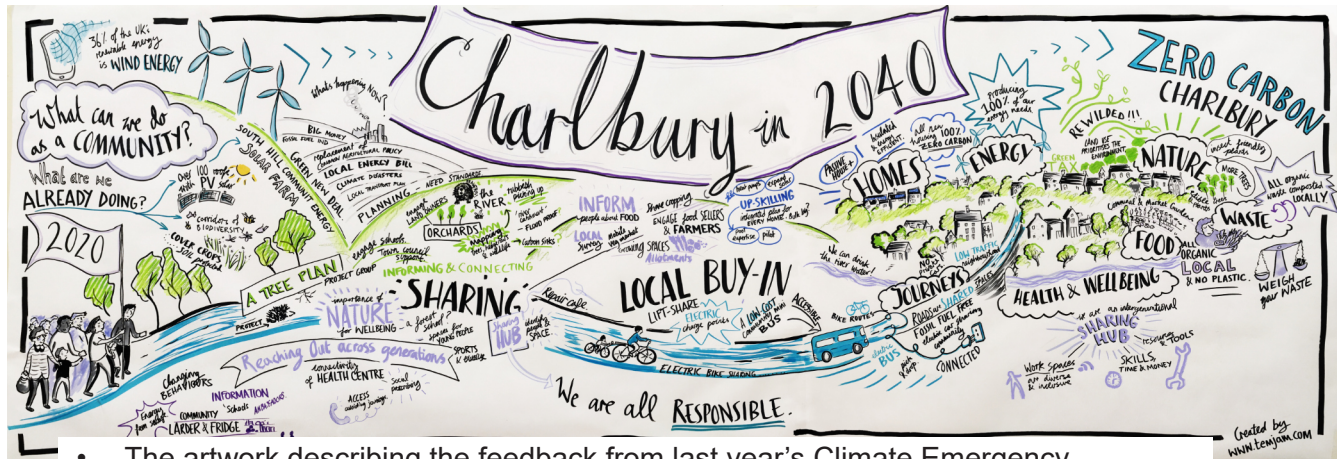


# Gareth Epps



For Charlbury Town Council

I was brought up here and want Charlbury to be the best place for my family.



- The artwork describing the feedback from last year's Climate Emergency workshops. Gareth wants this to be at the heart of the Town Council's vision

I was brought up here and have returned with my family.

Charlbury is not only surrounded by beautiful countryside, but we have a fantastic community. Two decades ago, I was fighting to save our library, founding the Friends of Charlbury Library for which I was Secretary, with a community centre almost a mythical object. My term as a town councillor helped start the work that delivered that centre, with a great library in it and at last the Sports and Social Club back next door. We also championed the additional housing provision at Ticknell Piece at affordable costs for people with a local connection, enabling many people I grew up with to stay living here.

I'm a governor of our school, a former District Councillor, and by day a specialist in community engagement. I'd like to use this experience to help our town adapt to future challenges, implementing the Neighbourhood Plan. From preschool provision (I was one of the first children in what's now the Preschool), a Cricket Club member for twenty years (hopefully again soon), a supporter of our shops and pubs... all can too easily be lost. Recent arrivals here would be amazed at how many shops there were when I was growing up, not all that long ago.

With that comes a new challenge. Charlbury has declared a climate emergency; now we must act. I'm a trustee of Sustainable Charlbury, ensuring good use of the funds from Southill Solar; we are well placed to take steps towards reducing our carbon footprint, and many of these can save us energy and money, and improve our quality of life. I joined the council's Environment Working Group [EWG] a year ago to help in this, and will continue to help drive forward the work to help us become zero carbon by 2040, engaging the whole town, and taking good decisions now that will stand us all in good stead in decades to come.

*To help Charlbury build a better future,  
on 6 May for the Town Council, vote....*

**Gareth EPPS**

