

Ripple Renewable Energy Generation Scheme

Summary

Ware Town Council has aspirations for Net Zero, indeed it has made a commitment to achieve this. The Priory estate, due to the listed building and conservation area limiting the retrofit possibilities, makes this difficult to achieve without offsetting. Ripple energy is a scheme that facilitates direct investment in renewable energy projects, allowing WTC to invest in the infrastructure that would supply renewable energy to WTC for the next 30 years.

Background

Ripple Energy offers a unique approach to financing and developing renewable energy projects. This report delves into the workings and benefits of Ripple Energy, examining its core principles, operational mechanisms, and the advantages it presents to WTC for energy hedging and sustainable energy generation.

Core Principles

Ripple Energy democratises access to clean energy with a low barrier to entry, unlike traditional means of energy generation. Ripple Energy introduces a novel approach to financing renewable energy projects, enabling individuals and businesses to directly invest in, and benefit from, the generation of clean electricity.

Their platform facilitates the formation of energy communities, wherein individuals come together to collectively finance the construction of renewable energy assets such as wind and solar farms. This decentralised approach empowers communities to take ownership of their energy future.

Operational Mechanisms

Project Identification: Ripple Energy identifies suitable locations for renewable energy projects, considering factors such as wind resource potential, grid connectivity, and community engagement.

Financing

Through its innovative model, Ripple Energy allows individuals to invest directly in specific renewable energy projects. Participants contribute funds towards the construction of the project in exchange for a share of the electricity generated, typically through a power purchase agreement (PPA) or a similar arrangement.

Construction and Operation

Once sufficient funding is secured, Ripple Energy oversees the construction and commissioning of the renewable energy facility. The generated electricity is then supplied to the grid, with investors receiving returns based on their contribution and the project's performance.

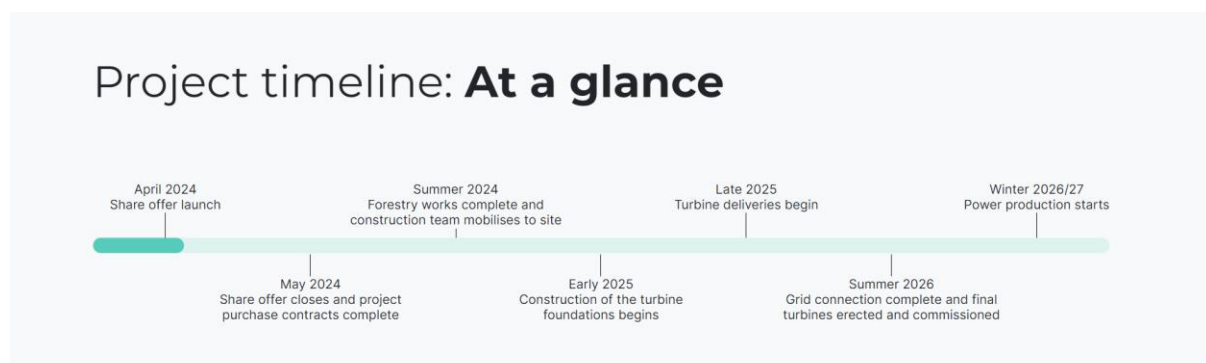
Ware Town Council

WTC is unable to install solar or other ways of producing renewable energy on its buildings for historic or practical reasons. It is hoped that we can make changes where possible, notably the Lido.

According to the Eco audit last year, WTC's buildings consumed 229,00 KWH in 2021 and 108,000 KWH in 2023, with it likely to increase with the addition of aircon to Fletchers Lea, lido refurbishment and the cafe project.

The Proposal

Ripple allows WTC to have the benefits of self-generated energy without the logistical and planning headaches. Ripple also allows WTC to choose how much investment it wishes to allocate, making it potentially more affordable than rooftop solar, especially given the economies of scale that come with projects this size. WTC can buy a stake in the Whitelaw Brae Wind Farm project in Scotland. The closing date for this project is May 2024.



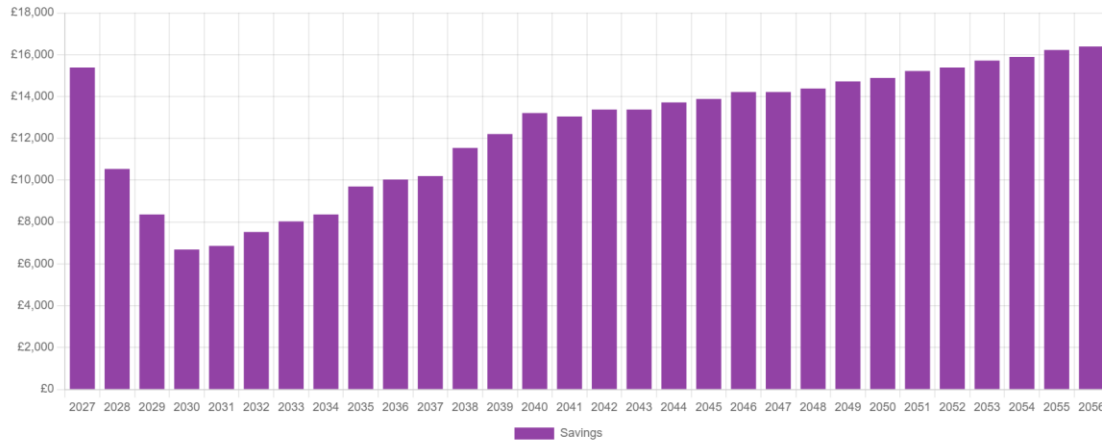
WTC energy bills will be reduced through investment in clean energy. WTC has the opportunity to hedge against future energy prices by effectively purchasing energy now and receiving more energy over the 30-year life span of the project. Ripple states the “payback period” could be between 13-21 years depending on the future price of electricity.

Your savings depend on the electricity price. Nobody knows for sure what the price will be going forward. The graph below illustrates potential savings based on recent Government forecasts up to 2040.

High estimate ▾

13 years
Estimated payback period

£373,259
Estimated 30 year savings



Ripple has a 120% annual energy cap on investment. Given WTC's large electricity consumption, this would be quite a high number in the hundreds of thousands. However, Ripple has a 139,358.90 KWH cap per investor, so WTC would have the opportunity to invest between £25 - £119,102. Given the cap, WTC has projected savings of £373,259 over the lifetime of the project at the highest investable amount, with £15,385 coming from the first year of operation. There is the possibility to pay in instalments.

Input your consumption:

kWh 139358.90

Calculate

Your ownership quote

£373,259

Estimated savings over
your project's lifetime

£121,924

Total indicative cost if
paying in instalments

120%

of your
electricity

How much of the project would you like to own?

(minimum of £25)



[Or set your own budget](#)

All savings are estimates and will depend on future electricity prices and the level of generation.

If you have a reservation, it will be deducted on the payment page.

If you purchased:

69,096 Watts, this would
generate:

167,231 kWh of electricity per
year

You can choose to pay in **12 x**
£10,160 monthly instalments
or in one single **£119,102**
payment

**You could save an
estimated:**

£15,385 in your first full year
of generation

£373,259 over the lifespan of
the project

88,799 kg of CO₂ each year

[View more potential saving
scenarios](#)

Recommendation

WTC invests £119k in Ripple, paying by instalment if necessary. This level of investment gives WTC savings of £373,259 over the course of the project and helps WTC meet its' Net Zero goal.