples of how Parish Councils can support community energy

- Set up or facilitate climate action / greening groups as a starting point.
- Develop volunteer energy champion networks or energy advice sessions e.g. at repair café, lunch clubs.
- Incorporate community energy projects into your Neighbourhood Plan.
- Support and identify opportunities for the development of community energy projects in your area e.g. on local schools, business parks, farm buildings.
- Help to develop off grid warm and work hubs in village / community halls



Benefits

- Improved community cohesion and engagement
- Demonstrating leadership in locally led action on climate change and energy transition.
- Community more resilient to rising energy prices and local network issues.
- Helping households in your area to save money and become more energy efficient.

Powering Up

Communities developing and owning their own energy projects which save money and reduce carbon emissions: **heat networks, renewable energy and low carbon transport**

Harnessing community finance

Powering Down

A network of **community energy champions** who provide trusted and impartial local advice on energy and cost savings and support households struggling with their energy bills.

Enabling community resilience

Energy planning

Communities working together to coordinate and develop local **energy / decarbonisation plans** that are led by the community and encourage participation and ownership e.g. communiheat

Enabling community participation

Community Energy Projects

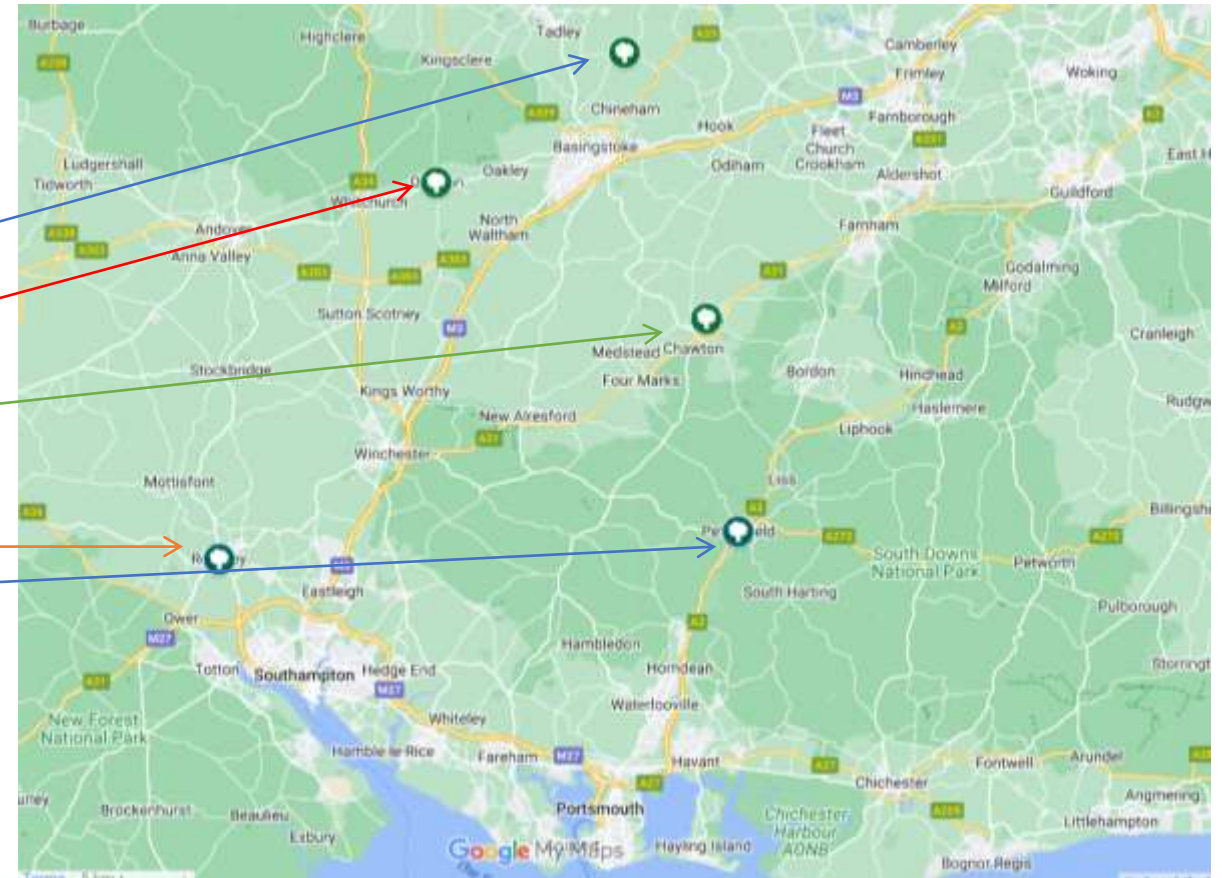


Hampshire
County Council



CES is working with five community energy organisations in Hampshire

- Loddon Community Energy
- Test Source Community Energy
- Energy Alton
- Dragonfly Power (Test Valley)
- Energise South Downs



How can Community Energy South help

- Advice / training on delivering energy advice sessions or developing draughtbusting services, thermal imaging surveys.
- Support funding bids to develop communipower projects.
- Link you with your local community energy group for potential powering up projects in your area.
- Assistance with developing off grid, village halls

Community energy projects are often delivered collectively by a group or organisation with a focus on engagement, local leadership and strong positive outcomes. Groups often have distinct, specific localised goals with an overarching benefit of tackling climate change, energy security and making energy affordable

A step-by-step approach to develop a County wide community energy movement

Supporting communities towards Net Zero targets

Communities can build and invest in their own renewable energy

Establishing community led local energy awareness





Our approach to working with Town and Parish Councils

- Creating a coordinated, local market for retrofit
- Planned approach to net zero



Communipower Kick Start

Kickstart allows you to work with your community to give you an outline community energy plan. It involves:

- Developing an understanding of the carbon and energy usage of the community
- An overview of how properties are heated within your parish/community and how the properties use their energy
- Reviewing the housing archetypes within your community
- Scoping and reviewing local heat and energy suppliers
- Exploring community transport and EVs
- Measuring interest within your community to transition to net zero
- Developing an engagement programme



Questions

- HCC – Chitra Nadarajah and Danny Olsson
- The Greening Campaign – Terena Plowright and Lindsay Andrews
- Community Energy South – Ollie Pendered and Martin Baker
- The Environment Centre – Adam Goulden

Links to further information



[Climate Change Webpages](#)

[Climate Change Strategy](#)

[Climate Change Annual Progress 2021-2022](#)

[Community climate change projects | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)