Impact Report 2024



avalon community energy

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www.avaloncommunityenergy.org.uk

Impact Report 2024



Avalon Community Energy was established in 2013 with a mission to drive the decarbonisation of our communities through energy-saving initiatives and community-owned renewable energy projects. As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to share the progress we've made in advancing this mission. With the continued support and dedication of our directors, members, and supporters, we've achieved important milestones and are excited to continue building on our success in the year ahead.

This year, we saw some changes on the ACE board, with both reappointments and departures. We are pleased to confirm that Jon Cousins and Sonya Bedford, both appointed in June 2021, will be reappointed to continue their valuable work with the board. Their ongoing contributions have been instrumental in supporting ACE's mission and projects. Sadly, Trish Long resigned in August 2024. We thank Trish for her time and contributions to ACE and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. We are grateful to all our directors for their dedication and hard work in supporting ACE's initiatives and look forward to the continued strength and growth of the board in the coming year.

Our Clean Energy Project (CEP), funded by the Glastonbury Town Deal Fund, is making good progress, thanks to the leadership of our dedicated project manager, Sam Johnson. The CEP will enable ACE to install and operate transformative renewable energy solutions, providing sustainable energy to the town and surrounding area for the long term. This year, we successfully completed the first installations of rooftop PV panels at St Dunstan's School and Brunelcare, with plans for additional installations on community, industrial, and retail buildings in the near future.
As the national Clean Energy Plan 2030 begins to take shape, and with planned changes designed to better support onshore wind, we are hopeful that community energy opportunities will grow. Somerset Council, in collaboration with Regen, has also started mapping potential opportunities for solar, wind, and other renewable technologies. We look forward to collaborating with the council, the Government, and our fellow community energy organisations to advance energy initiatives and deliver decarbonised energy solutions for Somerset.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the wider board team not yet mentioned above: Keith Webster, Wayne Lee, Luke Harrison, Abi Lambert and Maddie Milnes leading the Community Benefit Fund, for their dedication, hard work, and unwavering support. A special thanks to Sam Johnson for his committed dedication to the CEP, and to Danielle for her invaluable administrative support. I also want to recognise our members and supporters for their ongoing efforts in making community energy truly ACE.

Cara Naden

Chair, Avalon Community Energy

Community Benefit Fund (CBF)

Over the past period, activity within the Community Benefit Fund has been relatively low due to uncertainty regarding the availability of funds. This has impacted the ability to promote the fund with Citizen Advice Bureau and the Centre for Sustainable Energy. However, despite these limitations, we have continued to engage with stakeholders and explore opportunities for future growth.

Funding Application and Support

An application was submitted to the Energy Redress Scheme in an attempt to secure additional funding. Unfortunately, this application was unsuccessful. However, throughout the process, we identified strong support for our initiative from local councils, demonstrating a wider recognition of the value of our work. This support provides a solid foundation for future funding applications and potential collaborations.

Community Engagement and Activities

Despite financial constraints, we successfully organised an Energy Saving Day in collaboration with the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) during the Wells Environment Week in the autumn. This event provided approximately 30 local residents with valuable information and advice on how to reduce their energy bills. The positive response to this initiative highlights the ongoing need for such community-focused efforts.

Future Plans and Financial Management

Progress is being made toward setting up a dedicated bank account for the Community Benefit Fund as a result of the Clean Energy Project. This step will enhance financial transparency and allow for more effective fund management. With significant additional funds expected to become available, we are actively seeking input from our supporters and members on potential ways to utilise these resources for maximum community benefit.

Conclusion

While activity has been limited due to funding uncertainties, important groundwork has been laid for future developments. The unsuccessful funding bid has nonetheless strengthened connections with local councils, and our Energy Saving Day demonstrated the value of community engagement. With new funds on the horizon, we are eager to develop impactful projects and encourage ideas from our network to ensure the most effective use of these resources.

- Finalise the establishment of a dedicated bank account for the fund.
- Continue exploring funding opportunities and leveraging local council support.
- Gather ideas and feedback from members and supporters on future fund usage.
- Plan and implement new community initiatives as financial resources become available.

We remain committed to maximizing the impact of the Community Benefit Fund and look forward to expanding our work in the near future.

Madeleine Milnes
Chair of Community Benefit Fund Committee

Performance review

Key Financial Headlines

- Total income: £301,926
    - £273,852 from restricted grant funding (Clean Energy Project)
    - £28,074 from electricity sales and Feed-in Tariffs (Legacy Account)
- Operating loss: £2,751
- Interest paid to shareholders (in-year): £3,949
- Final reported loss: £6,700
- No Corporation Tax due – losses carried forward continue to offset future liabilities
- Cash at bank: £713,978
- Fixed assets: £323,119 (up from £108,946 in 2023)

Operational Highlights

- Significant capital investment in solar infrastructure – £227,472 added to fixed assets this year (grant-funded).
- Interest and capital repayments to shareholders are funded entirely from unrestricted trading surplus.
- Deferred income of £893,852 reflects responsible management of unspent grant funds, held for staged delivery.
- Cash reserves remain strong, although most are earmarked for project commitments.
- No loans or long-term debt – the organisation maintains a strong financial risk position.

Corporation Tax

- The company recorded a loss of £6,700, so owes £0 in Corporation Tax for the year.
- We continue to carry forward substantial trading losses, reducing future tax exposure.

In 2024, Avalon Community Energy (ACE) continued its involvement in the Glastonbury Clean Energy Project, one of the elven initiatives supported by the £23.6 million Towns Fund investment allocated to Glastonbury through the government's Levelling Up agenda. The programme, overseen by Somerset Council, aims to revitalise this town through long-term, sustainable development. During the year, ACE received a total of £754,200 in restricted grant funding from Somerset Council, specifically allocated for the Clean Energy Project. This funding supports the development and delivery of renewable energy infrastructure to benefit the local community. Expenditure on the project during the year totalled £273,852, which is detailed in Note 2 of the accounts. Project activity has included planning, design development, professional consultancy work and early-stage implementation. Further phases are scheduled to continue through to 2026, as ACE works alongside local partners to deliver a transformative energy solution for Glastonbury

Summary of accounts on next page.

Avalon Community Energy Limited
Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Turnover	120,740	56,067
Cost of Sales	(102,044)	(35,200)
Gross profit	18,696	20,867
Administrative expenses	(21,457)	(19,193)
Other operating income	10	250
Operating (loss)/profit	(2,751)	1,924
Interest payable and similar charges	(3,949)	(6,410)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	(6,700)	(4,486)
Taxation	-	-
Loss for the financial year after taxation	(6,700)	(4,486)

Avalon Community Energy Limited
Balance Sheet

at 31 December 2024

Company No. IP031969	**Notes**	**2024**	**2023**
		£	**£**
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	323,119	108,946
		323,119	108,946
Current assets			
Debtors	5	46,478	2,808
Cash at bank and in hand		713,978	317,011
		760,456	319,819
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	6	(948,698)	(287,188)
Net current (liabilities)/assets		(188,242)	32,631
Total assets less current liabilities		134,877	141,577
Net assets		134,877	141,577
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital		141,141	141,141
Profit and loss account	8	(6,264)	436
Total equity		134,877	141,577

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

For the year ended 31 December 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 84(1) of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 84(2) of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.