



Let's Talk Good Finance

7 June 2023

Jane Grindey



Our foundation

Five years ad hoc grant funding

- local energy schemes
- education, building trust, installing insulation

Neighbourhood plan approved

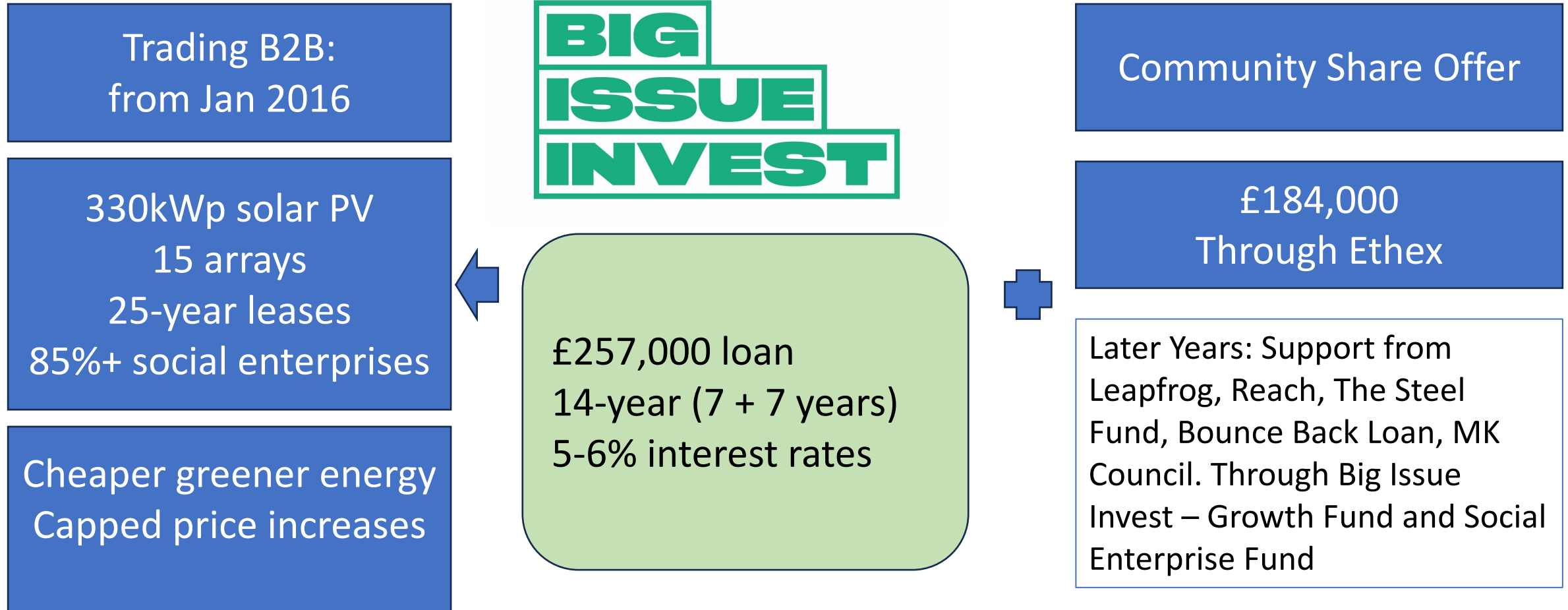
- supporting community energy

Wolverton Community Energy founded April 2015

- 3 of 4 Directors live locally
- breadth of experience including community programme creation and delivery; start-up and tech experience, strategy and business development, research and analysis of renewable energy effectiveness
- community benefit society
- objects cover Milton Keynes and environs



How we began – the numbers (2016)





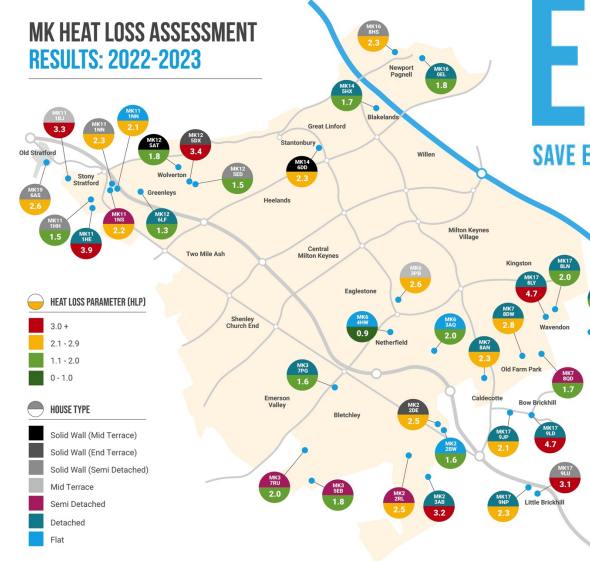
What we do

Community Owned
Solar PV
Energy Efficiency
Home Retrofit



HOME ENERGY
SAVE ENERGY ⚡ SAVE MONEY ⚡ SAVE THE PLANET

MK HEAT LOSS ASSESSMENT
RESULTS: 2022-2023



Final Thoughts

Financial support is also emotional support

- much of what we do requires persistence and resilience
- financial support is endorsement and credibility
- particularly important when starting out, and risks are highest
- but also, when trying to grow. Easy to refinance existing assets, making scale step change v. tough to get new funding

Cash flow and cash flow forecasts critical to control finances

- no matter how many assets you have! Ours fluctuate seasonally

Long term stability comes from long term loans....

- and long-term assets
- fundamental to get away from chasing 'funding bus'
- allowed us to think strategically, experiment and deal with short term challenges patiently
- huge benefit of long-term relationship with Big Issue Invest - proactive support

