



**Burneside
Community
Energy**

Burneside Community Energy, our local, renewable energy company, launches its third share offer to fund another green, clean solar pv installation in our village.

Burneside Community Energy Ltd (BCE), has launched its third community share offer to fund another clean, renewable energy installation project in Burneside. The community owned company is looking to raise £186,500 to fund its third phase of solar photovoltaic (pv) panels. This time on the roof of the new Technical Fibre Products (TFP) building at the Mill.

In 2015 and 2018, BCE successfully raised £251,500 and £328,505 respectively, to install its first two phases of solar pv projects – totalling 680kW of solar pv on various roofs of the Mill. As of December 2020, these two phases had generated over 1.4m kilowatt (kw) hours of solar energy, saving approximately 780 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions. This third share offer is to fund the installation of a further 313.5kw

Over the lifetime of all three phases, BCE hopes to distribute over £148,000 towards local initiatives*.

*As a community benefit company, we distribute profits to our community. Last year we funded the entire installation of solar pv on the roof of St Oswald's School. The school now can generate its own electricity, as well as benefit from the government's *Feed in Tariff (FITs)* scheme, which was available at the time of the installation.

With this latest share offer, BCE is entering a new era of subsidy-free projects, *FITs* payments having now been discontinued. Chairman Dick Towler explained, 'the cost of new solar installations has dropped sufficiently to enable schemes to be completed profitably, without government support. The increasing climate emergency makes the need for renewable energy scheme, such as this one, ever more urgent.

BCE aims to help reduce the impact of climate change and strengthen our local energy security. Additionally, BCE encourages participation in the ownership of local, renewable energy resources. **The minimum investment for people living in the Burneside area or working at James Cropper PLC has been set at £50, to encourage as many people as possible to be able to participate in supporting this renewable energy scheme.*

Anyone is eligible to apply for shares. The minimum level for those not in the local categories is £250. The share offer closes on Friday 9 April 2021 at 5pm. All details of the share offer can be found on www.bce.org.uk/invest or by emailing info@bce.org.uk