

Shropshire and Telford Community Energy

Newsletter July/August 2026



Reflections on a Successful Third Annual General Meeting

Thank you to all who attended our third AGM in June. The meeting took place both online and at the newly refurbished Wellington Orbit, a previous recipient of our Community Benefit Fund. The meeting was well attended with 24 people in attendance. Directors and members voted on a set of formal resolutions all of which were agreed with no votes against.

Following the formalities Robert Saunders (Chair) reported on what had been **a most successful second full year**, highlighting how we have continued to provide community benefits across Shropshire and Telford, providing £32k of funding in 2025, plus a making a significant contribution to the Bishop's Castle community wind turbine project. Dave Green (Treasurer) reported how our **turnover in 2025 had risen to £2.22M**, up from £1.68M in 2024 and that the subsequent increase in profit has been used to partially pay off more of our junior loan. This fantastic increase was a result of a good year for solar generation, expert management by our partners at Bright Renewables and a healthy power purchase agreement.

Following the formal elements of the AGM presentations were given on asset management, the Bishop's Castle wind turbine project, the community benefit fund and ongoing biodiversity monitoring at Twemlows Solar Farm. **A big thank you to Nicola Burmeister of Bright Renewables and Geraint Davies of the Bishop's Castle Working Group for their contributions.**

STCE Welcomes New Directors

The AGM also gave us the opportunity to formally vote for and **welcome three new directors to the STCE team.** Heather Streetly, Corinna Kenyon-Wade and David Brown.

Heather Streetly After a successful career as a hydrogeologist in Shrewsbury, Heather has shifted from groundwater modelling to hands-on community action volunteering with Shrewsbury Food Hub and supporting "slow the flow" and rewilding projects in South Shropshire. Heather was Co-opted in September 2025 and now joins us as a director and our new Secretary.	A portrait of Heather Streetly, a woman with short brown hair, wearing a purple jacket over a blue and white patterned scarf, smiling.
Corinna Kenyon-Wade A Powys County Councillor and Vice Chair of the Climate & Nature Steering Group, Corinna brings strong climate leadership and community energy experience through the Teme Valley Environment Group. Co-opted in March 2026, Corinna now joins us as a director.	A portrait of Corinna Kenyon-Wade, a woman with short grey hair and glasses, wearing a green scarf, smiling.
David Brown A retired IT Business Analyst with energy-sector expertise, David is deeply rooted in local climate action and renewable energy advocacy, volunteering at nature reserves, supporting Sustainable Saturday events in Telford, and serving as Treasurer of Transition Town Telford. Welcome David!	A portrait of David Brown, a man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a pink shirt.

New Community Benefit Society to take BC wind turbine to new heights!

The Bishop's Castle turbine project is entering an ambitious new phase. Changes to grid-connection feasibility mean the turbine can no longer connect through the private wire arrangement originally planned, making the current consented scheme unviable. Rather than step back, the working group is stepping up and exploring a taller tower, a larger turbine, and a new planning application targeted for October.

This redesign will push construction into 2028, but it also unlocks a bigger prize: higher generation, stronger local energy resilience, and a significantly larger Community Benefit Fund for Bishop's Castle and the surrounding area. Alongside the technical rethink, a new Community Benefit Society is being established to take advantage of Licensed Exempt Supply, paving the way for a local Energy Club that keeps more value circulating within the community.

STCE remains fully committed to the project. We've already contributed £10,000 towards the new planning costs and have submitted a bid to the Energy Redress Fund to support the next stage of development.

Twemlows output consistently above forecast

The Community Energy Together portfolio, of which STCE is part, continues to show resilient performance across its 8 community-owned solar assets. A recently published 2025 report shows STCE assets remained among the steadier performers in the portfolio that year, with Twemlows 2 delivering 7.3% above expectations and Twemlows 1 recovering well after early-period inverter issues.



STCE: Local and National Engagement

STCE continues to engage at both the local and national level: networking, learning and influencing policy. Since the last newsletter directors have attended:

- Community Energy England Conference 2026
- NESOs West Midlands Strategic Energy Planning Forum 2026
- DESNZ/Midlands Net Zero Hub: Energising Britain 2026

Dates for the diary

STCE will be attending the following events. Make sure to pop over to our stall and say hello!

- Ludlow Green Day 12th July
- Wellington Green Fair 1st August
- Shrewsbury Green Day 1st August
- Coming soon! New dates for Twemlows work parties!

Shropshire & Telford Community Energy,
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