

# Lend us a hand



We're **Minchinhampton Climate Action Network** – Minch CAN.

We help people living, working, studying, exploring, resting, recovering, and just having fun in the communities around Minchinhampton's many Commons to lead **sustainable, low-carbon, nature-friendly lives**.

From Amberley to Aston Down, from Brimscombe to Box, from Cowcombe Hill to Gatcombe Wood to Littleworth Common – and *all* around Minchinhampton – if that's you, you're who we want to be talking with.

*You* are who we want with *us*.

## The climate's our challenge, too

This place is *our* place, the hills and lanes and woods and street corners, the mills, churchyards and commons, the springs and the pubs. We're proud of it. We *love* it. And we're worried about its future.

We're your neighbours, your friends, and the people you queue up with at the chip shop. We're a bunch of concerned locals from all around the Commons muddling through this climate malarkey, and we would love it if you joined us, with your ideas, your energy, some funny jokes ... and your biscuits.

Some of us can do *lots* to help, and some of us can do a *little*, but *all* of us can do something *more* than we already do, and it all adds up. The more of us that join in, the more we'll achieve.

# Made-to-measure positivity

All of our lives are different. We can't make a seven-point list and say 'Ok everyone, do all this'. Everyone has to help in the way that works best for *them*, so we're trying lots of different things to find out what makes for genuine, solid change around here.

## *Raising the #1000*

We're spreading the word and getting as many people involved as possible. That's **#aThousandActions** – our challenge to the people of Minchinhampton's communities to *each and every one* make one climate positive change in their lives – and then tell each other all about it. And once you make one change, you'll see how easy it is to start building your difference.

## *Planting the #1000*

It's difficult to imagine here that we desperately need more **trees**, but we do. We need the quantity to eat the carbon in our air; the scale and variety to make territories large enough to support threatened species. We've *got* trees. We're going to plant them.

## *Share and save The Awesome*

We're talking with the Wildlife Trust about taking over a **nature reserve** overlooking the Nailsworth valley that's nothing but butterflies in the Summer, and making it the heart of its local community. We're writing **walks** that'll take you around all of our many Commons – there's more than you'd think – and reveal their quiet wonders. (We've got one ready for **Watledge** and – grab your boots – we're testing the rest.) We want people out of their cars and **on their feet** and being amazed by where we are and prizing it more.

## *Share the Facts*

We're **information wombles** – we share the facts that we find. Things that are useful, things that help. We share them on our website, in our social media, on our stalls, down the pub. We do **surveys** – our latest are on our website. We do **film nights!**

## *Power up*

Our heritage streets are about as unfriendly to **public EV chargers** as you could get, and we've been working to get charging sites going. Our skies are full of wind, as the old Kearsy windmill that stood on the Common attests. We're looking at how to get **wind turbines** going and where.

## *Waste not, want not*

We don't need to keep buying when there's *already* what we need. Using an old bicycle we've **pressed people's garden apples** to make juice, we're **swapping party clothes** ahead of Christmas, we're building a **collection of books** for the library – most everything can be multi-use, and we're finding ways to make that happen.

## *Make some noise*

We've got two parish councillors, two district councillors, and a county councillor in the CAN, and we try to reply to every consultation going – if the people we elect aren't doing their best, **we want to know why**.

## **Over to you**

Saving the planet sounds like what the heroes in a Hollywood movie do, but it's something we *all* need to do.

We need gardeners, chefs, builders, and shop-keepers. Nurses, programmers, farmers, and cleaners. Marketers, artists, crafters, photographers, scientists, teachers; engineers, writers, researchers, campaigners, *the lot*.

Children, parents, grandparents, community group members. People of faith, of all genders, of colour, of every minority group. People with *every experience of life*.

Big thinkers, hard grafters, willing participants, consumers, and *everything* in-between.

That's **you**, isn't it?

# The many ways of helping

*Everybody* makes a difference. We've all learned the hard way how much we need other people, and how much they need us. Be our last step, the final link. Be the difference that *brings it home*. You can:

- Lend your skills, your connections, your conversations, your hefty muscle power, or just be there wherever someone's needed to be.
- Give, loan, find, or borrow the stuff, money, equipment, and places we need.
- Tell us your stories of making a difference, so we can share them with others.

Most of all, we need you to **tell us what you need us to do** to help you deal with the climate, nature, and sustainability crises we all face.

## *Start the next #aThousandActions*

We're looking to influence, enable, and to do. What's next? **What do our communities need?** Maybe you have an idea for a project you'd love to try out if *only* you could get the support of other people who can see its potential... Let us know!

## Join *your* CAN

Because we want *everyone* locally lining up with us on this. The more that people join us, the better we'll be at making positive changes. If you like a friendly, *optimistic* group that tries to get things done (and eat some biscuits), find us *here*:

- **[web]** <https://minchcan.org/> • **[email]** [canminch@gmail.com](mailto:canminch@gmail.com) •
- **[face]** [@Minch-CAN](#) • **[twit]** [@CanMinch](#) • **[insta]** [@minch\\_can](#) •

And please join our **mailing list** to keep updated with all we're doing!