

Community Energy Cumbria
10th Annual General Meeting
9th September 2025, 6pm.
Online via Zoom and teleconference

Present:

Board Members: Phil Davies (Chair), Caroline Turner (Company Secretary), Donna Munro, Jane Meeks (Treasurer)

Members: [REDACTED]

Apologies: R Yates

1. Minutes of 2024 AGM and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last AGM were accepted as correct. There were no matters arising.

Proposed by: NB. Approved by: PD

2. Review of 2024/25 and update for 2025 so far , Chair

Please see slides for further details on generation figures.

PD outlined how we were 10 years old – halfway through our 20-year plan.

- ✓ Saved 254,800kg CO₂e from hydro and 47TCO₂e from the PV and have maintained the projected share interest levels over last few years.
- ✓ We are on track to return all the capital invested to members with 50% already returned after this year repayments.
- ✓ We have also distributed funds for community benefit – helping establish EV charge points, new solar, charity data improvements.

Hydro has generated 105,000 – 140,000 kWh each year, proving most of our income. There has been a dry summer in 2025, but wet months are coming and we rely on those for the main generation.

PD urged members to consider becoming Directors, and that we meet only 3-4 times a year and distribute the community benefit fund. He said that if we can't get extra Directors, we need to look to other community energy companies to take CEC on.

PV project

Board member Donna gave an update on the performance of the solar array.

- Solar is exceeding projected annual output again, and the screenshot was taken on the 22nd August.
- The output is still in line with other years see graph 1 and 2. But output has been a bit low since the 14th of July so we are investigating that.
- There is some automatic alert software for the PV output and we're going to join a trial for this software.
- The National Park are now putting their own panels on other roofs of the building which is great news.

Hydro

The Chair gave an update on the hydro scheme.

We are 5-6% down on 23/24 figures, some furring of the pipe has occurred, and we are keeping an eye on this, but it would be costly to put right.

There's a difference between the 23/24 income and the 24/25 income due to energy costs and the reduction and what were paid per kWh. However, we are meeting our financial projections and a 5% interest payment will be available again this year. Capital is going to be reduced again by £25,000 with another £2,500 set aside for community benefit grant funding.

3. Update on projects funded by Community Benefit Fund

No funds awarded since last grant round in 2023 as have been building a pot up to distribute. Now have £8,240 in the pot so we propose that we issue notice for people to apply.

4. Presentation & Adoption of the Accounts

The Treasurer presented the accounts.

She noted that Feed in Tarrif price has increased slightly, which is good, but the export energy costs have reduced.

Our expenditure has stayed fairly level, up £2,000 on previous year due to insurance costs.

The net effect was that profit for the year is c.£19,000 before shareholder payments, and this compares well with 2023 and 2021. She noted that it is unlikely we will need to pay Corporation tax for several years due to depreciation of the assets.

She reiterated that the accounts demonstrated that we could make a 5% interest payment to shareholders and set aside £2,500 for community benefit fund.

The accounts were proposed by: MC; seconded by: PD and Vote was carried.

5. Election of Board

The Board all stepped down as Directors as per the constitution.

There were no new Director applications received by the Board. The Directors present put themselves up for re-election.

DH proposed that the Directors be accepted on block. This was seconded by FC. ALL voted in favour.

6. Motions to AGM

i) Application of Profits –

CT outlined that the board proposed a further £2,500 for the community benefit fund and that this added to funds unallocated from last year, bringing us to £8,240 funds and that the Directors proposed to open up applications to the funds. JM proposed, PD seconded. The motion was approved.

ii) Proposals around reinvesting capital

None made

iii) To continue with application of Section 84(1) – Phil Davies reminded members that whilst our accounts are drawn up by Robinson and Udale (accountants) and then checked by the Directors, CEC does not then send these accounts off to be further audited. Auditing is optional for CEC (and very expensive), so traditionally the company has used its Rules to disapply the need for further auditing (Section 84 (1)). It was proposed that this was continued for the following year.

JM proposed, CT seconded. The motion was approved.

iv) Member motions

There were no motions received prior to the AGM.

v) Appointment of Auditor/Independent Examiner

The Chair explained that the Board recommendation was to continue with Robinson Udale as Independent Examiners.

This was proposed by CT, seconded by DH. The motion was approved.

--- **CLOSE OF AGM BUSINESS** ---