

ROUND TWO PROJECTS

Community Climate and Nature Fund



SOLAR PANELS AND BATTERY INSTALLED AT SHOTTERY MEMORIAL HALL

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“The CCNF funding meant that we could purchase a large battery and use solar-generated electricity in the evenings as well as during the day, as well as re-selling excess electricity in the summer months. This will keep our energy costs under control even if prices rise, and will enable us to keep charges to hirers affordable.”

ANTHONY MCISAAC

Secretary, Shottery Memorial Hall

ABOUT THE PROJECT

45 solar panels were installed on a south-facing roof, and connected to a 33kWh battery and the hall's electricity supply. The goal of the project was for a third of the hall's electricity consumption (approx. 5000kWh per year) to be provided by solar PV. The grant was 20% of the total cost, which enabled SMH to choose a high spec installation. This included features to minimize the effect of shade, and a large battery so that electricity not used during the day can be stored and used in the evening, aiming to increase the use of solar power and to allow the hall to re-sell excess power back to the grid. Two members of the management committee shared the task of determining the requirements and obtaining quotes. Once the preferred option was identified, one of these members liaised with the contractors to oversee the installation.

IMPACTS

The users of the hall will benefit because heating and lighting costs will be kept under control. In the first four months almost all the electricity consumed in the hall came from solar PV, either directly or via the battery, and energy generated by the solar panels could be sold back. From May to August 2025, the solar panels generated 97% of the electricity used by the hall, and allowed for the sale of 1350 kWh back to the grid. This meant that the hall received a net credit of over £350 during this period, standing them in good stead for the darker and colder months ahead. It is expected that the electricity generated annually by the solar panels would lead to a carbon emissions saving of approximately 3000kg.

