

High Energy Day in our Village Hall Sunday 14th Sept: Chaired by Oliver Baines OBE
2nd Cornwall Great Green Energy Summit Sunday 14th Sept 2025 11:00am to 4:00pm
Meur Menydh Nerth Gwyrdh Kernewek: Dy Sul 14 mis Gwynngala

The Chacewater Community Energy Group was delighted to welcome nearly sixty people and three of our MPs to our five hour **2025 Great Green Energy Summit**.



Wonderful organic coffee and tea provided all day by our tireless energy group members, plus pasties from the bakery. Excellent



Michael Shanks

speakers from all sorts of agencies involved in Cornwall's Energy. The day started with a video message specially recorded for us by the **Energy Minister Michael Shanks MP** wishing us well for the day and



Scan QR for the Energy Minister's message

underlining Cornwall's key role in many green energy projects. Scan the QR code to see this message. **First** speaker: Cllr **Martyn Alvey**, the previous Portfolio Holder for Environment and Climate Change, gave an update on the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP). **Martyn** stepped in at short notice as **Loic Rich** (the current portfolio holder) could not attend. **Martyn** explained that while many feel we were moving too slowly, Cornwall was recognised as the highest performing single tier rural council in the UK in the latest benchmarking Climate Emergency review. **Martyn** pointed out that only 1% of Cornwall's emissions were under CC's direct control, around 40% under influence (slide 3). Council emissions will be more than halved from 2019 levels by 2026. Action is being taken to address scope 3 emissions (>500KTCO₂e/y). Cornwall is on track to becoming the first net neutral UK region, placing net zero at the heart of council strategy and policy. Cornwall's LAEP takes a whole system approach e.g. breaking down silos between energy sectors: electricity, heat, transport, and includes a Resident's Energy Panel. **Andrew George MP** attended and contributed to the discussion. Slides available as "**Chacewater event LAEP 2025 09 14 Martyn Alvey**" on our website www.chacewater.net.



Martyn



Scan QR for our energy group website to see slides

Second speaker **Phil Green** introduced the Cornwall and IoS Climate Commission. Our commission is one of a network of some forty across GB and the Republic of Ireland. **Phil** explained what the commission is: to promote inclusive processes, serve as a trusted voice, inform, guide, track progress, review, celebrate successes, inform balanced debate. Then explained what the commission is not: not a place for marketing or lobbying, not attempting to take over council responsibilities, make policy, and not a "Talking Shop". The commission plans to **Challenge, Catalyse, and Convene**. We have sixteen commissioners, with **Justin Olosundé** as chair. Slides available as: "**CloS Climate Commission Chacewater 2025 09 14 Phil Green**".



Andrew

Third speaker **Neil Farrington** of Celtic Seapower explained how Floating Off-shore Wind (FLOW) could provide a very large slice of the UK's energy demand. Celtic Seapower is a company owned by Cornwall Council. Plans are in place to roll out installations for more than 20 years, with the first four 8MW turbines planned to be in place 2026, providing 32MW of electricity generation. Average UK household electricity consumption = 2,900KWh/yr. Annual generation from FLOW in the UK Celtic Sea could meet the average annual electricity needs of seven million UK homes. There are also huge savings in greenhouse gas emissions. Saving over 4 million tonnes of CO₂e/year. Slides available on our website: "**Cornwall Green Energy Summit - 2025 09 14 Celtic Seapower Neil Farrington**".



Phil



Justin

Fourth speakers were from **National Grid: David Witherspoon** Community Energy Manager System Development, **Vaughan Pine** Connections Strategy Engineer, **Elie Billings** 11kV planner. They set out the scale of NG's operation in our region: supplying 8 million homes and businesses, 140,000 miles of cables, 2 million poles and towers, 190,000 substations. NG are keen to foster delivery of community-led renewable energy wholly or partly owned by communities, to support Community Net Zero action. NG's target is to decarbonise the power sector by 2030, and meet a doubling of demand by 2050. Currently there is 12GW of generation connected to this region's network. Over 1300 MW (1.3GW) of additional generation and energy storage projected to connect to our network. 2 sets of slides: "**Great Cornish Green Energy Summit 2025 09 14 David Witherspoon NGED**", "**DSO Great Cornish Green Energy 2025 09 14 Vaughan Pyne Nat Grid DSO**" available on our website.



Vaughan



David

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Jane

Fifth speaker Jane Charman from Geothermal Engineering Limited, gave us an update on the progress of the United Downs site which is now anticipated to start exporting 4MW of electricity to the grid in a couple of weeks. The project team have won two prestigious national renewable energy awards this year. Jane also set out why geothermal is so crucial for Energy security, making it continuous, affordable, environmentally friendly, and reliable. Good for national security, economic security, and environmental security. GEL want to work collaboratively with MPs and Councillors, will always carry out comprehensive site surveys, use local Services, Contractors & Suppliers. Gel are fully committed to community engagement, take part in International Research Projects, lead the way with new Modern Work Experience, visit schools to encourage STEM studies, champion renewable energy. Slides: "**GEL Chacewater Green Summit 2025 09 14 Jane Charman**" from our website.



Sixth speaker Chris Mann, Bennamann explained the impact of methane as a greenhouse gas.

More potent than CO₂. Recent research shows we have been underestimating the significance. If we do not capture methane from slurry and manure stores we cannot achieve 1.5°C by 2050. Well run dairy farms can be better than zero-carbon, sequester very large amounts of carbon, make a fuel to use in tractors, plus make the slurry a much more valuable fertiliser with little run-off to streams. Bennamann BioCycle



Chris



Scan this QR for our energy group website to download slides

upgraders machine made in Basingstoke. T7 methane tractors made in Basildon. The UK value of fugitive methane lost from dairy is around £1B/year. Slides: "**Chacewater Chris Mann 2025 09 14 Bennamann**"

Seventh speaker John Weedon (Mitchell & Webber) gave a presentation on "**Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil HVO**, for Fossil-free heating. John pointed out that a third of Cornwall's homes date from before 1919, most with no cavity walls. They are hard to heat well using a heat pump but could be heated with HVO. The fuel has been trialled in Kehelland over four years. Visited by many local and national politicians. The residents speak highly of the results. There is a duty on HVO that is not applied to fossil heating oil, preventing wide take up. John called for an ammendment to the 2023 Energy Act to create a **Renewable Liquid Heating Fuel Obligation**, which would add no cost to the treasury. **Jayne Kirkham MP**, and **Perran Moon MP** have been involved in the discussion. Kerosene used as jet fuel has no duty! You couldn't make it up!! Slides: "**Cornwall Green Energy Summit 14th Sept 2025 John Weedon M&W**" from our website.



Fin

Eighth speaker Fin McCormick, Vertical PV UK gave a high energy presentation laying out that the governments target of trebling PV in the UK could face opposition, but adopting vertical panel technology would answer many of the objections. Vertical panels generate on both sides, so if orientated north south would give a generation profile with a morning peak and afternoon peak just when demand for electricity is highest. The panels can be used as a fence, on fields, and on green roofs. Little growing surface is lost, and the panels create strips where wildflowers can thrive. The panels also provide windbreaks for delicate horticultural crops.



Used in agriculture



Fence

Slides: "**Energy Security Energy Summit 2025 09 14 Fin McCormick**"

Quick Lunch! Chacewater Bakery pasties cooked by our great team Angie, Steve, Malcom, Paul, & Rachel.

Nineth speakers Jayne Kirkham MP, Perran Moon MP presented an update on the first full year of **GB Energy (GBE)**: The Great British Energy Act became law 15 May 2025. GBE is a publicly owned and operationally independent energy company designed to emulate Vattenfall in Sweden and EDF in France for example. GBE's HQ is in Aberdeen, plans to add sites in Glasgow, and Edinburgh. While it's Scotland-based, the whole of the UK should benefit. £8.3 billion investment, GB Energy has 5 key functions:

- 1) Developing clean energy projects through its partnership with the Crown Estate / National Wealth Fund.
- 2) Investing in and owning renewable energy projects.~ support for solar on schools/hospitals.
- 3) Incentivising local power through the Local Power Plan.~ support for Community Energy.
- 4) Help build clean energy supply chains in the UK to reach the government's target of Clean Power 2030.
- 5) Work with Great British Nuclear to deliver new nuclear projects. Full notes available on our website.

We ended the day with tea and chat with a panel of all the presenters, with a commitment to run the third summit in a year's time. Our busy day ended at 16:00~Thanks and safe journey. Meur Ras ha kerdh salow