



Great news from The Great Collaboration

A national resource hub and support network for collective climate and nature action

SUMMER 2025

Welcome to the summer edition of our quarterly newsletter. In this edition: Cricket club working with nature in Surrey, Global cycling summit in Worcester, Northants RAIN Gardens, Green energy workshop in Maldon, London Climate Action Week and more!

The Great Collaboration is building a national hub to support and connect councils and communities taking climate and nature action. We help local groups share knowledge, inspire one another, and accelerate delivery of environmental initiatives that benefit people, place and planet.

Want to get involved or share your story? [Download our form here](#) and send it to office@greatcollaboration.uk.

Website Updates

We have just added some extra features to the website, including:

- An extended [toolkit of more collective actions](#) for local groups and councils
- Links to [climate and environmental networks](#) around the country
- New registration for community groups, town & parish councils, and businesses

We are also developing digital mapping with Parish Online, an online discussion forum organised by county and by topic, and a searchable knowledgebase.

Great Collaboration in East Anglia

A survey has been sent out to parishes and community groups in the pilot programme area of Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk. Replies are coming back asking for further support with several activities:

- Biodiversity audit
- Climate action planning
- Electric vehicle charging points
- Energy-saving building improvements
- Flood risk management
- Funding advice
- Getting local engagement for climate action
- Reducing carbon emissions
- Renewable energy

There will be a series of webinars addressing these points. If you or any group you know would like to take part, or receive any other guidance, [the link to the survey is here](#), or you can email us at office@greatcollaboration.uk for details.

London Climate Action Week

[Save the dates! London Climate Action Week](#) returns for its 7th year from [21 June until 29 June](#). This event brings together organisations, communities, and individuals to collaborate on climate action and solutions.



Supporting Biodiversity

Bee Friendly Trust is an initiative that promotes biodiversity and creating environments for wildlife within groups/organisations to ensure the future of pollinators. There were 9 winners in the Bee Friendly Awards, [read more on the website](#). You can find [bee-friendly resources](#) on the organisation's website, too.



Community and Sports

[Cricket and nature](#) working in harmony in Valley End, Surrey. Marcus Fagent and volunteers have planted mature trees, set up an outdoor classroom, built a path to encourage connecting to nature, composts grass, and installed 52 solar panels through grants. And he has more plans for the future!



Community-Led Energy Workshop

In April, eMpower Maldon, Community Climate Action and Essex County Council hosted [a community-led energy workshop in Maldon](#). Students, residents, and local organisations collaborated to build community resilience and work towards energy self-efficiency. [Take action!](#)



The Global Bike Summit 2025

[The Global Bike Summit 2025 in Worcester](#) was on the 10th and 11th April 2025. The summit is an annual event since 2023 with more plans for the future! This initiative allows communities to advocate for and mobilise to demand change for sustainable transportation.



Northants RAIN Gardens

[Northants RAIN Gardens](#) helps the residents of Harpers Brook and Wootton Brook to set up rain gardens for free. The gardens reduce surface water and boost local habitats. The organisation works with communities to implement flood resilience through a holistic approach.

You can also get advice from Communities Prepared who offer [free online webinars on floods and other emergencies](#).



Supporting Carbon Literacy

The Carbon Literacy Project is created by a charity providing educational workshops to everyone who lives, works or studies – everywhere. The framework covers carbon footprints, climate change science, and inspires to act meaningfully. [Find events here near you!](#)

Carbon Literacy® is a registered trademark in the UK.

Connect and Collaborate

Our weekly Wednesday Zoom sessions are open to all interested in collective climate and nature action. Join us at noon for brief and light-hearted lunch-time presentations from specialist speakers, followed by a Q&A.

All sessions are recorded; presentations, chat, and discussions are made available on our Wiki channel. [Click here to access previous sessions](#), including the most recent on Green and Healthy Frome in Somerset, and on Community Land Trusts.

UPCOMING SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- 25th June - Water harvesting in allotments
- 3rd July - Great Collaboration knowledgebase

[Register for these and future sessions here.](#)

What's your specialist subject? To speak at a weekly Zoom session, on any climate or nature related topic, contact Graham on gcstones52@gmail.com or 07486 575922.

National Campaigns and Resources

National environmental campaigns are an easy win for councils and community groups to connect with residents on issues that matter to them. Climate change might not resonate but most people will agree that they don't like litter, do like hedgehogs and favour clean water.



FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

If your community is vulnerable to floods or needs guidance on how to mitigate flood risks.

[Floods Resources](#)



LET IT BLOOM JUNE

After No Mow May, you can continue making your garden bloom and co-exist with nature.

[Guide to care for your garden](#)



TREES FOR AUTUMN

The Tree Council provides a booklet on how to plant trees from seeds.

[See the booklet and other useful resources!](#)

Looking For Help?

We are a collective of community leaders, councillors, clerks, club representatives and charity trustees working to deliver this essential service to accelerate council and community climate and nature action.

If you need advice to overcome a barrier to achieving action in your community, [get in touch](#). Between us, we can cover a range of topics including:

- Reaching out to your community
 - Fundraising
 - Managing new projects
 - Working with your local council
 - Opportunities for town and parish councils
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Tell us about your collaborations

We're keen to hear about collective action in your community!

Are you developing a community energy project - or creating a local nature action plan? Becoming a bee-friendly parish?



[Tell your story!](#) Join our weekly Zoom sessions, or ask the hive mind for help.

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Together, we can make a difference.



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