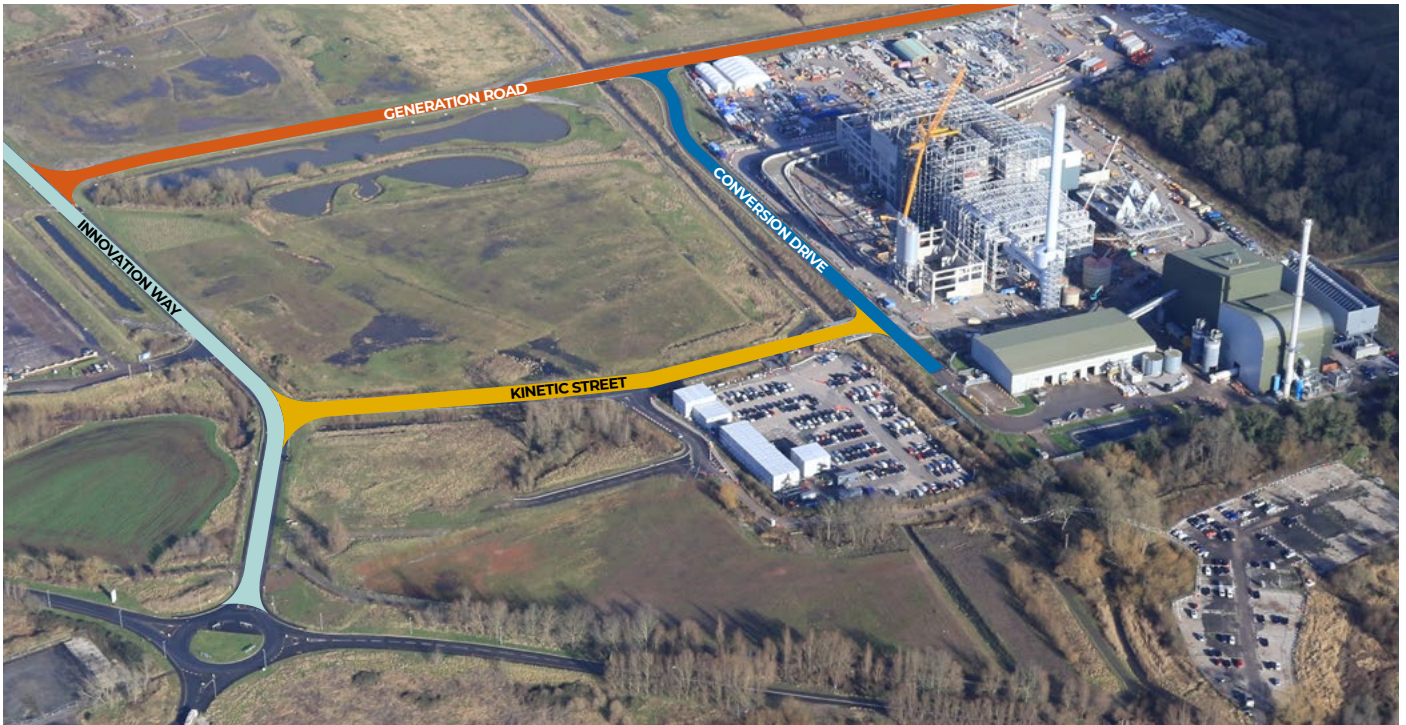


# PROTOS COMMUNITY UPDATE Aug 2024

Protos is a destination for energy, innovation and industry. Welcome to the latest edition of our community newsletter where you can find out what's been happening at Protos and what to expect over the coming weeks and months.



## LATEST NEWS

### NEW ROAD NAMES AND SIGNAGE AT PROTOS

As part of the new infrastructure for phase 2 at Protos we've delivered 1.6km of new roads (alongside new nature areas, bridges, ditches and services). The new roads all needed a name so we chose some that are inspired by what happens at Protos. The assigned names and postcodes are as follows:

**Innovation Way CH2 4AA**

**Conversion Drive CH2 4FL**

**Generation Road CH2 4FJ**

**Kinetic Street CH2 4FN**

We've also been speaking to Cheshire West & Chester Council about updating the signage to Protos to help prevent HGVs getting lost and going through local villages. New signage has been installed to provide clearer wayfinding.

### AT A GLANCE

The Protos Community Benefit Fund is backing brilliant local causes



Construction continues at Energy Recovery Facility



Update on the nature areas







## ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY (ENCYCLIS)

Construction of the Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) at Protos is continuing. The remaining structural erection works are progressing including installation of cladding to the exterior of the buildings. The hydraulic pressure test of the second boiler was successfully completed at the end of 2023. The majority of the main equipment is now in place within the facility, with extensive cabling and pipework installation works now underway. Around 550 people are working on site each day to complete the construction works over the coming months. Preparation for the commissioning phase has also begun.

A further meeting of the Local Liaison Committee for the construction phase of the facility has taken place. New members are always welcome, so if you are interested in joining the committee, please email: [info@protoserf.com](mailto:info@protoserf.com)

## JOB VACANCIES AT ENCYCLIS

The recruitment of operational and maintenance staff for the facility is in progress. A number of new colleagues have recently joined the team and the next phase of recruitment is coming soon. All vacancies will be advertised on the [careers section of the Encyclis website](#) and via the local Ellesmere Port & Chester Jobcentre Plus. The team are also attending job fairs at the Chester & Ellesmere Port DWP offices. Anyone interested in finding out more or hearing about future recruitment events should keep an eye on the above [website](#) and the [Encyclis LinkedIn](#) page.

## NATURE AREAS UPDATE

Over 50 hectares of land is being dedicated to nature at Protos 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.

The Cheshire Wildlife Trust (CWT) continue to manage the nature areas at Protos. In the last few months, they have seen a myriad of birds across Goldfinch Meadows, Snipe Haven and further afield, including barn owl, marsh harrier, pied flycatcher, yellow wagtail, swifts and skylarks. Signs of breeding have also been observed for a number of bird species, such as little ringed plover nesting within vegetation around a pond, alongside a number of ducklings spotted feeding along the ditches and ponds. There's also been evidence of water vole recorded along the ditches, with badger signs seen across the nature areas. Foraging activity for common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle and noctule have also been observed.

For more information on how you can enjoy the nature areas visit <https://www.protos.co.uk/community/nature>



## PROTOS AS CARBON CAPTURE READY DESTINATION

Carbon capture involves capturing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) prior to its release into the atmosphere and safely storing it underground, utilising existing voids created by oil and gas extraction.

In the North West, leading hydrogen and carbon capture project HyNet has been identified by Government as one of the first two carbon capture clusters in the UK. Operator ENI was recently granted development consent for the HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline – a new pipeline to transport CO<sub>2</sub> from both upcoming hydrogen production sites and current industrial facilities in the region and storage in almost-empty gas fields under the sea in Liverpool Bay.

Having developed plans for a local CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline we are working with ENI to establish Protos as one of the first carbon-capture ready destinations in the UK.

A planning application was submitted by ENI in March 2024 for the Protos Carbon Dioxide Spur Pipeline, which will spur from the HyNet CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline and serve the various developments at Protos.

This will include the Protos Energy Recovery Facility currently under construction. Encyclis is developing plans for a new Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) facility and recently signed a Statement of Principles with the UK Government, formalising the commercial basis for the development of the plant so that final negotiations can commence.

Other users will include Evero's Ince Bio Power site, a waste wood to energy facility located at Protos. The site will have a direct line to HyNet to kick start their InBECCS project, which would capture as much as 250,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year, once operational in 2029.



## PROTOS COMMUNITY FUND UPDATE

The Protos Community Fund makes funds available for local community causes every year. Here are some of the recent projects we've been proud to support.

### NEW BIKE SHELTERS FOR HELSBY HIGH SCHOOL

Pupils at Helsby High School are finding it easier to cycle to school with new bike shelters installed with help from the Protos Community Benefit Fund. Jointly funded by the school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWAC) and Protos, the two new bike shelters have already proved a hit with avid cyclists.

This sustainable initiative not only helps to reduce traffic and improve air quality but it also fosters positive health benefits for students and a sense of accomplishment and independence not taught in the classroom.



### ELTON COMMUNITY CENTRE GETS NEW GREEN LOOS



The Elton Community Centre offers a range of services and activities for the local community from exercise classes to toddler groups and bingo. There has been lots of work to improve the centre over the last two years but the toilets were in dire need of an upgrade and so the Protos Community Fund stepped in to help fund the refurbishment.

Their shiny new bathrooms not only are more accessible, but access activated heating/lighting, new hand driers and reduced water usage have made them more environmentally friendly.

***“This has been a much-needed improvement to the Centre and brings our facilities up to date. You wouldn’t believe the positivity a set of lovely clean and modern toilets has brought to our visitors, not to mention happy staff. It has made all the difference to our offering.”***

Vicki Serna (Chairperson)



# £50,000

has been contributed to this year's fund

The benefit fund is open to bids for funding from organisations and causes in the parishes of Ince, Elton, Helsby, Frodsham, Thornton le Moors and Little Stanney

For more details and how to apply visit [protos.co.uk/how-to-apply](https://protos.co.uk/how-to-apply)



TRANSPORT



COMMUNITY BUILDINGS



SPORT



YOUTH



HERITAGE

Transport, community buildings, sport, youth and heritage are among the wide range of causes considered.



## PROTOS COMMUNITY FORUM AGM

The Community Forum is made up of local elected representatives and provides a link between Protos and the local community. It meets every quarter and discusses anything relating to the construction and operation of Protos. Each year we hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), which members of the public can attend.

This year's AGM will be held online on Wednesday 18th September at 6.30pm where the Chair will provide a summary of activity over the last 12 months, and members of the Protos team will be available to take questions from residents.

To register to attend, please email [community@protos.co.uk](mailto:community@protos.co.uk)

## 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.

# PROTOS

 **Peel NRE**  
RE-ENERGISING NATURAL RESOURCES

Get in touch for more information on Protos

Visit: [protos.co.uk](https://protos.co.uk)

Email: [community@protos.co.uk](mailto:community@protos.co.uk)

Call: Freephone 0800 689 1095 (During office hours Mon-Fri).

You can also follow us on X (Formerly Twitter): [@ThisIsProtos](https://twitter.com/ThisIsProtos)

Linkedin: [Protos](https://www.linkedin.com/company/protos)