

Candidate Statement: Dr Daniel Davies



I would like to join the board of BWCE to offer my experience in renewable energy projects and to learn more about community funding of carbon saving technology. Having recently embarked on a new adventure as a smallholder and rewilder I am keen to explore the crossover from community energy projects to regenerative agriculture and biodiversity projects.

My work in the renewable energy sector spans over 30 years mostly focused on solar PV. After completing my PhD, I joined Halcrow's energy team and then jumped ship to co-found Solarcentury. As Chief Technology Officer at Solarcentury I helped to build up the technical and commercial teams, playing a key role in the UK solar industry. I led the development of a range of building integrated solar PV solutions and am proud of the many ground-breaking solar projects we delivered, initially in the UK and then Europe. Changing tack, I moved to Kenya to set up Solarcentury Africa and built a team which delivered on grid and off grid hybrid power projects across the continent. At this time, I also worked for SolarAid – a development charity supported by Solarcentury and other solar companies – helping them with product specifications and working with manufacturing partners in China. My responsibilities at Solarcentury have included reporting to the board (and being a board member), driving strategy and investment to grow the business, developing design solutions and products and contract negotiation for multi million GBP projects.

When Solarcentury was sold to Statkraft, the Solarcentury Africa business was sold on to a third party and I chose to step back from full time employment to explore new ideas and to take on some Non-Executive positions.

I am a Non-Exec Director of Orb Energy India, a PV module manufacturer, project developer and installer active in the fast-growing Indian energy sector. My other focus is Cilrheol Farm, a smallholding where my wife and I live in the Brecon Beacons. We are exploring the issues of regenerative farming/community agriculture and re-wilding and enjoying rural life having recently left Bath which was home for 20 years where our kids grew up. We keep strong connections to Bath and the Southwest and travel back often to see friends and family.

Qualifications: I probably spent too long at university – with a B.Eng. in Engineering Science and Technology from Loughborough, an M. Sc in Renewable Energy and the Environment and a PhD in Wind and Solar Technology both from Reading University.

I hope you find the above of interest. I would be happy to answer any questions about my experience and would be delighted to join BWCE as a Non-Exec.