

Notes for Project Meeting, 3rd November 2025 (prepared 28th October 2025)

Please note that these notes were prepared several days ahead of our meeting. While a week may bring significant change in politics, the pace is often more measured within the Church of England. I'll provide any necessary updates during the meeting if circumstances have evolved since the time of writing.

Electrical Engineer

I chased up the three companies for their quotation on 28th October 2025. Nothing received yet.

Digital Drawings

Regrettably, I've returned their drawings for revision due to several minor errors that require correction. As a result, their invoice is currently on hold pending the updated submission.

Men's and Women's Shed

They are continuing to develop their plans and have a board meeting in early November to discuss further.

Structural Engineer

Once again, I've had to reject their report, as both Nick BB and I agreed it did not meet the expectations outlined in our original request. I understand they are now working on a revised version. In the meantime, their invoice remains on hold.

Andy Duncan

We've received no further communication from him. He informed us that he was unable to begin the work as initially promised but indicated he intends to start soon. Nick BB has notified the DAC of the lack of progress.

Photovoltaic Cells and Battery Storage

Following David Poultney's visit, I've revisited our approach to renewable energy. I've invited Geo Green Energy - the company that first assessed our site in January 2025 - to provide an updated quotation, and they're scheduled to return on 29th October 2025. In addition, I've contacted Solar PV Ltd and All Seasons Energy to submit quotes for comparison.

I'm currently liaising with National Grid, our Distribution Network Supplier, to assess the feasibility of our proposals. Any installation will require approval under their G98 process or the G99 Fast Track route.

The plan is to install solar panels on the roof of the community centre, with battery storage housed inside. Ideally, we would rely primarily on stored energy, minimizing our dependence on grid electricity. The main challenge lies in integrating the system with our two separate incoming electricity supplies.

The Hartshill Parish Plan Company are supportive of our plans, and I am currently working with Nick M to prepare a Heart of England Community Foundation grant application on their behalf to help fund this element.

Grant Applications

Nick BB and I are working on the following grant applications;

Net Zero Quick Win (NZQW)

Up to 50% of the total project cost can be granted, up to a maximum grant of £1,500.

We have applied for;

- Heated stadium seating and associated items
- Replacing all lights and fixings with LED Alternatives

Net Zero (NZ)

Up to 50% of the total project cost can be granted, up to a maximum grant of £25,000

We have successfully completed Stage 1 of the process

Nick BB and I are working on two stage 2 applications:

- The removal of the wet system to allow for new wiring and SMART sockets, installation of 40 pew heaters, 3 infrared heaters in apse and behind organ, new control panel
- The photovoltaic cells and battery storage elements.

Church Care

This grant, offered through the National Churches Trust, provides up to £10,000 for urgent maintenance and repair projects costing up to £80,000 (including VAT and fees). It also supports project development and investigative work up to RIBA planning stage 1.

Nick BB and I are currently preparing our application to include underpinning, a tree root barrier, and essential quinquennial works."