



BOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

SOLAR POWER PROJECT

If a job's worth doing, do it yourself - The DIY Village

It has become apparent that the old Government, and the new Government, are steadily abandoning their past commitment to Renewable Energy and Sustainability, with both withdrawing their support for the previously proposed £28 billion investment in new technology. At the same time they are telling us the future lies in new technology, (so long as someone else pays for it)

So what we are seeing is large corporations investing in Solar Power projects feeding the National Grid, but taking up acres of agricultural green space and no local benefit. And yet all around us are houses and buildings with south facing roofs where solar panels can be installed, provide power without taking any more Green Space. And Community Owned Buildings are the obvious answer. New High Capacity Battery Storage has changed the game, meaning solar panels can supply up to 70% of a buildings power requirements, which reduces the notional Investment Payback Period.

Borough Green Parish Council installed solar PV panels and solar thermal panels when we built Potters Mede in 2012, alongside high specification insulation, and a lot of other renewable technology.

Those of you with sharp eyes will have noticed that over the past ten years we have had a program of steadily replacing all 86 of our Sodium and Mercury Parish Streetlights with LEDs, which use 70% less power. We have put these savings into a £10,000 "Solar Fund" from which we can give grants to local community buildings like the Bowls Club which recently installed 4Kw of solar panels, and we just increased the Potters Mede array from 4Kw to 10Kw with a Lithium Storage battery, and shortly will begin selling power back to the Grid.

Apart from the benefit to us all if we do our bit to tackle Climate Change, we will also benefit as a community from a reduction in power costs which a large part of the hire costs of these buildings. We have also received a Green Grant from TMBC. and are assisting the others in submitting their grant applications.

With the changes in Local Government in 2023, we are now in a position to "persuade" Planners at Tonbridge & Malling to introduce new policies supporting renewable technology in ALL new build homes, and there is a huge amount of support for this amongst TMBC Members.

LED STREETLIGHTS AND POTTERS MEDE SOLAR POWER



WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE ALL THIS

