

## SOLAR PANELS for the VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall committee would like to install solar panels on the South facing roof (ie not on the side facing Fore Street). The Community Shop with its fridges, freezers and air conditioning is a substantial consumer of electricity. So the idea is to supply the Shop (~17.5KWhr pa) as well as the Village Hall (~1.5KWhr pa). Because the power demand for the shop is relatively similar day and night and each season it is proposed to include installation of a 10Kw battery. We have chosen an installer - 365Energy - who quoted ~ £17,000 to supply and fit 23 panels as well as change the way the two meters are connected. We need to request approval from Clinton Devon Estates (Village Hall landlord) and EDDC Planning. We don't anticipate either being a problem. Payback time is about 8 yrs depending on future electricity prices, with the shop benefitting from slightly lower electricity costs than they currently pay and more stability with regards future unit power costs. The orientation of the Hall roof faces nearly South without obstructions and has a good inclination. Unsightly panels would not be in line of sight from Ropers Lane so the proposal does lend itself to solar panel installation. The battery and inverter would be located in the boiler house. The Shop committee are keen that we make progress with this project, although the energy supplied would likely represent only about half their annual requirement. We have received NDO approval from National Grid and we anticipate there would be very minimal export of power back to the grid.



*We applied for a grant to help fund installation but as you can see from the reply received below we need to get approvals first and in particular need to understand the viewpoint of the community - hence this questionnaire.*

### “ Why we cannot fund your project

If you are applying for funds in relation to work on land or buildings, you are required to either own the land, hold a lease that cannot be brought to an end by the landlord for at least five years, or have an official letter from the owner or landlord that says you're allowed to do work on the building. Where planning permission is required, you must have this before applying. Your application form indicates that you do not have the planning permission in place and unfortunately we are unable to offer you funding unless this can be resolved.

We asked you to tell us how your community came up with the idea for your project. We want to know how many people you've spoken to (virtually or in person), and how they'll be involved in the development and delivery of the project. When assessing your application we did not feel that you had sufficiently involved people from your local community in developing your project in comparison with other applicants. Although you mention the benefits of your project to the community shop, to consider offering you a grant we needed to see more specific information such as how many people you spoke to in your local community, and why they thought the project would make a difference to their lives.

Should you wish to reapply, it may strengthen future applications if you address the issues above, and also tell us clearly how you believe your project and all of your activities meets one or more of our funding priorities. For example through any consultation you have carried out within your local community to establish the impact and the difference that your project will make, which links to one of our priority aims. “