

## Holbeton News Climate Change & Environmental section



### Yealm Community Energy's share offer is LIVE!

Yealm Community Energy's share offer launched on Monday 31 July 2023 and will close on 27 October 2023. We invite you to invest in 3 local solar farms and to help us support more inspiring projects locally.

Minimum investment is £250 and Maximum £100,000. YCE is offering people the opportunity to become shareholders. All our investor members will be offered a potential 6% per annum on their investment, an equal say in how YCE is run and the opportunity to make any investment do good. The project over its lifetime (27years) has the potential to give back over £7M (after running costs) into our local communities. This is significant. YCE have already donated £100,000 to local projects via its Community Benefit Fund. You can read YCE's share offer document and its business plan on our website [www.yealmenergy.co.uk](http://www.yealmenergy.co.uk) and we are using positive investment platform Ethex for the share offer [www.ethex.org.uk](http://www.ethex.org.uk)

If you would like to know anything further or chat directly to one of YCE's directors with specific questions we would be very happy to hear from you by emailing [info@yealmenergy.co.uk](mailto:info@yealmenergy.co.uk)

Help us to harness the power of the sun to Empower our local communities and be part of the renewable age locally.

Capital at Risk.

## ENVIRONMENTAL TIP: USE RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES...

...**SAVE MONEY, SAVE RESOURCES:** Rechargeable batteries cost 3 or 4 times as much as disposable batteries but they can be recharged typically 500 – 1000 times.



For example, single Duracell AA battery costs £1.19 for a disposable battery whereas a Duracell AA rechargeable battery costs £4.44. The mains cost of recharging a battery is 0.08p and so if you recharge it 400 times the total cost is £4.44. If you bought 400 disposable batteries the cost would be £476!

Even if you add in the cost of a charger at £23.99 it's still 17 times cheaper.

...**CAPACITY:** of rechargeable batteries is measured in milliamp hours or mAh. Lower capacity is fine for electric clocks, remote controllers and smoke detectors but a powerful torch or motorised toy will need a higher capacity.

...**TYPES:** non rechargeable batteries are mainly either alkaline or lithium-metal. Rechargeable batteries are NiMH (nickel metal hydride) or lithium-ion. Lithium-ion is probably the best choice because NiMH lose about 30% of their charge in a year of no use.

...**CHARGERS:** always use the correct charger for your type of battery (NiMH can have faster chargers) and NEVER attempt to recharge a non-rechargeable battery. Older NiCad rechargeable batteries had a 'memory' requiring careful charging regimes, this no longer applies so you can top them up at any time.

...**RECYCLE:** whatever their composition batteries should always be recycled as their chemicals will damage the environment if landfilled. There are plenty of battery recycling bins in shops and at the recycling centres. To our shame the UK only recycles 45% of its 600 million batteries each year.



The current arrangements for Holbeton includes all household batteries including 'button' batteries from watches, hearing aids etc., battery packs from household tools such as strimmers and battery packs from laptops or phones.

Batteries should be placed in a small clear tied bag, such as a sandwich bag

or empty bread bag. Cover the contacts on lithium and button batteries with sticky tape to reduce fire risk.

## Citizen Science on the river Erme

Over a hundred people recently attended a meeting in the Watermark Centre in Ivybridge to share concerns about the quality of the water in the River Erme and find out what they could do to help. People keen to get involved with a citizen science project to sample the water in the river signed up as volunteer 'Dippers.'

Various subgroups have been formed based in Holbeton, Modbury and Ivybridge. The project is run under the Westcountry Rivers Trust's citizen science arm, the Trust or the parish or town council can provide test kits and training where required. The results are posted on the Cartographer website where they are stored and analysed. More information can be found on the Westcountry Rivers Trust website [www.wrt.org.uk](http://www.wrt.org.uk) The main purpose of the exercise is to identify sources of repeated pollution so that further, more sophisticated tests can be undertaken to identify the exact cause, while building respect for the river and for its nature.

Testing river water is fun and very straightforward, best with done two people or more, it usually takes about half an hour and should be done once a month or more and if possible after heavy rain.

There is now an army of enthusiastic citizen scientists busy dipping and keeping in touch via WhatsApp, but more volunteers are always needed!

If you'd like to be a 'Dipper' for our part of the river catchment please contact: Chris Bray [chrisngilly@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisngilly@hotmail.com)



*sponsored by Holbeton Parish Council*



**Lastly...** we would be delighted to hear from anyone who feels that they have a worthwhile environmental &/or carbon reduction idea for 'tip of the month'. Just let me know and we will be happy to help if you wish.

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