
Community Energy



History



What is GEN?

Industrial & Provident Society

Current Membership 46, peak 48

Run on voluntary basis

Members receive annual dividend of 7.2%

GEN surplus

School benefits from about £1,300 worth of free electricity



Lessons from GEN

- It's easy to do something small & very rewarding!
 - But we failed on larger Birch scheme
 - Strong core group needed to get things rolling
 - Attract a broad church of members
 - But don't expect them all to be active
 - You can't rely on volunteers for ever
 - And most people are very reluctant to lead
 - Localism
 - Perceived good cause (school) works
-



Community Energy Today

Field sized projects

Most FiT money has gone to large institutional investors

“Polluter pays” warped into “Green Tax”

Schemes to promote insulation closed down

Storage & Optimisation?

Grid parity?



Achievements

We helped build resilience in a small way by;

- Captured some FiT subsidy into local economy
 - Gave opportunity to wide range of people
 - Helped the school / Ferriers Barn
 - Educational benefits
 - Supported local businesses
-

Applications

What opportunities exist today?

- Manage community buildings / resources
- Community led sport
- Community shop / pub
- Community Supported Agriculture
- Social Care

The range of co-operative **businesses** is enormous!

Q&A