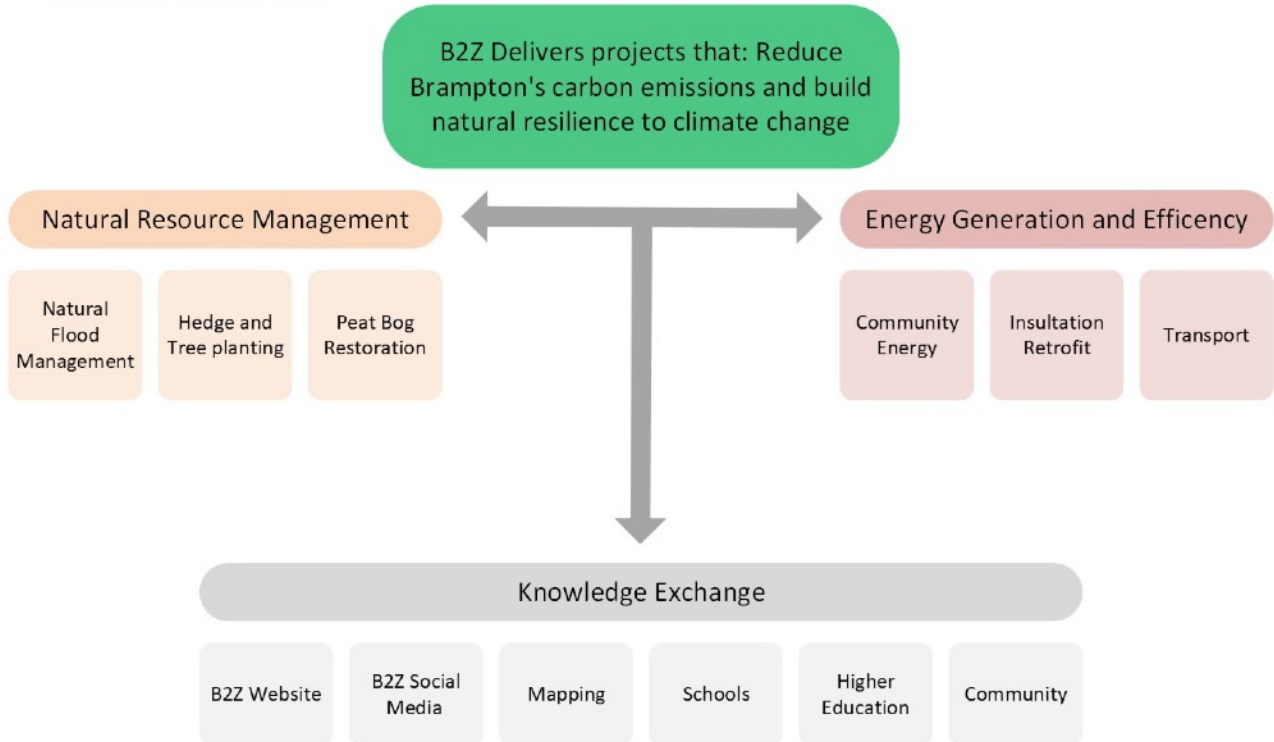


# Brampton 2 Zero CIC 2024/25

## AGM March 10th, 2026



## Chairs report:

### The CIC Board

Phil Furneaux, Chair and Founding director  
Dr Michelle Rae Treasurer and Founding director  
Philip Sage, Director  
Mike Siddall, Director  
Pam Cronin, Clerk to the board.

### Membership

We now have 70 signed up volunteers (last year 74)  
We have 367 followers on Facebook (last year 361)  
Website hits 4,069 (8,527)

## Finance

### Income

- Environment Agency £63,545 (£45,585) (NFM project)
- Donations £475 (Talkin Tarn Trees) ( £2.539)
- Sales: 0 (£32) (Hedge hog project and seeds))

Stat of the year Balance was £4040 ( £1397 )

Our income was: £65111. ( £50,757)

Our expenditure is: £67,754 £53,049)

The NFM scheme income has been be £4000 per annum (£2000) . For the next year it is £3000 which means we do not have to fund raise for administration.

## Company performance

The CIC has grown in the last year due to the increased complexity of the projects.

**The Natural Flood Management (NFM)** funded by the Environment Agency (EA) allowed B2Z to increase its goal of improving biodiversity and resilience to climate change.

Our income and expenditure have increased due to the size of the NFM scheme. The Brampton Fell Moss restoration work is now complete and the community engagement work can begin.

The second part of the project which involves a bund being contracted further down the stream is designed and ready to go awaiting the drawdown of funds from the EA.

**The EV community rapid charger is progressing.** The consortium of land owner Border Van Hire, Operator Charge my Street and B2Z have signed an agreed Memorandum of Understanding and are progressing with a business plan by Cybermoor with the help of a grant from Cumberland CC.

The location is chosen and consultation with nearby residents and the Parish Council for planning permission is underway (31st March with BPC).

The business plan includes a small payment B2Z which can be used for its projects.

## Education

Lancaster University physics department Industrial project: a group of four 3rd year Physics students took on a B2Z project of explaining EV charging to the general public and building a model.

The funding from the Faculty of Science and Technology for a summer intern was forthcoming to allow a physics MSc student to write a feasibility study for the Brampton Community EV charger which is being used for for project.

Lancaster University geography student worked with B2Z for his 3rd year project on a community survey into attitudes to climate issues. This survey has been completed.

### **Increasing Biodiversity:**

B2Z did not plant any trees or hedges this year but spent 5 work session on tending to the existing growth. We have Aproximately 400 heathy trees growing and 3km of hedge planted.

The Unity Raised bog restoration is progressing and a moth survey found a record number of species. Larger birch trees are being removed and some habitat interventions planned.

### **Energy reduction through retrofit 1.**

**The Thermal Imaging project** is progressing....*awaiting information*

We now have 2 IR cameras and are working with Futureproof Cumbria with the training and processing of information. The team consists of six volunteers which have surveyed 26 homes (figures TBC).

### **Energy reduction through retrofit 2**

#### **William Howard School Ground Source Heating**

Our application to the Great British Energy Community Grant has been successful which will provide a £40k grant for a feasibility study for replacing the very inefficient gas boilers at WHS with a ground source heating heating scheme including utilizing the heat from a small data centre. The project includes funding for the Lancaster Intern student to do works experience and write the feasibility report enabling a route into Net Zero careers.

If the school chooses to progress with the scheme we are able to apply for stage 2 of the process for £100k which is to write a full business case and set up a community benefit cooperative which can apply for a share offer.

We are working closely with the school so the project will become part of the school curriculum.

It will also include the field work programme we are setting up at the Brampton Fell Moss.

### **Strategic direction**

The CIC's strategic direction was refined during the year and is explained in the schematic diagram at the beginning to the report. Education is central to our projects and we provide a learning experience if it is possible to all our activities.

We are encouraging more volunteers to be active in the projects by providing a sum of money available for volunteer led projects which will be initiated this year.

This year has been a launching pad for bigger projects as we have gained massive experience with working with the Environment agency and Eden Rivers Trust. Next year will be a year of consolidation and improving the Moss so that it is able to sustain community use.

### **Summary of years highlights and challenges**

The highlight of the year must be the completion of the Moss regeneration capital works.

Other highlights including working with the Lancaster Intern to produce the EV charging feasibility study and setting up a collaboration to move the project forward. Also observing the Thermal Imaging project develop through volunteer initiations.

### **Board and governance**

Mike Siddall appointed director (09/01/25) of B2Z and he has provided a strategic approach.

Dr Michelle Rae has taken on the role of treasure and provides xxx advice for our decision making.

Philip Sage has been invaluable with his work on setting up the Thermal Imaging Project and leading the Moss surveys.

Pam Cronin has been an ever present support to me during the year, keeping the books in order and our meetings in focus. Pam is stepping down as minutes secretary so a huge thanks for her work. But she is staying a book keeper so our finances are safe in her hands.

However we need at least one new board member so anyone out there..?

### **Stakeholder engagement**

*The Environment Agency* by providing our core costs which support the NFM project.

*Brampton Fell Farm and Alan Bowman* for allowing his land to be used for the NFM project.

Our main stakeholder is *Eden Rivers Trust* who are project managing the NFM project.

*Sustainable Brampton* remain a supportive and complementary group to our net zero projects

*Brampton Green and Wild* provide an excellent information provider for biodiversity issues.

*Future Proof Cumbria* for their support and funding for the Thermal Imaging Project.

*Lancaster University* helping provide knowledge to guide our projects. Last year we had four 3rd year physics students working on a model EV charging system which enabled some funding for an internship which facilitated the

Feasibility study for the Community EV charging project and a Community Heating scheme at Alison Close which morphed into the William Howard project. Also a geography student project to compete a Brampton community attitude survey toward climate issues.

*Cumbria Wildlife Trust* provide an excellent resource for our biodiversity projects and some of B2Z volunteers spend a day of week with CWT learning about wildflower planting and much more.

## **Acknowledgements**

I think all the people/ organizations who have supported B2Z over the year. Especially the board whose support has enabled such large projects and Pam for keeping us right.

Thanks to Ann for editing and producing the newsletter.

Linda and Richard for looking after the Talkin Tarn Trees planting.

Laura and her team for their work on the thermal imaging project.

Kathy for keeping the regeneration of Unity Bog on track.

Jean for being such a stalwart.

And our B2Z volunteers for providing the energy and enthusiasm to tend to the trees and hedges and regenerating Unity Bog.

## **2025 Projects**

- Planting oaks at Talkin Tarn
- Start of community attitude survey session
- pot luck and discussion at community centre
- Work sessions on tending to the hedges and trees.
- Leafleted for survey Brampton EV project
- Hedge session
- Unity Bog Regeneration
- EV feasibility study
- October Brampton Moss event
- Nov talking tree plant
- Nov Birch pull at unity bog

## **2026**

January Moss restoration event

Coffee morning

## **Future:**

Hedge plants at Cumcatch Farm

Hedge and tree planting at Brampton Fell Moss

Thermal Imaging project

Ground source heating at WHS

