

Shropshire and Telford Community Energy's Community Benefit Fund

Report detailing STCE management of the Twemlows CBF 26th October 2026

Introduction

The Community Benefits flowing from the Twemlows solar farm are a key part of the case for investment in the STCE share offer. This report is to put on public record details of the activities of the Twemlows CBF during the period it has been under the management of Shropshire and Telford Community Energy. The next and future STCE Annual Accounts will include a report on the CBF for that financial year.

Short history

Before STCE was registered the Twemlows Community Benefit Fund was run by Gower Power as it was an existing community owned organisation with a solar farm, and there was no such organisation in Shropshire. Gower Power enlisted the support of the Shropshire Rural Community Council (RCC), a charity based in Shrewsbury, to manage the fund in Shropshire. A steering group was established by Shropshire RCC to manage the distribution of the funds.

In early 2020 STCE came into existence as a “working group” with the intention of bringing Twemlows solar farm into community ownership. On 3rd November 2020 a handover meeting was held between STCE and Shropshire RCC. it was agreed, and minuted, at that meeting that:

1. STCE would become responsible for the CBF, taking over the role of the steering group.
2. STCE would in future ask RCC to manage funds for distribution to community projects within 15 miles of Twemlows. RCC was subsequently renamed Community Resource (CR).
3. The rest of the funds would be managed directly by STCE who would target the funds at carbon saving projects throughout Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin.

Flow of Funds

The Twemlows 10MW solar farm was set up as two 5MW solar farms under two operating Community Interest Companies (CICs)– Twemlows 1 CIC and Twemlows 2 CIC. Each company sells the power generated to the grid. After deductions of costs and loan repayments, etc. the resulting Community Benefit Funds arrive at STCE for distribution.

The Twemlows 1 CBF is the portion managed by Community Resource. CR report the distribution of their portion of the CBF through their own reporting system as part of their year end accounts. CR and STCE each have a documented process by which applicants can apply for grants. These include the criteria used for awarding grants. CR have a standing “Grants” committee for consideration of and decisions on grant applications. They administer a number of grants for different organisations. STCE manages the Twemlows 2

CBF through its own grant panel. The panel consists of STCE directors (including Chair and Secretary) and one Community member.

Below is a list of the beneficiaries of the Twemlows Community Benefit Fund for the period from 2020 (when STCE took responsibility of the fund) up to 2025.

STCE Community Benefit Fund Beneficiaries			
T1 - Twemlows 1 fund administered by Community Resource for any community project within 15 miles of Twemlows			
T2 - Twemlows 2 fund administered by STCE for energy related projects anywhere in geographic Shropshire			
Year	T1 or T2	Organisation	Used for..
2020	T1	Little Wenlock Village Hall	Contribution to heat pumps
2021	T1	Lee Brockhurst Village Hall	New double glazed doors and windows
2022	T2	Park Lane Centre, Woodside Telford	LED lights and rainwater harvesting
2022	T2	Lightfoot Enterprises	Home energy survey training
2022	T1	Whitchurch Blackberry Fair	Whitchurch Blackberry Fair
2022	T1	Brownlow Community Centre	LED lighting
2022	T1	Ellesmere Bowling Club	LED lighting
2022	T1	Hodnett Footpath Group	New leaflets
2022	T1	Renshaws Field Association	Purchase of a willow dome
2022	T1	Whitchurch Whippets	First aid training and equipment
2022	T1	Wem Christmas Festival	LED lighting
2022	T1	Great Ness to Little Ness Community Project	Litter picking equipment
2022	T1	Tilstock Tennis and Bowling Club	Replacement scarifier & mower
2022	T1	Tilstock Bradbury Village Hall	Lithium batteries for solar power storage
2022	T1	Whitchurch Allotment and Community Orchard	Trees and beehive equipment
2023	T1	Harmer Hill village hall	Solar PV project
2023	T2	Festival Drayton Centre	Solar PV project
2023	T2	Longnor Village Hall	Loft and floor insulation
2023	T2	Shrewsbury United Reformed Church	Secondary glazing
2023	T2	Rushbury Village Hall	New windows and doors
2024	T1	Ightfield and Calverhall Bowling Club	Lighting upgrade to LED
2024	T1	Renshaws Field Association	Part only, for disabled picnic bench
2024	T2	Ditton Priors Pavilion	Energy efficiency materials
2024	T2	Rushbury VH	Rooftop PV
2024	T2	Little Wenlock VH	Induction cooker
2024	T2	Wellington Orbit	Mech and Elec materials for building refurb.
2024	T1	SYA Shropshire Youth Association	Youth club trip Whitchurch to Whixall Moss ok subject to more details, confirmed as Ok
2024	T1	Blackberry Fair CIC	Blackberry Fair
2024	T1	4 All Foundation, Market Drayton	for Tilstock youth club

2025	T1	Renshaws field association	Field soil and matting for improved community accessibility
2025	T1	Ditton Priors Village Hall	Solar panels
2025	T1	BizEd projects CiC	Expansion of community hub
2025	T1	Shropshire Good food Partnership CiC	To support the "Grow it" project at the Grove school
2025	T1	Blackberry Fair CiC	Zero waste project and pedal powered stage
2025	T1	Ackleton Village Hall	Replacement kitchen roof
2025	T2	Hengoed with Gobowen Village Hall	Installation of an air-to-air heat pump
2025	T2	All Saints Hengoed with Gobowen Church Hall	Rooftop PV
2025	T2	Ellerdine VH	New external insulated fire doors
2025	T2	English Bridge Workshop	Replacement of rotting windows. Conditional on signing a lease
2025	T2	Marton VH	Rooftop PV
2025	T2	Whitchurch Scouts and Guides	Replacement windows