

# CO-OPERATIVES UNITED / WORLD FESTIVAL AND ICAEXPO

29 OCT — 2 NOV 2012  
MANCHESTER CENTRAL, UK



The **co-operative**  
good for everyone



# WORKSHOP

## Power to the People – The Torrs Hydro Story

Esther Jones

Founder Director





**CO-OPERATIVES  
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AND ICAEXPO

 <p>2012 International Year of Cooperatives</p>	 <p>ICA</p>	<p>The <b>co-operative</b> good for everyone</p>	 <p>CO-OPERATIVES UK</p>
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# Power Generation

- Reverse Archimedes screw turbine
- System rated at 63 kW
- 250 kWh per year – equivalent to the electricity consumption of around 50 homes



# The **co-operative** food

Monday	8 - 10pm
Tuesday	8 - 10pm
Wednesday	8 - 10pm
Thursday	8 - 10pm
Friday	8 - 10pm
Saturday	8 - 10pm
Sunday	10 - 4pm

Fresh foods  
& vegetables



# Our Funding Mix

- Grants
- A loan
- Community investment through a share issue



# How We Ran Our Share Issue

- Minimum investment - £250
- Clear target to raise - £126,000
- Firm closing date – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2008
- The invitation to invest
- High profile and local promotion, and a variety of methods

# Share Offer Results

- 1/2 of subscribers came from New Mills & surrounding area (SK22)
- 15% from other SK postcodes
- 1/3 from elsewhere in the country
  
- 1/3 of investment from SK postcodes; 2/3 from elsewhere
  
- Mix of individuals & businesses invested





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# Energy Generated to Date

- 635,000 kWh generated in total
- Over 250,000 kWh generated in the year to end of September 2012



# Impacts of the Project So Far

- Owned by the community not for the community
- ‘It’s our screw’ – the whole of the local community feels that they own it
- Commitment to the venture



# torrs hydro

NEW MILLS

[www.torrshydro.co.uk](http://www.torrshydro.co.uk)

The UK's first community  
owned & funded hydro power scheme

# WORKSHOP

## Case study of a UK energy saving community scheme

**Bob Burlton**

Chair, The **energy saving co-operative**





# Who we are

- The **energy saving co-operative** is a **pioneering partnership** between:
  1. **People** who want to **save energy**
  2. **Co-operatives** and **community groups**
  3. **Tradespeople** such as **energy assessors** and **installers**
- **Working together**, we will **maximise our impact** – combining the **best of ‘Big’** with the **best of ‘Local’**

# What we do

- We **provide the power to help communities**  
***Power Down:***
  - Giving **free, straightforward and honest advice** on which energy-saving improvements make sense
  - Installing through **trusted local tradespeople, benefitting communities**
  - Providing **fair and ethical finance** for those who need it
- As a co-operative, we buy on behalf of our members to deliver **the greatest energy savings at the best price**
  - and **return profits to our members through dividends**



# Our pilot communities - now in 3 regions



**NORTHFIELD  
ECO CENTRE**



# How it works

Community groups – Outreach and engagement

The **energy-saving co-operative** – Local project manager

1

Community  
engagement

2

Energy saving  
advice and  
contracting

3

Installation

4

Quality control  
and impact  
measurement





# press release

## Green Deal launched in Oxford

A £100,000-plus scheme to enable 130 homeowners and 372 council tenants to retrofit their homes to make them more energy efficient has just been announced.

Following a successful project to install solar PV on the Barton Neighbourhood Centre, Oxford City Council and the Low Carbon Hub are launching the pilot scheme in Barton in September.

The Low Carbon Hub will work in partnership with local community group, Low Carbon Barton, to build relationships, make initial contact with residents, and get them involved.

The Energy Saving Co-operative will follow up with residents who want to sign up to the pilot scheme to install energy-saving home improvements through trusted local tradespeople. and provide fair and ethical finance to those who need it.

Tenants, owner-occupiers and private landlords will be offered insulation, improved boilers, smart metres, solar panels and others energy-saving measures to help to reduce bills and tackle fuel poverty.

# Oxford Barton 'Fair Green Deal'

- Area-based ECO funded + communities RHPP2 scheme for solar hot water
- 2 'Super Output Areas' (bottom 15% of IMD)
- £60k Oxford City Council funding of community engagement and energy assessments
- Centred on 372 Council and 130 ex-Council British Steel system-built houses
- Over 100 of the the ex-Council houses were not upgraded to decent homes standard upon sale
- Tendering for local builders, and involving UK manufacturers such as Permarock insulation
- Community engagement began in September, with first installations planned for the New Year



# Meet miss Jackson...



**NORTHFIELD  
ECO CENTRE**

The power to save energy

www.energysaving.coop



No home would need all of these energy-saving features, but all homes would gain from having many of them.

*“The best time to plant a tree  
was 20 years ago.  
The second best time is now.”*

– Chinese proverb



# WORKSHOP

## National Trust and Community Energy

Jo Trussler

Low Carbon Village Project Coordinator  
National Trust



# Contents

- Overview of our North Wales hydro project
- National Trust's attitude to community energy
- Benefits of working with the community
- The Community Energy Coalition vision

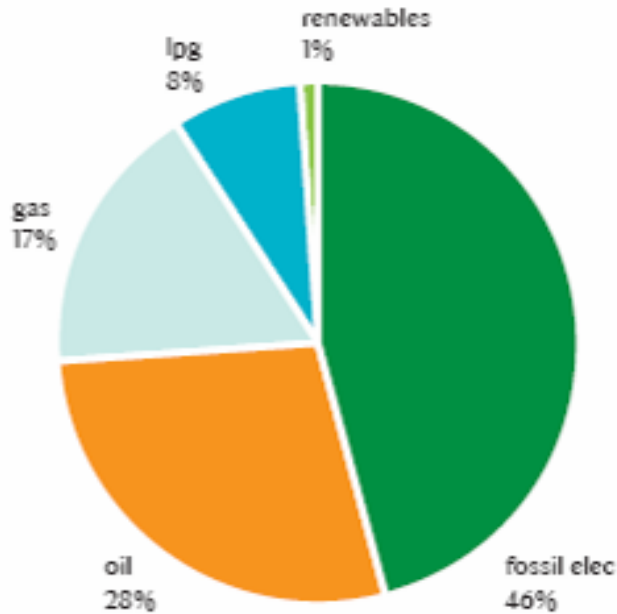
# National Trust...It's more than mansions

- 2 gold mines
- 39 villages
- 88 castles
- 300 mansions
- 700+miles of coast
- 2000 agricultural tenants
- 3749 oil tanks
- 5000 staff
- 29,000 buildings
- 42,000ha of woodland
- 61,000 volunteers
- 250,000ha of land
- 3.88million members
- £6.5m Energy spend 2009
- 15 million visitors
- and 61 pubs...



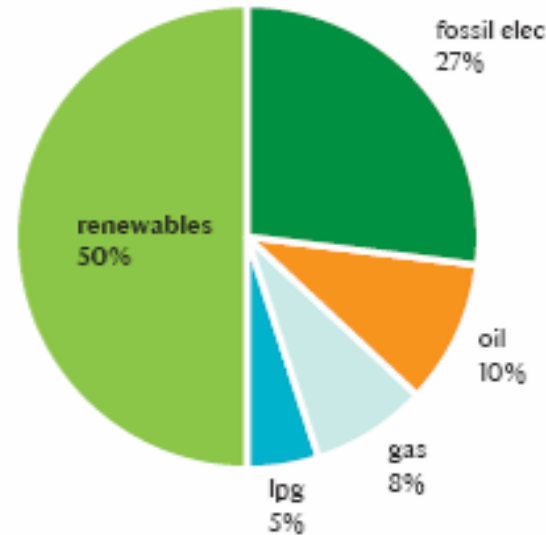


# Energy shift 2008 – 2020



2008

Energy consumption = 86,193 MWh total  
(of which c. 99% = fossil fuel)



2020 goal

(after 20% efficiency reductions)  
Energy consumption = 68,954 MWh total  
(of which 50% = fossil fuel)

# Anafon Hydro

- Abergwyngregyn, or Aber as it more usually known, is a small rural community of 100 households and 230 residents just inside the northern boundary of Snowdonia National Park.
- It stands at the mouth of a picturesque valley which extends into the Carneddau mountain range and is probably best known for its spectacular waterfall which attracts about 50,000 visitors a year.





Abergwyngregyn  
village

Aber

Turbine house

Aber Falls

Intake Weir

Anafon Lake





# Why do we want to establish the project ?

- Gwynedd's Arllechwedd Ward is a relatively deprived rural area which, over recent years, has seen the loss of many of its amenities and has very limited employment opportunities.
- The income from the Anafon Hydro could provide these communities with the resources they need to address these problems in a sustainable manner.

# Plans for community engagement and benefit

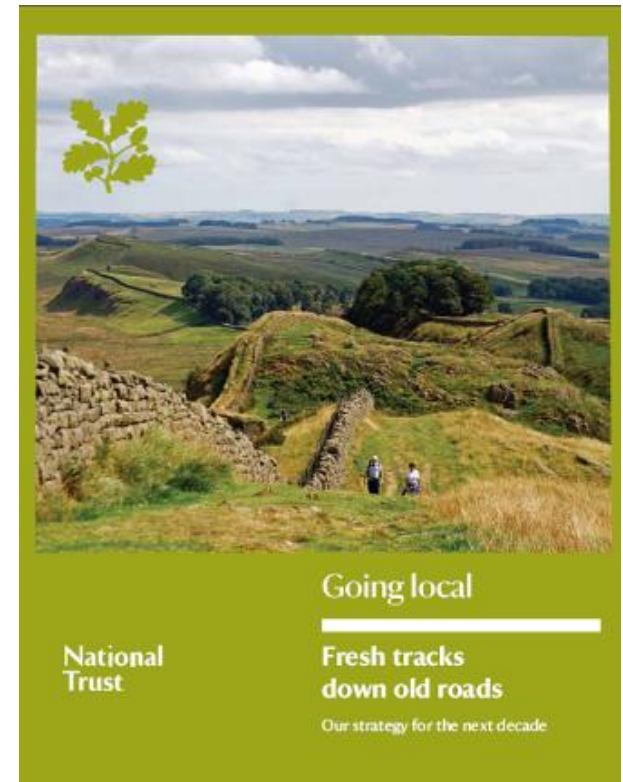


# National Trust's attitude to community energy

- Relevance
- Current risky business model
- Increase income?
- Founding principals
- Less risky

We do have experience though...

Low Carbon Villages, community insulation etc...





# Hard benefits

- Accessing early development 'risk' funding
- Grant income
- Low cost finance
- Free technical support
- Potential to increase income
- Making it possible
- 'Sleeving'



# Soft benefits

- Relevance
- Reputation enhancement
- Multiplier
- Doing the right thing!



# Challenges

- Section 36 of the charity act
- Our own 'articles'
- Contracting and partnership
- Expectation
- Time commitment
- Conservation vs. commercial
- State aid
- We've never done it before!





# Community Energy Coalition

- Currently, 99% of the country's electricity is generated by just six companies.
- The new Community Energy Coalition, which includes some of the best known and trusted national organisations, including The Co-operative Group, The National Trust, The National Federation of Women's Institutes and The Church of England, wants to start a revolution with communities at its heart which will drive a clean, affordable and secure energy system.
- Our headline vision for community energy in 2020 is "communities across the UK owning, generating and saving energy together for the benefit of all".

# We believe that community energy can and should:

- Enable all communities to collectively play a substantial role in meeting the UK's carbon and renewables targets by saving energy and creating a secure, clean and affordable heat and electricity supply.
- Increase the scale of investment in renewable energy and energy saving and attract new individuals, communities and institutions to invest.
- Encourage people to act cooperatively to create sustainable communities and give everyone an equal opportunity to own and control shared assets democratically.
- 
- Respect communities, the landscape and wildlife through genuine stakeholder involvement and management of natural assets for the benefit of current and future generations.
- Increase people's awareness and support for renewable energy projects and encourage energy saving.

# WORKSHOP

Power to the People  
Join the revolution!

Colin Baines

Campaigns Manager, The Co-operative Group





# Benefits of Community Energy

- Community energy is ideally placed to address important energy challenges:
  - Carbon reduction
  - Energy security
  - Competitiveness
  - Fuel poverty
- Strengthens communities and benefits local economy
- Improves energy awareness, positively influencing behaviour
- Attracts new investment

# Benefits of Community Energy

- Increases public acceptance:
  - 49% of UK public would support a wind turbine within 2 miles of their home, against 22% who would not
  - If community owned support increases to 68% and opposition falls to just 7%
  - 77% believe communities should benefit from local renewable energy schemes

# Clean Energy Revolution campaign

The Co-operative is campaigning for a clean energy revolution with communities at its heart. We want communities to own, control and benefit from their own renewable energy projects.





# Direct support for community energy

- The Co-operative Bank
  - £100 million to support community energy projects, part of £1 billion ring fenced for renewable energy
  - Includes UK's largest community owned wind farm on island of South Uist, Scotland
- The Co-operative Enterprise Hub
  - £1 million ring fenced for community energy, includes access to free advice (e.g. law and insurance) and a revolving fund of £400k for underwriting community share offers.



# Community Energy Challenge

- Competition resulting in 7 community groups receiving support to set up and run their own renewable energy co-ops
- Intended result: a powerful and replicable set of projects across the UK that demonstrate a range of technologies and the benefits of community ownership



# Manifesto for Community Energy

- ‘Manifesto for a community energy revolution’ launched at roundtable with Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change, 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2012
- Produced by The Co-operative Group and Co-operatives UK, and backed by the Community Energy Coalition
- The manifesto calls on Government to introduce a series of policy measures which would lead to a dramatic increase in community energy



# Manifesto calls on Government to:

- Provide leadership
  - Commit to a dramatic increase with national targets
  - Promote the community approach to energy
  - Director level responsibility within DECC
- Give communities a clear path to success
  - Make a clearly defined offer
  - Introduce co-ordinated advice and support
  - Introduce a financial framework (Community FiT and RHI, support via GiB, fair treatment in EMR)
- Support innovation
  - Develop Green Deal community model
  - Involve Local Authorities
  - Encourage partnerships with commercial developers

# Join the Revolution!

[www.co-operative.coop/cleanenergy](http://www.co-operative.coop/cleanenergy)

## SAY **YES** TO CLEAN ENERGY

WE'RE CALLING FOR A **CLEAN ENERGY** REVOLUTION TO MAKE THE UK GREENER AND OUR ENERGY FUTURE MORE SECURE.

**take action**

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