

Colchester Community Solar Farm

Green Energy Nayland is delighted to announce an exciting opportunity to invest in a community owned solar farm.

Green Energy Nayland (GEN) is a pioneering community energy co-operative based in Nayland. Since it formed in 2011, GEN has installed 2 community solar schemes in the local area, one at Nayland school, the other at Ferriers Barn in Bures. GEN is now working with an established local solar farm developer, Push Energy, to develop a 1.7MW community owned portion of a 6.7MW solar farm near Colchester in the parish of Birch.

Push Energy is a Colchester based renewable energy developer that has been in operation since May 2012 and over the past 12 months has successfully built over 92MW of field scale solar PV across 6+ sites in East Anglia.

Push Energy is developing a 5MW solar farm at the Birch site and has offered GEN the chance to build and own the additional 1.7MW on adjoining land. The cost of this 1.7MW array would be in the region of £1.5m with the capital being raised through a share offer issued by the GEN as well as through loans. The offer would predominantly be promoted in Birch and the Colchester area, but investors would be accepted from further afield if they wished to invest. It is expected that GEN would need to raise at least 50% of the money through a share offer.

GEN would own the ground lease, the solar equipment and the Feed-In-Tariff contract, which would provide the income stream to maintain the scheme, pay back the loan, pay the investors a dividend and provide a surplus for GEN to allocate to other community energy projects.

If you would like to hear more about this exciting opportunity and participate in the share offer, GEN will be holding three public meetings as follows:

- 21st April at Birch Memorial Hall School Hill, Birch, CO2 0LZ from 5pm – 8pm
- 28th April at Colchester Rugby Football Club, Mill Road Playing Fields, Mill Road, Mile End, Colchester CO4 5JF between 5pm – 8pm
- 6th May at Nayland Church Hall, Bear Street, Nayland, Colchester CO6 4HY from 5pm – 7.30pm

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www.greenenergynayland.org.uk/colchester-community-solar.html