

Gloucestershire Community Energy Ltd

Annual Report April 2017 – March 2018

Gloucestershire Community Energy Co-op is a society for the benefit of the community whose main aims are to support and develop local renewable energy generation that reduces dependence on energy generated from fossil fuels, thus cutting carbon emissions, and to support local communities by helping them to reduce energy use.

Gloucester Resource Centre

Output from our panels this financial year was pretty much on target at 99% of expected output compared to 96% last financial year, a total generation of 37,088kWh saving an estimated 16.5 tonnes of CO₂.

Once again the FIT and export tariff income received, as well as providing 5% interest to our members, provided a payment of £2,843 (20% of our FIT income) to the Resource Centre to help them with their valuable community work.

GCEC Board and membership.

We were pleased to welcome one of our members, Peter Boait as a new board member at the last AGM. The board was also pleased to co-opt Iain Garner during the year. This increase in numbers has re-invigorated the board, and enabled us to be proactive with possible projects as well as reacting positively to approaches from other organisations.

Potential projects and links with other organisations

Our work with residents of Temple Guiting to investigate options for generating community owned renewable energy in the village has come to an end. Solar panels on the barn would not be cost effective. The experience of the villagers in seeking to generate their own energy is documented in the BBC 4 film "The great village green crusade".

We have been investigating the possibility of using the excess electricity generated by the panels on the Resource Centre to supply local residents at a discounted rate – the "Energy Local" model. This would involve working with Co-op Energy to provide smart meters and a community tariff. We are currently trying to identify local residents to work with.

Transition Stroud has set up a Renewable Energy Task Group, and GCEC is working closely with them with a view to helping to investigate and deliver any appropriate community renewable projects they might identify in the Stroud area.

Alison Crane

Secretary