

Sheffield Renewables AGM

2th February, 2026

held at Victoria Hall, Norfolk Street, S1 2JB, Sheffield UK.

MINUTES

Present: 17 members, 3 guests and one new volunteer.

Apologies: were received from 18 members.

David Berry (director), Jean Tinsley and Nicolas Viphakone (secretary), welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

The minutes of last year's meeting were accepted as a true record.

The full slides of the AGM will be on our website.

The highlights:

- Dave Berry reported that we have now generated 1.6 million kWh – a really good achievement.
- Dave Berry reported that most schemes are operating well and showed their generation graphs. HGDT Campus has had an inverter failure (fixed) which impacted a bit its output.
- Nicolas Viphakone showed the robustness and reliability of solar PV technology in the UK as demonstrated by Sheffield Renewable existing scheme outputs and data over the past 12 years and the importance of leveraging such data to model more accurately new schemes in a post-FiT era.
- Dave Berry highlighted the new policy contexts that community energy is now operating in:
 - Changes from RPI to CPI for annual increase in FiT payments
 - Inspection regime (MCS guidance and insurance requirement)

Dave Berry and Nicolas Viphakone then presented the projects ran during 2024-2025:

- [Supporting local NHS GP practices to NetZero 2050](#) (funded by Northern Powergrid Foundation)
- [Our Cow Molly](#) (funded by North East and Yorkshire Net Zero Hub).

and the new projects we are working on:

- Tonco Bakery: solar PV scheme with over 90% on-site usage (proposal sent)
- Nether Green Infant School: solar PV scheme (proposal sent)
- Poterric Carr solar to rail: a GBECF-funded solar PV scheme in partnership with [Riding Sunbeams](#)
- Investigating local farms partners for solar PV and/or anaerobic digestion

Annual Accounts

The accounts were accepted and the meeting agreed that we do not need an audit.

Application of Surplus (Interest and Capital Payments)

Jean Tinsley, administrator, took us through the figures for this year. We will again be able to pay 3% interest on all shares, and nearly £18,000 is available to repay capital.

The amount available for the Community Benefit Fund this year is £4,168.80. It was agreed that 80% will go to local schemes:

- [Heeley City Farm](#) (support for new solar PV, £3,035.04)
- [Sheffield Energy Hub](#) (support for equipment, £300)

and 20% will go to the tree planting activity of the [Mbedza charity](#) (£833.76).

Communications

Sheffield Renewables website has been updated to showcase our existing schemes and partners, our projects and the organisations that support/have supported our work.

The majority of our existing partners are now mentioning their solar PV partnership with Sheffield Renewables on their websites.

Members who wish to be more informed regarding the activities of the organisation are encouraged to sign-up to our newsletter and visit our website from time to time.

Membership

Nicolas reported that 17 members withdrew all of their capital this year. We have 157 members remaining. Jean Tinsley and Nicolas Viphakone underscored to members the importance of keeping us informed of any changes in contact details.

Election of Board

Paul Cocker and Ted Datta stood down this year as per our rules and were re-elected.

Dave Berry, Richard Collins, Luke Wilson are continuing from last year.

Nicolas Viphakone, project development manager has taken on the role of Company Secretary.

Mark Wells (member and former director) and Dinah Ward (new volunteer) have expressed an interest in shadowing the Board with the possibility to join formally in the future.

Members were reminded that we continue to look for new directors to give new energy to the board. Anyone interested was invited to contact any member of the board or the secretary.