



Bridport Energy Champions

Empowering the Bridport community to create a fair, affordable, zero carbon energy system with local people at its heart.

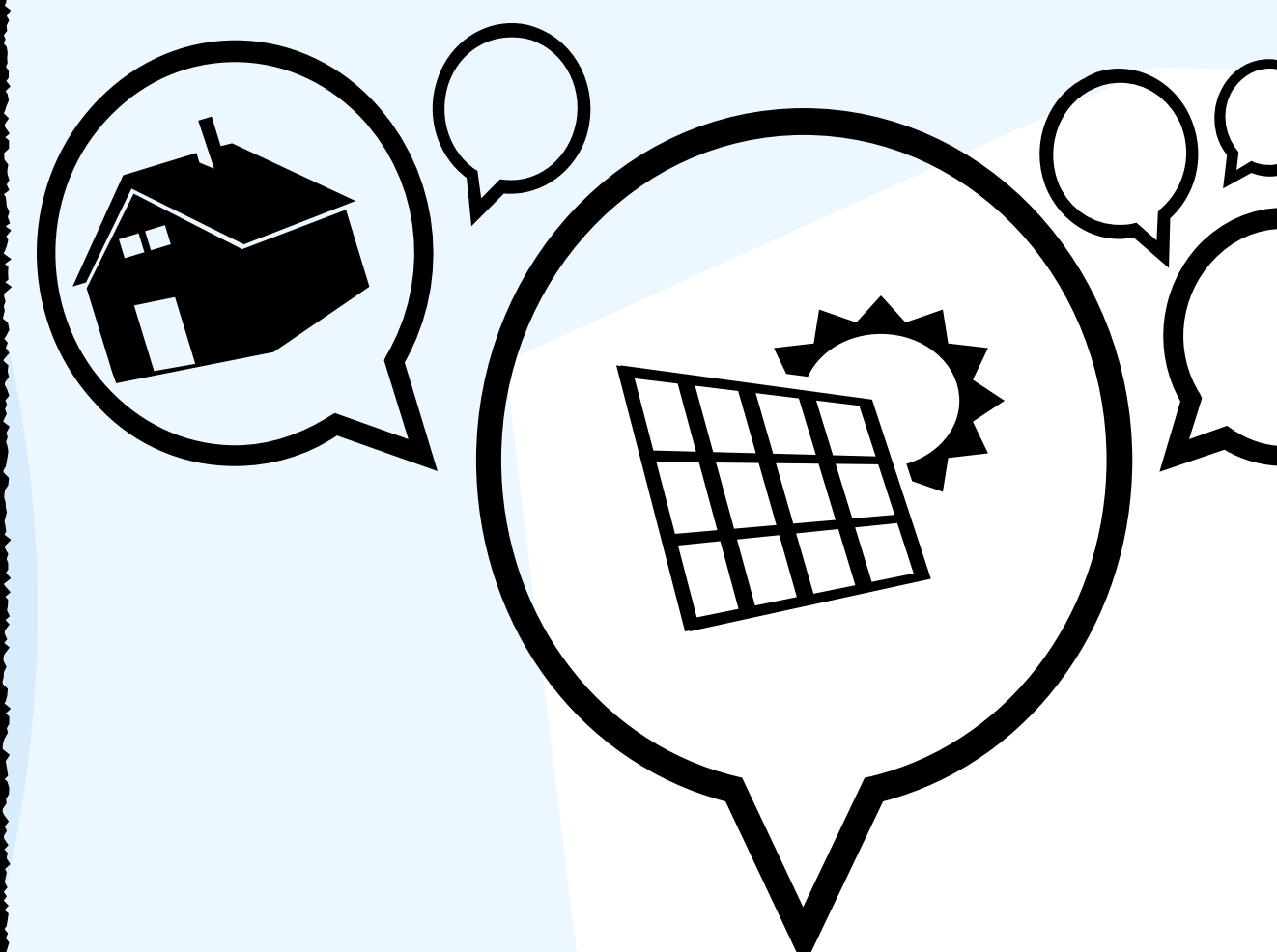
As part of our Energy Efficiency campaign, Bridport Town Council are looking for **energy champions** to support Bridport households in making the radical reductions in home carbon emissions necessary to avoid runaway climate change, as well as tackle local fuel poverty. Energy Champions will receive training and ongoing support from our partners, the Centre for Sustainable Energy.

What is an Energy Champion? An Energy Champion is someone who gives energy advice to their friends and neighbours in their community to help them be more energy efficient and reduce their carbon emissions, save on their bills and keep warm.

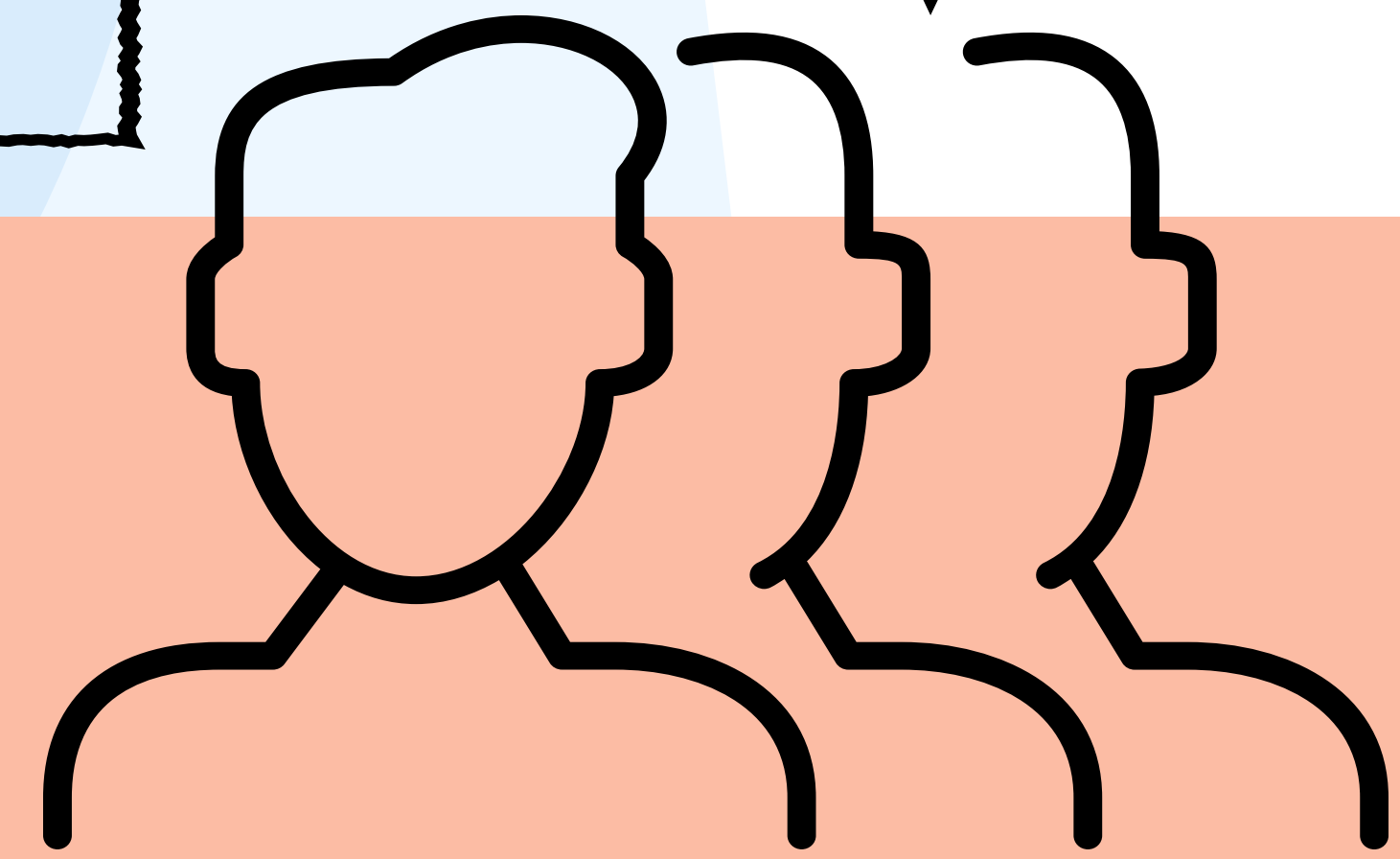
Why is it important? We know from behavioural research and experience that people are more likely to change their behaviours if they receive advice from someone local; a person they know, trust and can relate to. We see local people as key to engaging with the community and central to Bridport's journey to net zero.

By being an Energy Champion you will:

- Help tackle climate change by encouraging others to be more energy efficient
- Help others in need in your area to save money on their energy bills and signpost them to get more help
- Develop new knowledge and skills to add to your CV through experience and further training



If you'd like to register your interest - please email: David.dixon@bridport-tc.gov.uk



Energy Champion examples

Bristol Energy Network Energy Champions

Bristol Energy Network have recruited and trained Energy Champions to support projects in various parts of Bristol. The vision for this initiative is for every neighbourhood in Bristol to have a local person to turn to for energy advice, a person who would champion energy saving in their community. The champions have been involved in lots of different activities including conducting energy efficiency surveys, teaching others to construct solar panels, carried out research, provided advice and support.



Wigan Community Energy Champions

The programme recruited and upskilled 16 volunteers from fuel poverty hotspots across Wigan, acting as connectors who could provide energy advice and support to households who are hard to reach. Energy Champions were offered training on fuel poverty and health, energy and fuel debt. The training also gave the champions an understanding of professional support available, such as wider welfare and lifestyle services, along with how to refer people to them. The Energy Champions supported 469 residents with important energy advice and referrals for other support.



Crow Energy Pop-up cafe

In June 2014, a community group in Sussex organised some Energy Café pop-ups in partnership with Wealden District Council. They ran two events where they helped residents by offering advice on how to cut bills, tips on switching suppliers, advice on energy efficiency and offered freebies! As part of its Affordable Warmth scheme, the council here was supporting a community energy advice scheme.



Circle Housing Resident Energy Champions

Circle Housing, a social housing provider in London, run a 'Resident Energy Champions' programme, operating across all of its housing. Residents were trained so that they can engage with other residents on energy issues and provide tips about how to keep the heat in and save money. There is now a network of around 50 energy champions who attended the training and organise events in their communities. Champions spread the word through distributing 'top tips' sheets at coffee mornings, running energy saving stalls at community events and giving talks to local groups about how to cut energy bills.