



Spring Newsletter: April 2026

Dear YCE Member

I have been a director of YCE since 2014, albeit with a short break. I well remember the very first business plans presented to the board: prices and costs rising gently with a low inflation rate for decades into the future. That seemed an overly rosy prospect at the time, and in the intervening years prices and costs have been more like alps than gentle slopes.

In February I was confident that by about now I would be telling you of our second share offer. Subsequent events (relating to increased uncertainty in predictions for future solar power prices, in part because of the current situation in the Gulf) have rather upset that confidence.

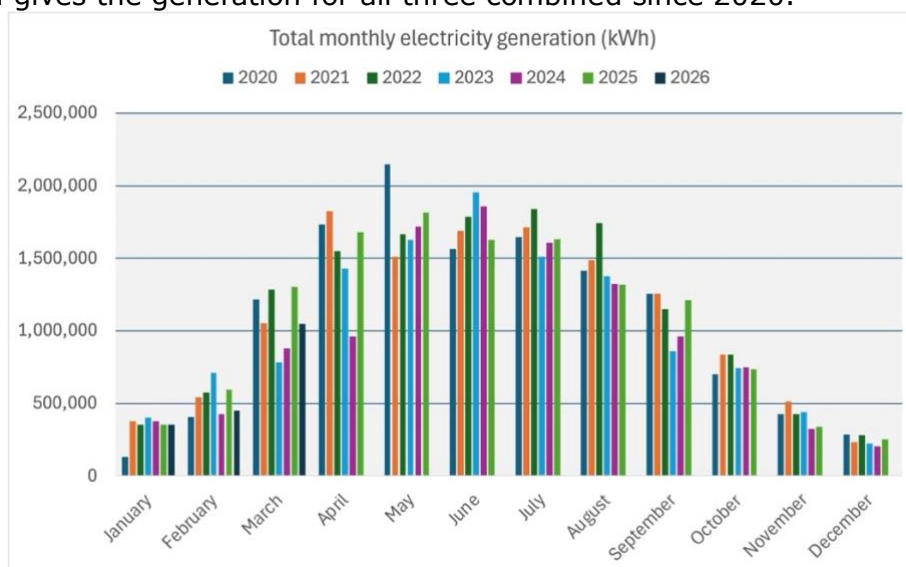
So my first message to you all is that the board has decided to shelve a second share offering until we feel it is more prudent to do so.

Share interest payment

On a happier note, I can tell you that the interest on your shares will be paid out shortly – hopefully in May and before our AGM in June.

Electricity generated

The three solar farms produced 1,852,000 kWh of electricity in the first quarter of the year, much in line with the long-term average despite some awful early weather. The graph gives the generation for all three combined since 2020.



Community Benefit Fund

The 2026 round of community fund applications has now closed. There have been nine applications, with the total requested over £38,000. This is more than double the amount available, so unfortunately there will be disappointment that not all requests can be met.

The adjudicating panel is meeting soon, and results will be communicated, first to applicants, and then publicly, in late May.

Maintenance of our solar farms

I am delighted to be able to report that since February solar farm maintenance has been straightforward with only a few minor issues. Generation has been up to par, as the graphic showed.



The spring weather has brought out the hares at Creacombe and Marlands. They have no problem entering through the fences – though foxes cannot. The result is a healthy population. Sightings of deer are often common outside the fences.



There are some impressive groups of cowslips in some areas, and bluebells appearing in the new banks and hedges.

Administrative stuff

Work has progressed to onboard a new operations and management provider, with some impressive candidate companies. A final decision is imminent and will be communicated in the next newsletter.

AGM

All being well the AGM will be held in Yealmpton Community Hall at 10:00 am on Saturday June 13th. Further details nearer the time.

Best wishes

Andrew Moore, Chairman