



Yn**Ni** Newydd



Bretton Hall
Solar Farm

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Bretton Hall Solar Farm
Briefing Sheet



Our Vision

Our vision is to develop a community owned solar farm which will generate up to 30 megawatts of clean and renewable energy without subsidy, reducing carbon emissions whilst also maximising the benefits to local communities.

The Ambition

This is an innovative and pioneering development which could become the largest community owned solar farm in the UK and provide a model for other areas to follow.

Who are we?

YnNi Newydd is a community benefit society established with the purpose of using surplus revenues to support other projects providing sustainable community benefit. Its directors have a range of skills and experience in developing community renewable energy projects in Wales and England.

The site

The site is located at Bretton Hall Farm and crosses the boundary between Flintshire and Cheshire. If approved, the site would cover 49 hectares of land currently used for sheep grazing, which could continue after construction. The solar farm would operate for up to 40 years, after which it would be removed and the land returned to agricultural use.

What are the likely benefits?

For the Economy

Energy - producing c.35million kWhs annually of low cost, clean and reliable power for local consumers enough power for up to 8,400 homes.

For employment & training and opportunities for local companies to compete for work.

A battery installation will allow more flexible use of the power generated and assist in providing clean renewable energy when it is most required.

For the Environment

Carbon reduction – A significant contribution to achieving national and local carbon reduction targets (over 6,000 tonnes CO2 per year)

The site will retain its important role and capacity in alleviating flood risk in the local area.

Increased biodiversity, with improved soil structure and management of natural resources and wildlife.

For the Community

Community Share ownership - we will raise the construction finance and offer shares in the society to local investors and organisations. The development will then be owned by its members on a one-member-one-vote basis.

Community Fund - after a few years, the project will begin to generate a surplus to be distributed to support projects providing sustainable community benefits.

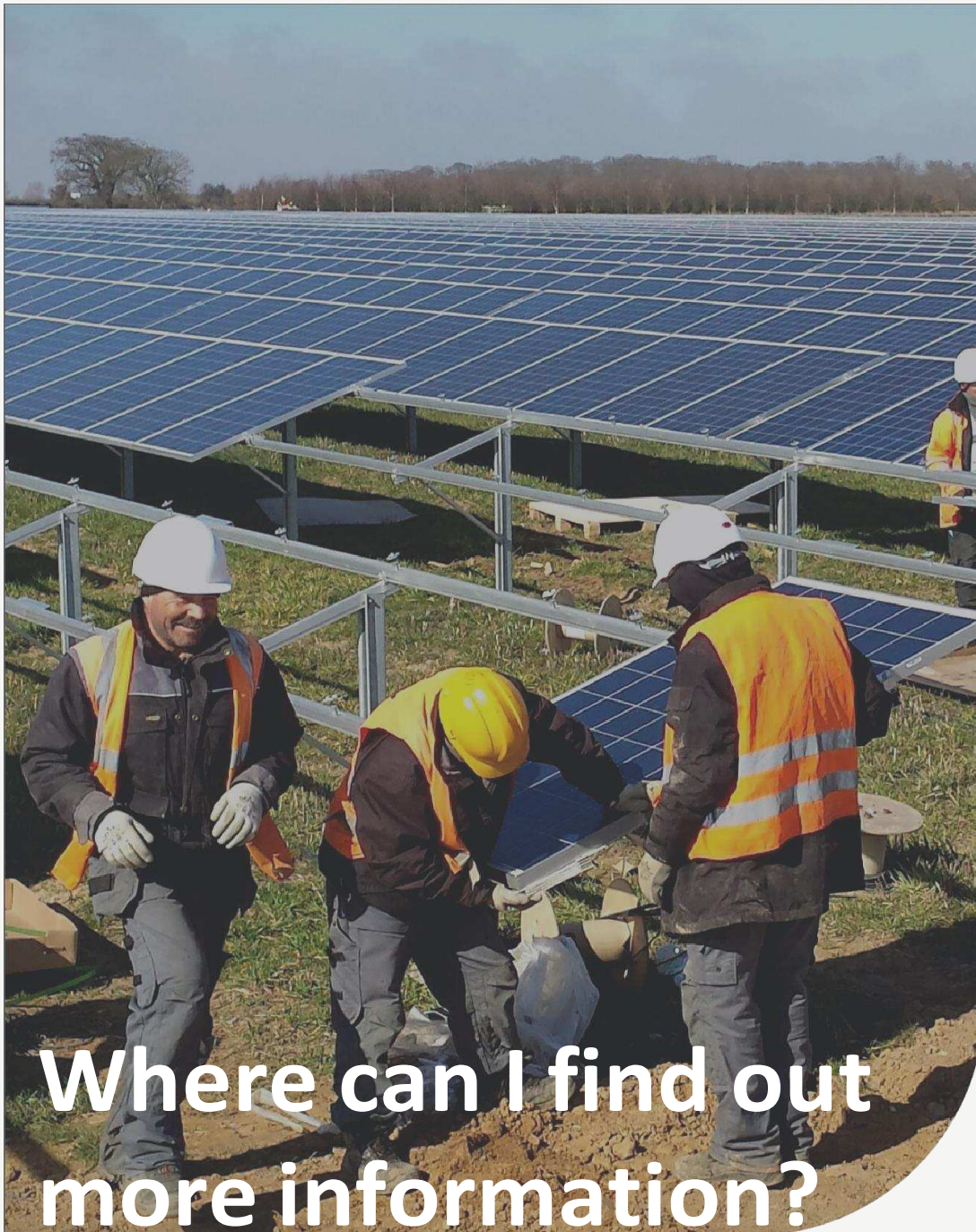
Independent studies have demonstrated that community energy projects can deliver 12-13 times more social community benefit than equivalent commercial installations¹.

¹ Community Renewable Electricity Generation: Potential Sector Growth to 2020- DECC
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-renewable-electricity-generation-potential-sector-growth-to-2020>

Timescales

To obtain statutory approval for the development we have submitted separate applications to the planning authorities in both Wales and England, supported by a detailed environmental impact assessment. We are grateful for the financial support from Welsh Government Energy Service and North West Local Energy Hub to support this work.

We have experienced delays in the planning process but planning consent for the English side has now been granted by Cheshire West and Chester City Council. In Wales, the project is treated as a Development of National Significance for determination by the Welsh Government planning inspectorate and a decision is expected to be announced towards the end of 2023. If successful, the target date for construction is now the second half of 2025



Where can I find out more information?

Keep an eye out for updates on our webpage



<http://www.brettonhallsolar.co.uk>



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