

SHARE AGM 2025

23 September 2025, Parish Hall, Golberdon, 19:30

1. Welcome

Present: Astrid Fischer, David Skelton, Mel Gwynn, Liz Ellson, Sue Skelton, Peter Tulloch, Graham Beven, Norma Draper, Ursula Crouch, Ali Humphreys, Andrew Budd, Kate Glancy
Apologies: Emily Widdicombe, Maureen Tulloch, Alison Knight, Geoff Hardman, Mary Hardman
There was a quorum of 7 members present.

2. Acceptance of the minutes of AGM 2024

- a. Motion to accept minutes
Proposed: Alison Humphreys
Seconded: Sue Skelton
All Agreed

3. Matters arising from the previous minutes

None

4. Finance report

A question was asked about the difference between the bank balance and the profits. The bank balance goes up and down and is a presentation of the cashflow, therefore always varies. At that point of the financial year there was also a balance outstanding from the Church Park FIT payments, which may have caused the bank balance to look worse than anticipated. The profit on the other hand is the snapshot of the previous 12 months (our financial year).

- a. Motion to return surplus to general reserves

Proposer: Peter Tulloch
Seconded: Andrew Budd
All agreed.

Peter Tulloch asked if there had been any suggestions for other applications for the profits? None have been received.

Are there any new projects lined up? We have had some ideas but nothing for an AGM decision at the moment.

Some of the money is ringfenced for projects, e.g. grant money for the Orchard, which is being used within the scope of the lottery grant to achieve the original plan. Also, Recycling for charity has its own budget. Alison Humphreys explained that the bulk of the recycling money goes straight to the charity Kicks Count via the Terracycle recycling programme. We do receive money from ink cartridges, cans and donations, and from some of the toy swaps. We use this to donate to other charities, e.g. we gave a donation to East Cornwall Search & Rescue of £500 and Blood Bikes £400.

The Wood project is now closing.

We have decided to assign Wings accountants to help with the bookkeeping, so that we no longer have to rely on Sue Skelton who stood down last year but has been helping us behind the scenes. A huge thank you to Sue Skelton for continuing to support SHARE and a bunch of flowers was given. Going forwards, admin and invoices will be done by Mel Gwynn and the general bookkeeping by Wings accountants.

We may also need money for repairs for our Solar PV installation at Church Park. We have been lucky so far that maintenance has been minimal. Only once an engineer had to come out to replace an optimiser. Other work has been done within SHARE. However, one of the inverters is now not functioning so will need replacing.

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Supported by:



Peter Tulloch asked what happens to the panels after 25 years? The panels were costed to last 20 years, if the panels fail before 20 years they are covered by the warranty (although the installation of the replacement panels would not be covered). Panels may be degraded so the efficiency would be lower, but they would still work.

We have reasonable resources in reserve if we want to do a new project, but we also must be prudent to be able to start a new project. As an example only, the government has now lifted its embargo on onshore wind, but the planning application requires more comprehensive environmental studies, photo montages of what the project will look like, and the cost of a new planning application is currently estimated at £60,000-£80,000.

- b. Motion to not require formal audit
Proposed: Ali Humphreys
Seconded: Peter Tulloch
All agreed.
- c. Motion to accept the draft accounts
Proposed: Peter Tulloch
Seconded: Graham Beven
All agreed

5. Chairman's report

Last year, Geoff Hardman gave a summary of the first 10 years of SHARE and all that has been achieved. As SHARE moves into its second decade, I stand here as your new Chairman. This was not a role I had intended to take on.

When I was re-elected two years ago, that was followed by the decision by our members not to proceed with the project at Trevigro. I had committed an enormous amount of time and effort in developing that project, and the Directors had spent several thousand pounds of SHARE's hard-earned money. We had grant money of £18,000 lined up to do feasibility studies for the site. It was difficult to see the limited support from our members, especially as the feasibility studies would be the due diligence needed to ensure we went the right direction with that site. If those two motions had been the other way around, I would not have accepted the nomination for re-election.

I've had two years to reflect on that, and SHARE is just too important. In global terms, average temperatures are creeping upwards. We know we can stop that by burning fewer fossil fuels, but the world is not making the transition to cleaner power quickly enough.

Closer to home, I'm encouraged by those in this Parish who have been or are thinking about getting an electric car. Transport is a significant proportion of our energy usage and traditionally was entirely from fossil fuels, so it's good to see people making that change.

Tackling the fossil fuels that we use to heat our homes is a harder nut to crack, that is why SHARE held the 'Love your home' event in February. One of our speakers was from Stoke Climsland, where they have recognised the challenge involved in getting their homes insulated well enough to be heat pump ready by 2035, which is when you won't be able to buy an oil or gas fired boiler, an enormous achievement.

Andrew Budd asked if a biofuel boiler would last 10 years? The answer is yes. Getting your home ready is not just about the cost to you, but people should also consider the costs to the environment and sustainability if they do not take action now. SHARE has a thermal camera that people can borrow to see where their homes are leaking heat, although it won't tell you how much heat is leaking.

We can do it if we put our minds to it, but it will take time. To help everyone living in South Hill, SHARE is buying several copies of the Stoke Climsland Home Retrofit Guide, which is at the printers now. It's like the SHARE Energy saving guide but it goes into a lot more detail about how to get a home better insulated, while being easy to read.

The planning of all our events this last year has been focussed on engaging with our members. That worked well for the Love your home event, our 10th anniversary in May jointly with the Parish Hall's 60th anniversary, and the Horticultural Show. We are thankful for our approx. 130 full members; however, it's only a handful that contribute, and I would particularly want to thank them, that includes everyone who is here tonight. This will also give you a snapshot of the little things that you can do to help with just a few hours of your time. Chris, who reads our meters at Church Park. Geoff, who has continued as the Orchard manager, but is now stepping down. John Bywaters, who is our resident tree expert. Andrew Price is now moving away from the Parish but has contributed to the plan for the orchard. The army of volunteers within the Recycling project, led by Alison Humphreys. She's one of our most active members. Not only does she run the Recycling project and makes a valuable contribution to the Management Committee, but recently she has temporarily stepped up to help with the Orchard as well. I am sure that she will tell us more about that in the open discussion.

If I haven't mentioned your name, and you have stepped up for a particular task, apologies for missing you out here, but we do appreciate the time and effort everyone is putting in.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my fellow directors Astrid and Mel. Astrid as Company Secretary continues to be a dependable pair of safe hands. Mel has been a breath of fresh air. It's been a challenging year for you but you have also challenged us by asking all the right questions.

6. Election of Directors

- a. A Fischer and D Skelton standing down
- b. M Gwynn continuing, A Fischer and D Skelton for re-election
David Skelton for re-election:
Proposer: Peter Tulloch
Seconder: Andrew Budd
All Agreed
Astrid Fischer for re-election:
Proposer: David Skelton
Seconder: Mel Gwynn
All Agreed
- c. Election or co-option of additional Director(s) – no nominations received

7. AOB

Mark Roberston won the guess the UK World Overshoot competition. He guessed 25/05/2025, which was closest to the actual date of 20/05/2025. He will receive a bottle of local wine.

8. Date of next meeting

22nd September 2026

9. Formal AGM closes

AGM closed 20.30.

Open discussion

David explained the need for more volunteers with the example that in the Parish Hall, for the last 6 months we have had issues with the battery and the interaction with the Solaredge inverter. Some of these things take a lot of time fixing. The battery is now charging to 100% and all issues have been resolved, but at the cost of a lot of time and effort and £40 for replacement parts not covered by warranties.

At Church Park we had budgeted for the inverters to run for 8 years. We are now 10 years in the project and we've not yet had to replace these. We have been lucky, also in respect of maintenance, our solar panels have not needed cleaning yet. The biggest loss for any issues is going to be the loss in generation. The wood project is now also winding down, and we are selective to whom we sell the remaining stock to. Donated chippings are still available, at £15 for a dumpy bag collected or £25 delivered. There are some items from the wood project, e.g. a winch and a log splitter, which will be available for SHARE members to borrow. Also, a heavy-duty mower for the orchard has been purchased, this is not a reciprocating one as those can be dangerous to wildlife. There is a user guide and training will be provided to those who want to rent it. The cost is at a reduced rate for SHARE members, and its use is encouraged for environmentally friendly projects. The mower is a bit of a beast and will require a trailer for transportation.

Action David to compile a list of items that SHARE members can borrow and at what costs. This list will be up on events and will be emailed to members.

There is an extra bit of land available near the orchard, where the allotments used to be. A couple of ideas have been raised for the area, including a shelter with seating, a notice board, more trees with stakes and shields. There may be more funding available. Currently there are 30 apple trees planted chosen for their own genetic merits and local links. The next job will be to clear around the new hedgerow trees. The division between the orchard and the allotment may no longer be needed. We need an orchard manager who can liaise with everyone involved and keep the general overview. John Bywaters can advise on the trees, including grafting and pruning.

We also need to think about our changing climate, as an example, the lavender field for oil at Maders was lost due to the winter weather; however, in a neighbouring field, different varieties of lavender are being trialled which may provide solutions.

There is currently a proposal for a large solar farm on the other side of Callington, the project is called [Viverdon Down](#). There has been local consultation and feedback has been given. It is an area of approx. 130 hectares, two thirds of this area is good arable farmland, but the owners will likely get more money from as a solar farm than as farmland. There is already a solar farm in Pillaton, so we need to think about land for both food and energy for the future. The Cornwall Council Climate Change Development Planning Document (DPD) favours projects with local involvement. Peter Tulloch asked where SHARE fits in with these proposals. David answered that SHARE and Tamar Energy Community are the two likely local community groups to be involved in this but have not had any involvement to date. The question to our members is, do we want to support such proposals? Kate Glancy said that both the St Mellion and Haye solar farm developments cheated the local community out of the benefit they were promised. She suggested contacting both councils involved to make them aware the things to look out for in proposals. We should also be wary of the archaeological importance of the site, as there are neolithic burial sites there.

Liz Ellson also pointed out the carbon footprint in making the solar panels, as these have resources that are mined all over the world.

Andrew Budd mentioned the real push in Cornwall for local projects and gave the local housing being built for lithium mining as an example.

There are currently global questions about the influence of Russia and China on our gas/oil needs, and this could cause solar farms to be pushed through. Peter Tulloch said we should have a discussion with EDF Energy. It could be a great opportunity to get a local tariff. We need to speak to other councils that could be affected to. It was suggested we need to contact Anna Geddard about this as she would be a good key person to get onboard and to start with. Peter asked if a member meeting would need to be held to approve this, David answered that it is up to the board to bring forward policies, but that we would give a pre-consultation to our members to see if we want to go ahead with any proposals. It was asked if there were any competing suppliers for this piece of land, e.g. Ecotricity or Good Energy. There is no way of knowing if this was the case.

New volunteers: Peter Tulloch volunteered to be the new membership secretary and thermal camera keeper. Astrid/ David to do handover when ready.

We still have openings for:

- **Parish Hall representative** - Attend 3 - 4 meetings a year and report back to SHARE.
- **Minute taker**- currently being done by Astrid, more volunteers welcome! Take notes at the monthly committee meetings.
- **Orchard manager and volunteers.** The Orchard Manager keeps the overview and reports back to SHARE. Volunteers help with grass cutting, orchard maintenance and events.
- **Carbon treasurer.** Take the solar saving readings and produce how much carbon we have saved.
- **Events coordinator.** This is currently being done by Laurence, but more volunteers are welcome! Arrange regular visits and feedback any events of interest to members.
- **Social media person.** Help send out newsletters and events of interest.
- **Web site developer.** Ensure we have an engaging web site with up-to date information.