

Morecambe Bay Community Renewables Ltd. AGM 2026

Held at 7:30 pm on 30 April 2026, at the Gregson Centre, Lancaster

Present: Directors – Anne Chapman (chairing), Alan Marsden (minuting), Dave Brookes, Caroline Jackson, Ailsa Gibson; Other members – Simon Gershon, Sandra Gardner, Frank Ledwith

Apologies: Adrienne Wallman, Marie McCusker, Steve Dealler

According to our Rule 44 the meeting was not quorate as although more than 10% of members were present (the membership being 32), there were not as many Members present who are not Directors as the number of Members who are Directors.

In accordance with rule 48 the meeting was therefore adjourned after half an hour, to 8.30pm on 7th May 2026.

However those present continued the meeting informally to inform the adjourned meeting..

1. Introductions and welcome

Anne Chapman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

2. Presentation of the accounts

Anne Chapman presented the accounts for 2025. She explained the sources of the consultancy income and other sources of income. The largest source of income is from feed-in tariff. She drew attention to the increasing insurance costs (now about five times the cost when the first system was installed in 2012). She has attempted to find cheaper insurance, but so far without success. We have changed accountants, with a slightly lower cost.

3. Annual Report from the directors

Anne presented the Directors' report, drawing out the highlights.

The society has reached break-even earlier than the originally projected date (2030) on account of better performance from the solar panels on the Lancaster Co-housing than expected and higher inflation. The profit in 2025 was higher than in 2024, mainly because 2025 was a sunnier year. A fault on one of the co-housing arrays was repaired. Problems with the cabinets are due to be fixed this year.

Anne briefly described the new installation at Lapwing Housing Co-operative.

4. Motion 1: to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 31st March 2025.

Proposed by Caroline Jackson, seconded by Ailsa Gibson. Everyone present indicated their support for the motion.

5. Motion 2: to approve the payment of share interest to members at a rate of 4%, and 25% of the total share interest to be put into our community benefit fund.

Proposed by Anne Chapman, seconded by Dave Brookes. Everyone present indicated their support for the motion.

6. Motion 3: to receive and adopt the Report of the Directors and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Proposed by Frank Ledwith, seconded by Ailsa Gibson. Everyone present indicated their support for the motion.

7. Motion 4: to disapply the obligation of the co-operative to appoint auditors pursuant to Section 84 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 so that an audit of the accounts of the Co-operative shall not take place for the Co-operative's year of account ending 31st December 2026.

Proposed by Sandra Gardner, seconded by Simon Gershon. Everyone present indicated their support for the motion.

8. Election of directors

Anne Chapman is an existing director who is standing down in rotation, in accordance with our Rules, and is offering herself for re-election.

Motion 5: to reappoint Anne Chapman as a director of the Society.

Proposed by Sandra Gardner, seconded by Ailsa Gibson. Everyone present indicated their support for the motion.

James Sommerville gave a presentation about the recent Green Rose (which has benefited from funding from the MORE Renewables community benefit fund). In particular, he outlined the possibility of setting up a social virtual power plant, initially in the Lancaster area but ideally for the whole of Lancashire. The project would allow batteries to be used to store electricity at times when supply exceeds demand and discharge it to the grid when demand is high. The payments received would be distributed to members.

The meeting finished at 8:40 pm.

The Adjourned meeting took place on the 7th May 2026, starting at 8.30pm in the Gregson Centre

Present: Anne Chapman and Dave Brookes. As no other members were present after half an hour this constituted a quorum.

All the motions were carried.