



South Dartmoor Community Energy

www.southdartmoorcommunityenergy.org

History

- ▶ Evolved out of local Transition Initiative called PL:21
- ▶ Energy group became part of South West Devon Community Energy Partnership in 2012
- ▶ Watched other groups develop projects and looked for one ourselves
- ▶ Portworthy Solar Array opportunity appeared
- ▶ We helped BWCE purchase the array
- ▶ Received grant to help establish SDCE and became registered on 8th June 2016



What are we?

- ▶ A community benefit society registered with the FCA
- ▶ Set up to help local communities to become more energy efficient and to get involved in, and benefit from, renewable energy projects
- ▶ Any surplus funds generated by our projects must benefit the local community
- ▶ Want to provide year round energy advice service and develop exemplar sustainability projects



Who are we?



Local Context

- ▶ Ivybridge uses 25,000,000 kWh of electricity and nearly 275,000,000 kWh of gas per year
- ▶ £13.5million spent on energy every year
- ▶ 32,000 tonnes of CO₂ generated per household every year
- ▶ Around 8% households are classed as fuel poor
- ▶ Neighbouring villages have many households not on the gas network
- ▶ There are lots of new homes being built - how efficient will they be?

What have we been up to?

- Launched energy advice service last winter
- Spoken to over 600 local residents, helped reduce bills by over £5000
- Provided talks to community groups and health teams



Community owned solar systems

- ▶ Received a Rural Community Energy Fund grant to find local businesses with roofs suitable for community owned PV



Portworthy Array

- ▶ 4.3 MW array, worth over £5 million
- ▶ Built on old silt beds associated with china clay works
- ▶ In Shaugh Prior parish but close to Sparkwell and Cornwood
- ▶ We have just distributed a £5000 Community Benefit Fund from the array in grants to local groups



Future plans and opportunities

- ▶ Share offer for the viable solar installations on local businesses
- ▶ Launch our Warm and Well South Hams Project in September (25th)
- ▶ Build on relationships with local organisations and support local Neighbourhood Planning Groups
- ▶ Position ourselves to help residents get to grips with smart meters and Time of Use Tariffs
- ▶ School projects, health related projects, Hydro on the Erme, exemplar housing project, householder solar panel scheme

What do you think we should be doing?

Would you like to influence or support our work?

How you can support SDCE

- ▶ Become a member of SDCE to help guide our work - you are our local community
- ▶ £1 membership fee and you need to support our objectives
- ▶ Work with us if you own a business or are part of an organisation that would like to develop or deliver local projects
- ▶ Volunteer with us
- ▶ Help us to raise awareness of community energy within your networks
- ▶ Refer people to us for energy advice (0800 112 3044)
- ▶ Invite us to your groups and events to help us deliver energy advice