Fenstanton Bowls Club

AGM Member Information Sheet

Proposal to Investigate a Solar and Battery Energy Project

Why Are We Bringing This Proposal Forward?
Fenstanton Bowls Club currently operates without a mains electricity connection and relies on generator power. The Committee wishes to investigate a modest renewable energy solution to reduce operating costs and improve long-term sustainability.

What Is Being Proposed?
A small ground-mounted solar array, battery storage, inverter and control equipment, with the existing generator retained as emergency backup.

Potential Benefits
• Reduced fuel consumption and maintenance costs.
• Lower carbon emissions and noise pollution.
• Improved resilience and reliability of power supply.
• Long-term protection of an important community asset.

Flood Risk and Site Considerations
The site is susceptible to periodic flooding. Any installation would need to be flood resilient, including raised mounting structures above flood levels where necessary and protected battery/control equipment. Flood mitigation requirements will form part of the feasibility study and cost assessment.

Estimated Project Cost
Estimated cost: £12,500 - £17,500 including planning, professional advice, flood-resilient foundations and contingency. Working budget assumption: approximately £15,000.

Planning Considerations
The Committee will consult Huntingdonshire District Council to determine whether planning permission, prior approval or other statutory consents are required before proceeding.

Funding Strategy
A 'Local Funding First' approach will be adopted, seeking support from local trusts, parish and district councils, community foundations, retailers, sponsors, fundraising and club reserves.

Indicative Funding Package (£15,000)
Club reserves £xxxx ; Fenstanton Town Trust £xxxx ; Hilton Town Trust £xxxx ; Fenstanton Parish Council £xxxx ; Fundraising £xxxx ; Huntingdonshire Community Chest £xxxx; Nisa MADL £xxxx; Local Business Sponsorship £xxxx; Cambridgeshire Community Foundation £xxxx.

Additional Opportunities
Places for People, Morrisons Foundation, Morrisons Community Champion support, additional sponsorship, donations and Bowls England funding opportunities.

Approval Requested
Members are asked to authorise the Committee to obtain quotations, investigate planning and flood mitigation requirements, seek funding and return with a fully costed business case before any installation is approved.

Proposed AGM Resolution

That the members of Fenstanton Bowls Club approve, in principle, the investigation and development of a solar and battery energy project with an estimated value of £12,500-£17,500, and authorise the Committee to seek funding, sponsorship and grant support and to return to members with detailed proposals, planning advice, funding commitments and costings before proceeding with implementation.