

**LOW CARBON GORDANO – MINUTES AGM 2026**  
**Wednesday 30th September 2026 from 7.00pm**  
**Online via Zoom**

Present:

Member attendees: 35 (Quorate meeting)

Co-opted Directors in attendance: 3

Guest Speaker: 1

Member apologies received: 2

All slides, reports and the meeting recording can be found under AGM 2026 in the members section of our website. For easy access the recording of the Low Carbon Gordano AGM can be accessed here: [Low Carbon Gordano AGM 2026 – Low Carbon Gordano](#)

## **1. Chair's report**

Welcome

### **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The society's principal trading activity during the year was to develop and manage solar arrays funded through members' share investment, promote low carbon lifestyles and seek new projects.

### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

The main activity during the year was the management of the society's two ground mounted solar arrays and six roof schemes. The ground arrays are at Moorhouse Farm, Hallen, Bristol, and at Ham Farm, Kingston Seymour, North Somerset. The roof schemes comprise sites at Long Ashton (Church House and Northleaze School), Clevedon (the YMCA), Churchill (Churchill School) and Brockley (2 sites). In all, the Society now has 3.1 MW of solar PV installed.

The ground mounted arrays have now been operating for over ten years and have in general performed above their originally predicted performance. After the issues we experienced in 2024 at our largest site (Moorhouse) we are glad that Moorhouse started to generate electricity again from June 2025. We have not been able to secure a full resolution from our insurers but achieved as much as we think was possible.

Three of the roof-mounted schemes have been operating for more than ten years with no significant problems reported. The others are performing satisfactorily.

Thanks to the specialist knowledge and background of our Board members, we continue to review our risks, financial modelling and environmental management practices. This is undertaken to ensure we are always looking to run LCG in an optimal way. We have built on reviews by peers in other similar groups to explore and adopt best practice approaches.

We are progressing the Channel Green Energy wind scheme by collecting environmental data such as baselines noise surveys, as we continue to believe it comprises a good business case. We continue to try and engage with local councillors and other stakeholders about the project.

We have had promising conversations with North Somerset Council to progress potential deployment of roof based solar on schools it manages. However, we are still awaiting a decision on how to progress pending the outcome of a proposed change in finance rules by the HM Treasurer and the Department of Education which would indefinitely prevent the projects from progressing.

We have worked with the Centre for Sustainable Energy to deliver number of Future Energy Landscape workshops, engaging with local communities to discuss what they consider to be suitable renewable energy infrastructure for their area, and where it could be sited.

Members were paid interest at a rate of 5.3% in November 2025 in relation to shares held in the financial year ending 31st March 2025.

The total number of shares withdrawn during the financial year to 31st March 2026 was £224,750.

### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

We will continue to actively seek new projects and potential collaborations. Rooftop schemes will be our default activity, though we are also continuing to fund the development of the Channel Green Energy wind project and are open to other opportunities.

## **2. Non-Contested Election of Directors**

Two Existing Directors re-standing.

Helen Gavin and Alistair Ireland are elected to the Board as there are places available: no member vote was required.

Note that following the AGM, the Board will Co-opt Darren Hall, a member of LCG who has been shadowing the board for the last six months, as per the new Board member process. Darren will be co-opted to fill a vacancy within the elected members category for his skills and experience until the next AGM when it is hoped he will stand for election to the Board.

## **3. Minutes from Last AGM 2022**

Poll (members only) to approve these as available on the website Agreed as a true record.

**Poll result – Votes received 100% of votes cast approve minutes, 0 % votes disagree.**

## **4. Guest Speaker – Katherine Rooney**

Katherine Rooney is the Community Energy Manager at the South West Net Zero Hub. She currently leads delivery of the Great British Energy Community Energy Fund (GBE CEF) across the Southwest, managing approximately £1 Million of grant funding annually to support community-led renewable energy feasibility projects.

Slides are available at [Low Carbon Gordano AGM 2026 – Low Carbon Gordano](#)

Q. Re cashflow of projects at feasibility stage can be a problem. How will this be managed?

A. We are still waiting to hear if there will be advanced payments. SWZNE can ask questions into GBE and this has been asked.

Q. Regionalisation and centralisation mix happening here, which is interesting.

A. It will be an interesting time.

## 5. Treasurer's report and Presentation

Note the Report is available on the LCG website under the AGM 2026 [Low Carbon Gordano AGM 2026 – Low Carbon Gordano](#)

Interest payments to members £146,634 was paid out during 25/26 as interest at 5.3% on member shares held the previous year. Based on the Board's existing payment policy, we would have been expecting to pay out in November 2026 at 3.6% interest on member shares held during 25/26. However, the Board are in the process of reviewing the policy to provide more flexibility and keep LCG rates of interest broadly in line with trends in the investment market. So, the Board have approved paying interest at 4.3% on member shares held during 25/26.

£19,300 was paid out to the community benefit fund during 25/26. £22,222 is being paid out to the community benefit fund in this current financial year. This was an amendment from the CBF payment approved by the AGM last year and was made up of: 1. the £10k to the Mega Watt Fund; 2. moving £10k budget from LCG's development budget into the CBF for the 'Watts On The Roof' LCG grant for solar on a community roof each year; 3. £2,222 top up of funding to ensure that 10% of the CBF was still available for projects in the Developing World. The LCG Board are proposing the CBF payment to be paid during 2027/28 to be £22,222 (again, £10,000 to the Mega Watt fund for Quartet to administer, £10,000 to 'Watts On The Roof' grant and £2,222 will be paid to a project in the Developing World).

Sales were £608,910. Excluding grants, this was up £40k on the previous year, though comparison between years is difficult due to allocation across the two years of any shortfall in the Moorhouse fire-related business interruption insurance. • Profit for the year was £112,351, a little up on the profit of £111,169 in the previous year and was £36,382 lower than we had set out in the projections.

Balance sheet shows a net worth of £1,553,055. The £922,595 cumulative loss to date is financed by the £2,475,650 member shares.

The long-term projections are based on the Active option as presented to and favoured by members at September 2024 AGM. This scenario is based on using LCG's asset base to seek grant funding and push on with developing new sites. We have managed to continue on this "Active" strategy, though no new sites yet. The good news is that now there is once again a point in 2042 in the projections where all the shares will have been withdrawn and there will be residual money left in the bank.

Rate of interest is less than previous years but is no longer tracking inflation but is based on tracking the market and affordability. • Share withdrawal of £193k has been budgeted for 26/27.

• Community Benefit Fund payment of £22,222 has been made for 26/27 and is being proposed to be paid out again in 27/28.

Note that, in addition to a budget of £193k for the net of shares withdrawn v new shares invested in 2026/27, there is also a budget of £192k in 2027/28 that will be put to the Board for approval in May 2027 Any member wishing to request share withdrawal during 2026/27 will need to email LCG during October 2026.

Polls:

1. Accept 25/26 accounts as presented and approved by the Board?

**Total of votes cast: 100% Accept, 0% Disagree and % Abstain.**

2. Approval of Board to appoint auditor proposal.

**Total of votes cast: 97% votes approve and 3% abstain to delegate authority to the Board.**

**6. Community Benefit Fund** - Our fund is pooled with Bristol Energy Co-operative and managed by Quartet Foundation.

£40,232 available with 20 applications – 11 projects were funded. The applications have become more diverse over the years, with a majority on education and energy advice support.

Panel takes place in July each year.

Would any members like to sit on the panel? If so, please email us at

[contact@lowcarbongordano.co.uk](mailto:contact@lowcarbongordano.co.uk)

We are also piloting 'Watts on the Roof' as it is hard to make a small rooftop scheme work financially, so we are looking to gift £10,000 solar installation on a community building in North Somerset. We are exploring the first site out of a shortlist of community buildings. Any shortfall on the cost, if it is over £10,000 will be covered by the community group.

If you are aware of a group, who might be interested, please email [contact@lowcarbongordano.co.uk](mailto:contact@lowcarbongordano.co.uk)

**Poll:** Approve proposal re CBF payment.

**votes received: 93% Agree 0% Disagree & 7% Abstained**

Q. Why has the value of the CBF increased?

A. An AGM about 5 years ago requested that inflation was applied to the CBF annual allocation. This was supported by members. We applied the increase, including backdating the increase. Hence the £19.3 last year. This year was a jump, as explained.

Q. Projects in the pipeline

A. A constraints mapping exercise re a handful of sites in the Clevedon and Yatton area coming shortly. We need to check these for viability and GBE funding. Channel Green Energy scheme still in negotiation with the land owner over a different site following strong opposition at advance planning for the original site.

Q. Would be possible to get more visibility on Cost of Sales (if not on the website)?

A. Yes in the accounts in the detail at the end of the consolidated group accounts on the Schedule to detailed accounts page – Brian Shared his screen to show this. Accounts are available on the website [Low Carbon Gordano Limited Group 2026 USE THIS ONEACCSWIZ.cvw](https://www.oneaccswiz.co.uk)

**7. Close & thanks at 8.25pm**

Zoom Recorded with recording to be made available on website and Facebook page.