Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy

LESS CARBON, MORE WILDLIFE

Minutes of the Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy 2025 AGM held over Zoom at 2pm on Friday 26th September 2025.

At 2pm, the meeting was adjourned as it was not quorate.

In accordance with the society's rules the meeting was adjourned for 30 minutes, with the members present after 30 minutes constituting a quorum.

By 2:35pm, 20 members were present and the meeting was declared quorate, allowing the formal AGM business to be conducted.

Charlie Forrester (CfR) was the meeting 'host'.

Please refer to the separate slide deck for details on agenda items, which can be found on WWCE's website: https://wwce.org/resources/

1 Welcome & Introduction (Julian Barlow)

The Chair, Julian Barlow opened the meeting by welcoming everybody to the virtual meeting. Members were advised that they were muted and to please ask questions and communicate through the chat function. Julian noted that the meeting will be recorded.

Julian ran through the meeting agenda and introduced the various presenters who would contribute to the meeting and provided an update on the Society's key achievements from 2024/25.

2 Technical Performance of Solar Farms (Tom Cosgrove from CfR)

Tom talked through the slides on the technical performance of the sites, noting that it was a good year (April 2024 – March 2025) across the portfolio in general with Braydon exceeding its generation projection by 4%. Chelworth was just under projections by 0.57%. The rooftop sites performed under their respective generation projection by 4% which can be largely put down to shading losses due to surrounding trees. There will always be some shading losses for the rooftop arrays but careful management of the surrounding trees by WWT will maximise performance whilst preserving the local ecosystem.

Overall the group was 2.87% above the long term projection for the year in terms of green electricity generated.

3 Silverwood School (Tom Cosgrove)

Tom ran through the Silverwood School project, a 521kWp rooftop solar system at Silverwood's Devizes Campus SEND school which was brought into community ownership via a public share offer.

The performance of the PV system has been monitored since August 2024 and work is ongoing with the developer to address the remaining snagging items to improve performance and increase long-term reliability. WWCE is developing plans for the £5,000 annual community fund to support wildlife and environmental education with the school and in due course will be seeking Silverwood investor members to oversee this dedicated Solar for Silverwood School fund.

4 Land Management (Rob Gillies)

Rob provided a detailed update on land management and ecological work being implemented at the sites including a change of grazing regime at Chelworth to encourage wildflower and native grass growth and wildflower sowing at Braydon with seeds sourced from the WWT's Avis Meadows, and supplemented with Yellow Rattle, to be completed in Autumn 2025.

5 Community Fund (Jon Bateman)

Jon provided an overview of the Community Fund with a further eight projects receiving funding in the year to 31st March 2025. A high level summary of how the fund is administered and managed was also provided with a further note that promoting the fund and redefining the award criteria has stimulated interest from across the county.

Jon then ran through the eight projects funded in the 2024/25 financial year and proceeded to outline how the remaining fund balance has been used and highlighted that there is still a WWCE member vacancy to join the Panel.

6 Community Outreach (Julian Barlow)

Julian talked through the community outreach completed in relation to Silverwood; WWCE's first share offer for more than a decade; the Keeping Warm This Winter project and the Lower Moor Farm project, amongst others.

The return of the Keeping Warm This Winter project generated significant regional coverage in early 2025 with articles being featured in several local publications. In addition to print coverage, WWCE also attracted the attention of broadcast journalists from BBC Radio Wiltshire and local TV station, That's TV.

Jess then proceed to run through her role as Carbon Reduction Champion, a role shared between WWCE and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (WWT), and the objectives of the Keeping Warm This Winter project and it's impact in 2024/25 and over the life of the project which spans back three winters.

7 Finance (Tom Cosgrove)

Tom presented the high level financial results for the year ending 31st March 2025, profit before tax was £768k which is a significant uplift from the previous financial year (£275k), due to high prices secured for exported electricity which was locked in during the 2021 energy crisis.

Tom then ran through the future financial projections which are positive. Surpluses of c.£1m are projected to be generated in the short term to further the group's objective of less carbon, more wildlife in Wiltshire.

8 Future Strategy (Julian Barlow & Rob Gillies)

Rob Gillies provided a summary of the Lower Moor Farm project. In mid-2025, WWCE awarded £100,000 of funding, split over 2 years, to WWT to support biodiversity and habitat enhancements of over 48 hectares of land at the Trust's Lower Moor Farm reserve through a carefully considered conservation programme.

Some of the benefits of the project include: increase in species diversity and supporting a range of habitats, increased carbon sequestration, hydrological function and flood management, improved welfare of livestock, education, PR and further follow up project opportunities and supporting both WWT and WWCE's respective missions.

Julian then ran through the aims and objectives of the society for 2025/26 covering the Silverwood School project targeted return for investors and community fund, delivery of grant to WWT to support the Lower Moor Farm project, continue to maximise the impact of the Keeping Warm This Winter project and Community Fund and continue with the mission of promoting delivery of the right solar, in the right place, for the right reasons.

9 Member Share Withdrawal Rule Amendment Update (Tom Cosgrove)

Tom provided an update on the member share withdrawal rule amendment. Following approval of the amendment by the members at the 2024 AGM and subsequent submission of the relevant documents, the FCA rejected the proposal on the basis of it not being equitable which was contrary to previous feedback from the FCA.

Following this, WWCE have decided to seek legal advice on the matter as it is believed that the rule amendment mechanism and wording is suitable and equitable. We are hoping to reach an agreed position with the FCA through this process and re-table the amendment for approval by the members at the 2026 AGM.

10 Formal AGM business (Julian Barlow)

Julian introduced the formal business section of the meeting noting the proposed member interest payments of 7% for Braydon and Chelworth shareholders, and 5.5% for Silverwood Shareholders that invested before the first close. Silverwood interest will be paid for the final two months of the 2024/25 financial year (1st February to 31st March 2025) as described in the update issued to investors when the offer was extended. Julian then introduced the proposals and resolutions to be voted on.

A poll was shared through which members could vote on the following proposals:

1) Proposal to donate £40k to the Community Fund (result: Approved)

2) Proposal to re-elect David Lewin to the Board as he retires on rotation (result: Approved)

3) Proposal to re-elect Julian Barlow to the Board as he retires on rotation (result: Approved)

The table below shows the proxy vote results

Resolution	Approve	Reject	Skipped
1	52	1	3
2	50	0	6
3	48	0	8

11 AOB (Julian Barlow)

With no further questions or matters arising, the meeting closed at 3.00pm.

Questions arising during the course of the meeting in the chat function

Q. Can you remind me of the financial year dates. Given the excellent sunny weather this calendar year, vs poor weather last year, is the good generation performance a surprise?

A. (Tom Cosgrove) – The financial year dates are 1st April – 31st March. We received a small portion of the good irradiance prior to 31st March 2025 which is reported in this AGM. As per the technical performance breakdown we were just ahead of projection which the high irradiance experienced through March 2025 contributed to.

However, the majority share of the good irradiance this calendar year came after 31st March 2025, in the current financial year which will be reported on at the next AGM.

Q. How will the slides be distributed?

A. (Tom Cosgrove) – The AGM presentation will be uploaded to the resources page on the WWCE website in due course following the meeting. Please see: https://wwce.org/resources/