PROTOS COMMUNITY UPDATE

Nov 2021

Protos is a destination for energy, innovation and industry. This community newsletter provides an update on progress at the site and what's coming up.

CGI representation of the approved Plastic Park at Protos

LATEST NEWS

PLASTIC PARK PLANS SUBMITTED

Our plans to develop a Plastic Park at Protos have been submitted to Cheshire West & Chester Council. The Plastic Park is an innovative concept for dealing with some of the 4.9 millions of tonnes of plastic waste that currently ends up in landfill, in our oceans or exported overseas.

A one-stop shop for dealing with waste plastic, it will cluster together different technologies that will maximise the amount of plastic that can be recycled and create a circular economy in the North West.

AT A GLANCE

Protos was the first North West stop on the COP26 #ZeroCarbonTour. Read more inside.

Find out how construction is progressing

at Protos inside.

PROTOS

This year we're making £50,000 available for local causes. Find out how to apply for the Protos Community Benefit Fund on the back page.

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We had nearly 300 responses to our public consultation on the plans, so thank you to everyone that took part. An overwhelming majority of people that responded agreed that more plastic recycling facilities are needed in the UK. The application will now be considered by Cheshire West & Chester Council with a decision expected in early 2022.

For more information visit: protos.co.uk/destination/plastic-park-at-protos

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COP26 RACE TO ZERO

Earlier this month the world gathered in Glasgow for the UN Climate Change Conference – called COP26. Here's how Protos is helping deliver against the four action areas identified:

Accelerate the transition from coal to clean power

Protos clusters together established and emerging technologies in energy generation and resource management that are leading the way on the clean growth agenda, including an operational biomass and windfarm.

2 Protect and restore nature for the benefit of people and climate

At Protos, over 50 hectares of land is being dedicated to nature, where over 2,600 trees have already been planted. Snipe Haven and Goldfinch Meadows are two purpose-built habitats which are home to an array of flowers, butterflies and birds, with the ponds and wetlands providing perfect habitats for wildlife.

Raise climate ambition through science and innovation

Innovation is a key driver at Protos. Through collaboration with the University of Chester's neighbouring Thornton Science Park, Protos provides a supportive environment where ideas can come to life.

Accelerate the transition to zero emission vehicles

As well as exporting low carbon electricity which could be used to power electric vehicles, we're also planning a hydrogen refueling station as part of the Plastic Park at Protos. This would supply hydrogen from the consented plastic-to-hydrogen facility to fuel HGVs.

To find out more, read our COP26 blog on the Protos website **protos.co.uk/news**

ZERO CARBON TOUR VISITS PROTOS

We were delighted to welcome the COP26 Zero Carbon Tour to Protos as it made its way up to Glasgow.

Protos was the first North West stop on the national Zero Carbon Tour in partnership with Planet Mark and Race to Zero, the United Nations' globally backed campaign. The Planet Mark team set off in the big, blue, all-electric bus from Cornwall and toured the UK taking in the progress being made to cut the UK's carbon emissions.





We were joined by Gemma Davies and Cllr Matt Bryan from Cheshire West & Chester Council, alongside Joe Manning from the Cheshire & Warrington LEP, as the bus pulled in to check out progress on site.

We were thrilled to showcase the low-carbon initiatives already developed, including the Protos biomass facility, as well as discuss some of the exciting projects on the horizon, including the UK's first Plastic-to-Hydrogen facility using Powerhouse Energy's technology.

PHASE 2 INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRESSING

Construction of Protos Phase 2 infrastructure is progressing well and set to complete next spring. The main roads are almost done, whilst the construction of a new bridge crossing one of the site drains is well underway. Elsewhere, earthworks for two of the three new ecology areas are now finished, with landscape planting set to start in early 2022.



PROTOS ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY UPDATE

Construction of the Protos Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) is progressing well with piling entering its final stages and mechanical process construction works starting soon. On 9th November, over 80 people from 67 local businesses attended a 'Meet the Buyer' event to explore opportunities to supply goods and services to the EPC (engineering, procurement, construction) contractors.

Representatives from MYTILINEOS and Standardkessel Baumgarte discussed upcoming supplier contracts with a variety

Protos ERF is also seeking community representatives to join a local community liaison committee for the project. The committee will gather feedback and opinions from local residents and provide information to the community during construction and through commissioning. It will meet on a regular basis with the aim of ensuring the project proceeds with minimal impact and disruption to the local community.



This construction work spans a large area at Protos, some of which is close to publicly accessible areas. We'd like to say a big thank you to the local community for your cooperation during this time. Please note, construction vehicles and heavy machinery will still be on site in the coming months, so please remember to stay on authorised walking routes and outside of the construction sites to keep everyone safe.

of local businesses including companies that supply engineering design, fabrication and installation services, scaffolding, crane and general plant hire, mechanical and electrical services, Personal Protective Equipment and accommodation. Covanta, who will operate the plant once it is completed, also attended the event along with civil engineering contractor, Ward & Burke and the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

Businesses that were unable to attend, but are still interested in bidding for contracts, can email **info@protoserf.com** with details of the goods and services they offer.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the liaison committee can email <u>info@protoserf.com</u> to request an application form.

It is intended that the first meeting will take place in December.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

It has been great to see how the Protos Community Fund has helped to spruce up a playground in Ince. Ince Parish Council got in touch as some of the equipment was in need of renovation due to erosion of the play bark. The play bark has been replaced and the playground is now fully operational.







We've also been able to help the Elton Gardeners' Association improve the Elton allotments. With woodchip for ground cover, wooden security fencing, picnic benches and a much-needed eco-loo, the allotments are looking great!

"Our communal area has been transformed into a peaceful place for members, their families and friends to enjoy. We have local residents popping in to have a chat and we are proud to show them around. They too can sit and enjoy our lovely new area and they often buy a selection of freshly picked produce that we have for sale in the refurbished container."

Denise Haven, Elton Gardeners Association

Peel NRE has contributed a further **£50,000** to local initiatives in 2021, an increase of **£10,000** on last year. To apply for funding, visit: **protos.co.uk/how-to-apply**

WHAT IS PROTOS?

Protos is Peel NRE's destination for energy, innovation and industry. Located at Ince, the £700m strategic energy hub clusters complementary businesses, including resource recovery and energy intensive industries, associated supply chain and energy generation.



Get in touch for more information on Protos

Visit: **protos.co.uk** Email: **community@protos.co.uk** Call: **Freephone 0800 689 1095** (During office hours Mon-Fri). You can also follow us on **Twitter <u>@ThisIsProtos</u> Linkedin <u>Protos</u>**