

Annual Return (AR30) form

Society Name: Meadow Blue Community Energy Limited

Society Num: 7099

An Annual Return must be completed by all societies registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 ('the Act') (including any societies previously registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965). The Annual Return must include:

- this form;
- a set of the society's accounts; and
- where required, an audit report or report on the accounts.

A society must submit the Annual Return within 7 months of the end of the society's financial year. Failure to submit on time is a prosecutable offence.

Please note that this form, including any details provided on the form, will be made available to the public through the Mutuels Public Register.

For guidance on our registration function for societies, which includes guidance on the requirement to submit an Annual Return, please see [here](#)

2.1 What date did the financial year covered by these accounts end?

30/06/2021

3.1 Please provide the names of the people who were directors of the society during the financial year this return covers.

Some societies use the term 'committee member' or 'trustee' instead of 'director'. For ease of reference, we use 'director' throughout this form.

Name of Director	Month of Birth	Year of Birth
Roger Michael James Marshall	Aug	1948
Christoper Charles Rowland	Sep	1963
Nicholas Rouse	Sep	1946

Roy Thomas Broughton	Apr	1961
Julia Waterlow	Jan	1956
John Eric Parkinson	Jan	1956

3.2 All directors must be 16 or older. Please confirm this is this case:

All directors are aged 16 or over

3.3 Societies are within the scope of the Company Director Disqualification Act 1986 (CDDA). Please confirm that no director is disqualified under that Act:

No director is disqualified

3.4 Please state any close links which any of the directors has with any society, company or authority.

'Close links' includes any directorships or senior positions held by directors of the society in other organisations.

Christopher Rowland is a director of Merston Renewable Energy CIC; Ouse Valley Energy Services CIC Ltd (OVESCO); Eastry Energy Ltd; Community Energy South; Barcombe Energy CBS (dormant); Ouse Valley Solar Farm CIC (dormant) Trustee at Warming Communities.

Nick Rouse is a director of Ouse Valley Energy Services Ltd and Ouse Valley Energy Services CIC and Eastry Energy Ltd.

Roy Thomas Broughton is a director of Solesco Cooperative Ltd (Coopted to MBCE Board July 2021)

Julia Waterlow is director of Merston Renewable Energy CIC and Maltings Barn (Lewes) Management Co Ltd.

Merston Renewable Energy CIC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Meadow Blue Community Energy Ltd.

3.5 Please provide the name of the person who was secretary at the end of the financial year this return covers.

Societies must have a secretary

Name of Secretary	Month of Birth	Year of Birth
Nicholas Rouse	Sep	1946

4.1 Please confirm that:

- accounts are being submitted with this form
- the accounts comply with relevant statutory and accounting requirements
- the accounts are signed by two members and the secretary (3 signatures in total)

4.2 Based on the accounts, please provide the information requested below for the financial year covered by this return.

Number of members

Turnover

Assets

Number of Employees

Share Capital

Highest rate of interest paid on shares

4.3 What Standard Industrial Classification code best describes the society's main business?

Where more than one code applies, please select the code that you feel best describes the society's main business activity. You will find a full list of codes [here](#)

SIC Code **Production of electricity (35110)** *

Societies are required to appoint an auditor to audited unless they are small or have disapplied this requirement. For further guidance see chapter 7 of our guidance:

<https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/finalised-guidance/fg15-12.pdf>

5.1 Please select the audit option the society has complied with:

- Full Professional Audit
- Auditor's report on the accounts
- Lay Audit

No audit

5.2 Please confirm the audit option used by the society is compliant with the society's own rules and the Act

We have complied with the audit requirements

5.3 Please confirm any audit report (where required) is being submitted with this Annual Return

Yes

Not applicable

5.4 Is this society accepted by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) as a charity for tax purposes?

Yes

No

5.5 If the society is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) please provide your OSCR registration number.

Registered

Not applicable

5.6 Is the society a housing association?

No

Yes

6.1 Is the society a subsidiary of another society?

Yes

No

6.2 Does the society have one or more subsidiaries?

(As defined in sections 100 and 101 of the Act)

Yes

No

6.3 If the society has subsidiaries, please provide the names of them below

(or attach an additional sheet)

**Reg
Number** **Name**

09631133

Merston Renewable Energy CIC

6.4 Please provide below (or on a separate sheet) the names of subsidiaries not dealt with in group accounts (if any) and reasons for exclusions:

(the society must have written authority from us to exclude a subsidiary from group accounts)

**Reg
Number** **Name** **Reason for Exclusion**

0

0

0

All societies are registered meeting one of two conditions for registration. These are that the society is either:

- a bona fide co-operative society ('co-operative society'); or
- are conducting business for the benefit of the community ('community benefit society').

Your society is registered meeting the condition for registration that it is conducting its business for the benefit of the community.

For further information on the condition for registration, please see chapter 5 of our guidance [here](#).

Community benefit societies must answer the following questions in relation to the financial year covered by this return.

7B.1 What is the business of the society?

For example, did you provide social housing, run an amateur sports club etc.

Meadow Blue Community Energy Ltd was set up in 2015 to build and run a community owned solar array to reduce our impact on climate change, reduce emissions of Carbon Dioxide and other pollutants, and generate funds and activities to benefit the local Sussex community in accordance with Society's objects.

7B.2 Please describe the benefits to the community the society delivered?

Here we are looking to see what the benefits to the community were. Community can be said to be the community at large. For example, did you relieve poverty or homelessness through the provision of social housing.

Our community solar farm has generated 5,588,000 kilowatt hours of low carbon electricity, equivalent to the annual consumption of 2,000 homes.

In the year to June 2021 £20,000 was paid in community benefit of which £14.500 was for tree/hedge planting and £5600 to Oving Parish Council

7B.3 Please describe how the society's business delivered these benefits?

The business of the society must be conducted for the benefit of the community. Please describe how the society's business (as described in answer to question 7B.1) provided benefit to the community.

Community activities were managed by the Society's board of volunteer directors.

The solar farm generated 5,588,000kWh in 2021 of renewable electricity, reducing carbon emissions and donated £20,000 in community benefit of which £14.500 was for tree/hedge planting and £5600 to Oving Parish Council

7B.4 Did the society work with a specific community, and if so, please describe it here?

For instance, were the society's activities confined to a specific location; or to a specific group of people? Please note that in serving the needs of any defined community, the society should not inhibit the benefit to the community at large.

The Society serves the Sussex communities of the Bognor Regis conurbation, Chichester and the surrounding area. The Society serves the community at large through reducing carbon emissions through low carbon electricity generation.

7B.5 What did the society do with any surplus or profit?

For instance, did you pay a dividend to members (and if so, on what basis); did money get reinvested in the business; put into reserves; used for some other purpose?

£20,000 of community benefit was paid. Interest of £68,676 was paid to members.

7B.6 Please state any significant commercial arrangements that the society has, or had, with any other organisation that could create, or be perceived as creating, a conflict of interest.

Please tell us how you ensured that any such conflict of interest did not prevent the society from acting for the benefit of the community.

The Society is managed under service contracts with OVESCO and Communities for Renewables CIC. The contracts are at market rate and the providers selected through a competitive tender process.