ROUND THREE PROJECTS

Community Climate and Nature Fund

SOLAR PANELS AND BATTERY INSTALLED AT HARBURY SCOUT HUT

"This funding has helped Harbury Scout Hut, and the scouts and guides it supports, take a significant step towards net zero as we look to upgrade, insulate and improve our facilities and future proof them. The funds will help us become more energy resilient and reduce our impact on the environment. The Guides and Scouts Support (GASS) Committee is extremely grateful for the support from SDC and others which has enabled us to deliver this project."

David Browne
Chairperson, 1st Harbury Scout Group

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The £5,985 grant from SDC's CCNF, together with reserves and additional support from Heart of England Community Energy (HECE), enabled 1st Harbury Scout Group to install 12 kW of solar panels and battery storage. The initial plan was for at least 9 kW of panels without batteries. Expanding the system and adding storage means that cleaner energy generated during the day can power Scout and Guide meetings in the evening. The installation will reduce the Group's reliance on grid electricity and fossil fuels, lower operating costs and improve energy independence. It will also allow for surplus clean energy to be exported back to the national grid.



IMPACTS

The annual output from the installation is projected to be between 8000-11500kWh per year, depending on weather conditions. This would equate to projected savings of between £80,000 and £100,000 on their electricity usage over 25 years. Generation will reduce the Group's need for energy from the grid, which is currently generated through less sustainable means. The ability to export excess energy back to the grid will also produce income for the Group. As a rough estimate, over the course of one year, the new solar array and battery will reduce fossil fuel emissions from energy usage at the scout hut by 2.1 tonnes of CO2. This data has already been fed into a new EPC suggesting this can help move the Scout Hut towards an EPC of B.