

Shropshire and Telford Community Energy

Newsletter September/October 2026



Community Energy Conference 13th October! Book Now!

"Booking is now open for our Community Energy Conference 13th October! Working with our good friends at Shropshire Climate Action we're hosting a Community Energy Conference on the 13th October at Twemlows Stud Farm..."

We're delighted to announce our first Community Energy Conference, held in partnership with Shropshire Climate Action, on Tuesday 13th October, at Twemlows Stud Farm, Whitchurch (SY13 2EZ). If you're interested in community energy, local climate action, or want to learn more about STCE's projects, this event is for you.

You'll hear updates on:

- Twemlows Solar Farm
- Bishop's Castle Wind Turbine Project
- Little Wenlock Village Hall's zero-carbon journey
- SATBAC — Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Solar and Battery Assisted Communities
- A guest presentation from the Northumberland Solar & Batteries Project

Practical details:

- Coffee/tea from 9:30am
- Lunch provided by Shropshire Food Hub (donations towards costs appreciated)
- Tours of Twemlows Solar Farm before and after the event
- Pick-ups from Whitchurch Station for those travelling by train
- Please note: the conference room is on the first floor, accessible only via stairs.

Book here, [Community Energy Conference Tickets, Tuesday, October 13 • 10 AM – 3 PM | Eventbrite](#)



STCE finalises latest interest payment to members

"The STCE board were pleased to agree the payment of 6% interest for 2025 (for those who bought shares in 2023)."

The board has confirmed a 6% interest payment for 2025 for members who invested in 2023. Investors who joined in 2025 will receive their first interest payment in 2027, as set out in the share offer document. Payments are expected spring/early summer next year.

Bishop's Castle Wind Turbine Project - Growing in Ambition

A new planning application is being prepared for a larger 2MW turbine, increasing from the previously approved 80m tip / 60m rotor to 110m tip / 90m rotor. This upgrade will:

- More than double renewable electricity generation
- Make the scheme financially viable
- Deliver significant community benefit once loans are repaid

STCE has contributed £10,000 from our Community Benefit Fund to support the planning application. Lightfoot Community Energy is registering as a Community Benefit Society and will take over the scheme once their bank account is active. STCE will continue to support them, with at least one shared director to maintain close collaboration. Capital raising is planned for 2027, with construction expected to begin early 2028.

Twemlows Solar Farm - Output Continues to Impress

"Nine months into the year and we are 10% above forecast for the year to date!"

Both 5MW sites at Twemlows have performed exceptionally well throughout the year. This success reflects the high-quality construction of the site, expert management by Bright Renewables and the strong sunlight levels this year. We are currently 10% above forecast for year-to-date generation.

STCE Hosts Site Visit for New Maintenance Contractors

It's time in the solar farm management cycle to appoint new maintenance contractors. These teams provide both technical and land-management services to ensure the site operates at peak performance and remains compliant with approved management plans.

In September, STCE hosted potential contractors at Twemlows, supported by Nicola and Tim from Bright Renewables. Feedback was extremely positive — the site made a strong impression.



Dates For the Diary

- The residents of Whitchurch will be saving the planet one smile at a time at this year's **Blackberry Fair which returns on the 3rd October**. As usual STCE will be there, do say hello if you see us
- Our Community Energy Conference is running on the 13th October (details as earlier)
- Our first seasonal work parties are scheduled for the 7th and 22nd of November (contact heather@stcenergy.org.uk to register your interest)

Shropshire & Telford Community Energy,
Registered Society 8829,
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