

**Offering an ethical investment opportunity to bring renewable energy generation to your community**

“An opportunity to support community owned renewable energy where you live”

“Contribute to the urgent need to accelerate the transition of energy provision to zero carbon”

“ Support work at grass-roots community level to play your part in tackling climate change”

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**CHESTER COMMUNITY ENERGY**  
Working Together for a Sustainable Future

# CCEL

*A community led energy business dedicated to responding to the climate crises with positive local action*





CCEL directors with Chris Matheson MP

## Who are we?

Chester Community Energy Ltd (CCEL) was formed in January 2016 as a Community Benefit Society registered with the Financial Conduct Authority. The stated aims of the society are “ to reduce the communities carbon footprint and secure a more sustainable future source of electricity and to promote environmental awareness and energy reduction, conservation and efficiency”.

The society now has 93 members, 5 directors, a secretary and a part-time administrator.

Membership is open to individuals aged 16 and over, corporate bodies or nominees of unincorporated associations. It is not a requirement to live in the Chester area to be a member; just a wish to support our community and own at least 250 one-pound shares. All members of CCEL have one vote regardless of how many shares they hold.

## What do we do?

CCEL has successfully installed 170 kW of solar PV panels on the roofs of leisure centres at Northgate Arena, Christleton and Neston. The solar panels generate 136,000 kWh of electricity per year and save 35 tonnes of CO2 per year, the equivalent of 1600 trees. The investment capital for the projects is raised by the public who buy shares in the society and become members



Northgate Arena solar PV array

We have installed LED retrofit lighting in 7 local community buildings in the last two years. The saving in electrical power is approx. 31,300 kWh and saves £5100 in energy bills. We have installed lighting in centres at Capenhurst, Chester, Guilden Sutton, Saltney, Saughall, Stanney Grange and Waverton



Guilden Sutton Village Hall LED retrofit

## How do we do it?

CCEL are a group of volunteers who initiate, research, fund, co-ordinate, install, maintain and operate renewable energy projects. We work with our members and partners to identify potential buildings and sites to develop renewable energy generation and energy efficiency measures for the benefit of our community. Our volunteers have the necessary skills to carry out research, identify funding sources, carry out initial feasibility studies and co-ordinate the commercial, technical, legal and regulatory functions inherent in installing solar PV projects and energy efficiency measures. The 5 directors meet monthly to monitor on-going projects and constantly look for new opportunities to increase our generation capacity.

## Community Benefit



Community Fund presentation Unity Centre

Each year we provide grant funding to local community organisations to improve the carbon footprint of their premises. So far we have given £14,000 to 12 local community groups for LED retrofit installations, improved insulation and recycling facilities. We have helped groups in Ellesmere Port, Northwich, Winsford and the Chester Area.