



**100  
GREEN**



**COMMUNITIES**

**Maximising tangible benefits for  
Community Energy Groups**

*Chris Greer, 100Green*



Community  
Energy  
England

Summer Conference 2026

# A little introduction



- **Chris Greer** Regulatory Director, 100Green
- **100Green** 25 years building relationships with UK generators
- **100Green Communities** set up to help make Community Energy projects a reality



# We're proud to be part of Community Energy England

*We strongly believe that  
community-led energy has a vital role  
to play in **delivering a fairer, cleaner  
and more resilient energy system***



Supporting partner  
of today's event:



Community  
Energy  
England

Summer Conference 2026

100% behind the  
latest campaign



**UP THE ENERGY**

# Back to today...

## Let's explore how:

New-look community energy schemes

*...enabled by recent changes to market arrangements...*

can deliver **tangible benefits** for both generators and local consumers.

**What they are, how they work & why they matter**



# The problem we're all trying to solve

Energy has been something that happened  
**to communities**, not something **done by them**.



**Power granted  
elsewhere.**

**Decisions made  
elsewhere.**

**Value extracted  
elsewhere.**

# The problem we're all trying to solve

But at the same time, many communities have the natural resource to be energy independent



**Rivers, rooftops,  
the Great British  
weather**

**Desire to take  
meaningful action  
on climate change**

**Want to  
tackle fuel  
poverty**

**Want local  
investment &  
resilience**

# The problem we're all trying to solve



But the system makes this incredibly hard.

planning rules & grid  
connections

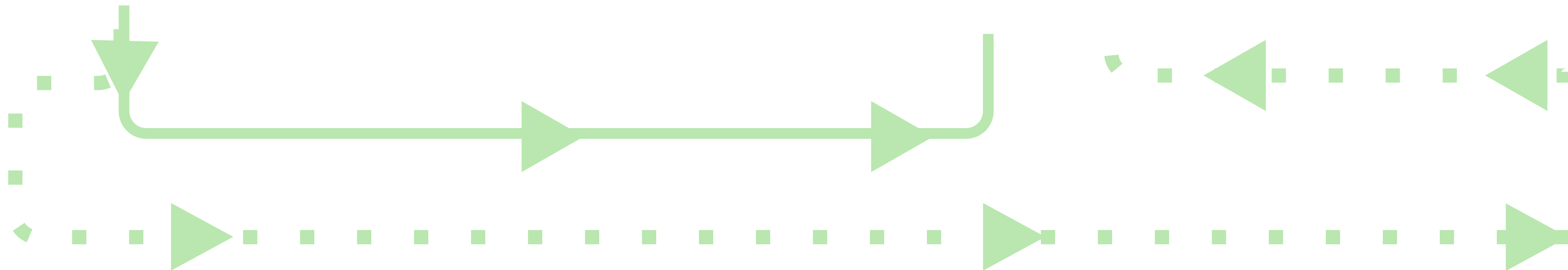
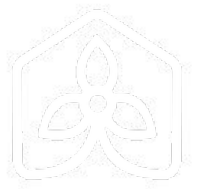
licenses & billing

settlement & regulation



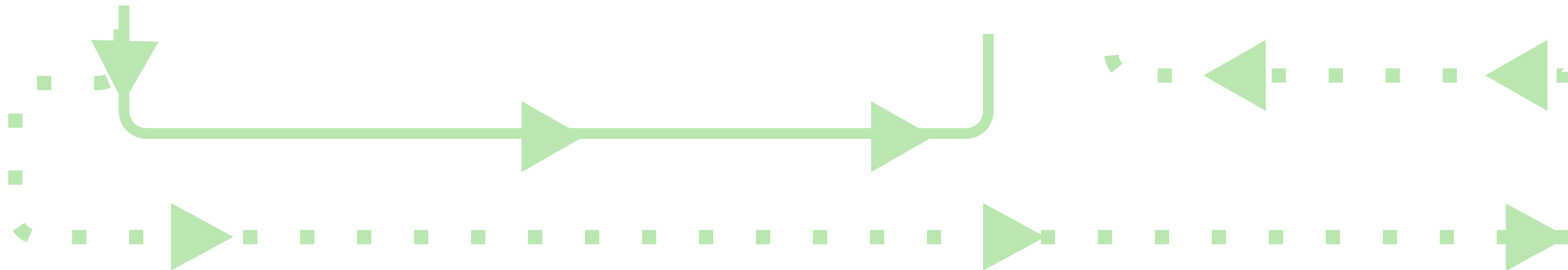
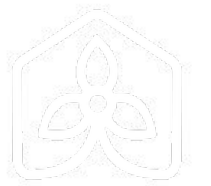
**This is the gap  
100Green Communities  
exists to fill**

# How does a community energy scheme work in practice?



## In short:

- Local energy is **used locally first**
- **Value stays** within the community
- **Security** of supply is maintained
- Regulatory, licensing and billing complexity is **handled on the community's behalf**





**The benefits of this model are not theoretical — they are tangible.**

# Why this matters to community groups



## Lower bills

Using locally generated power, when it's available, reduces costs for households and businesses and rewards flexibility, not speculation.

# Why this matters to community groups



## Carbon reduction

This is real, additional renewable generation — displacing fossil fuels where people actually live and work.

# Why this matters to community groups



## Money staying local

Instead of value flowing out to distant shareholders, income circulates within the community — supporting maintenance, debt repayment and future projects.

# Why this matters to community groups



## Engagement

People care more about energy when it comes from their river, their roofs or their turbines. Ownership changes behaviour. Builds in pride and commitment

# Why this matters to community groups



## Resilience and independence

Communities stop being passive consumers and become active participants in the energy system.

**The key to unlocking these benefits is**

**NOT**

to own the community's vision **or**

to dilute their community values

**The key to unlocking these benefits is  
instead, to**

understand their vision and  
support their community values

Helping them to navigate the market

## Some context:

### Costs & Value

#### Traditional energy market

##### Generators:

PPAs = 7-9p /kWh

Cost gap = Policy costs  
National and local  
network charges

##### Import customers:

Price cap = 24p /kWh



#### Community energy scheme

##### Generators:

Community agreement = 12-15p /kWh

Cost gap = VAT

##### Community members:

Matched rate = 14-18p /kWh

## The bigger picture



**Community energy will not replace the national grid —  
and it shouldn't try to.**

# What community projects *can* do



**Reduce peak  
demand**

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**Deliver place-based  
decarbonisation**

# What community projects *can* do



**Reduce peak  
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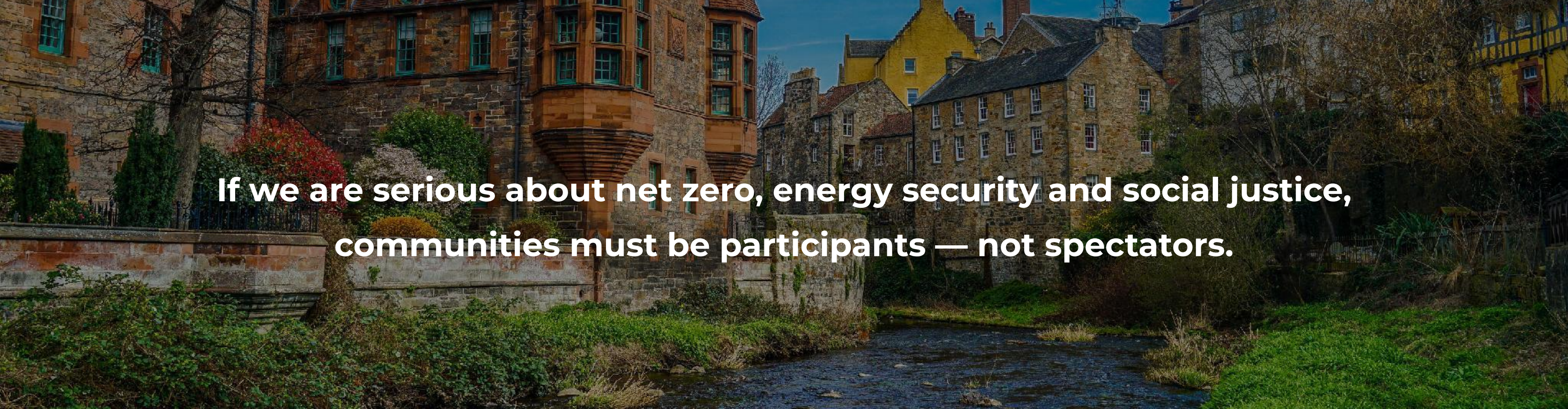
**Build flexibility into  
the system**

**Increase trust in  
the energy  
transition**

**Deliver place-based  
decarbonisation**

**Show that a  
different energy  
model is possible**

# What community projects *can* do



**If we are serious about net zero, energy security and social justice, communities must be participants — not spectators.**



# **Putting the 'reality' into community energy**

**Charlie Luxton,  
Architectural Designer**

**Hook Norton Community Energy**



**Charlie Luxton,  
Architectural Designer**

**Hook Norton Community Energy**



**COMMUNITIES**

**Thank you**

Any questions?