Energy in Your Community
Community Energy Network

Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe Community Energy Conversation

Part of the Community Energy Network

October 2026



Delivered by partner organisations through the Community Energy Network:

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

Bath & West Community Energy

Centre for Sustainable Energy

University of Bath

Funded by:

Community Fund

Contents

Contents 2
1. Summary 4
2. Background....6
The Community Energy Network 6
Energy in Your Community 6
Our method....7
Why Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe? 7
Public support for renewables in the UK 7
Community energy in the UK 9
Case study for community energy 10
What this report covers 11
3. Future Energy Landscapes workshop in 2022....14
About the workshop....14
Workshop outputs 16
Survey....17
4. Energy in Your Community....19
5. Community Energy Forum....21
About the Forum 21
Forum format....21
Summary of feedback 23
Wind turbine areas....23
Solar farm areas 24
6. Community Energy Survey 26
Survey activities 26
Results summary....27
Results by parish 28
Results by technology location 36
Outcomes for wind discussion areas 37
Outcomes for solar discussion areas....38

Next steps by technology location 39
7. Pre-feasibility assessment of shortlisted locations 40
Shortlisting 40
Assessment results 42
Key Insights 42
Substation connection 42
Wind insights (WA, WB, WC, WD) 42
Ground-mounted solar insights (SA, SB) 44
Next steps for feasibility 44
8. Choosing Your Energy Future workshop 46
Workshop format 46
Workshop outcomes 47
9. Conclusion 49
10. Appendices 51
Appendix 1: Empowered's constraints assessment: Forum workshop 51
Appendix 2: Community Energy Survey 2026 comments and themes 54
Survey questions 54

1. Summary

Energy in Your Community helps local people explore community-owned renewable energy together.

Communities are guided through a clear, step-by-step journey, at their pace, so everyone makes decisions together and knows what happens next. Energy in Your Community partners share skills and expertise with local groups who express an interest in community-owned energy generation, while keeping the community in control.

In Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe

This report builds on earlier conversations in Peasedown and Wellow in 2022, when local residents took part in a workshop and survey about community-owned renewable energy.

In 2025, funding through the Community Energy Network allowed the conversation to expand to include Shoscombe, and continue as the Energy in Your Community project.

Energy in Your Community has included community events, workshops and surveys. Local people have helped identify ideas and locations for new community energy projects to be discussed, building on 2022 conversations. Community feedback helps us understand whether any options should be explored further.

Overall, there was support from residents that a community energy project in the area should be investigated further, provided that future work remains transparent, evidence-led and continues to involve local people throughout the process. There has been a general preference to concentrate on projects with better financial feasibility, and which have limited impacts on residents.

There was a clear tension between some local people who felt frustrated that the community conversation process has taken too long and should now move towards a focused concrete project, and those who felt that more engagement, technical assessment and local research were needed before proceeding.

A long list of ideas for community-owned wind turbine and solar farm locations was considered throughout the process by local residents. This has been condensed into a shortlist as community conversations have progressed.

The following locations have had pre-feasibility assessment by a technical consultancy:

Table 1 – Summary of six areas and technology types assessed for pre-feasibility by Empowered.

Area	Technology
North of Peasedown	Wind
White Ox Mead	Wind
North of Round Hill and Near Woodborough Farm	Wind
Near Covert Woodland	Wind
By Colliery Lane	Solar
Upper Baggridge	Solar

The location of any proposed renewable energy project remains for discussion by the community. Locations closer to Peasedown substation may have easier connection to the electricity network and locations closer to the National Landscape or within the Green Belt will need to clearly demonstrate benefits to the planning authority that outweigh negative effects on these areas.

No decision has been made to develop a community energy project. Any option taken forward would require further community engagement and more detailed technical, environmental and financial feasibility work. If the community does decide to take a project forward it would still need to go through a full planning process.

A community working group was set up in November 2026 to continue discussions, facilitated by Bath and West Community Energy.

2. Background

The Community Energy Network

The Community Energy Network (CEN) is a partnership of organisations working together across Bath and North East Somerset to help residents reduce energy use, lower energy bills and explore opportunities for community led renewable energy.

The partnership brings together Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bath & West Community Energy (BWCE), the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE), the University of Bath, and the Community Wellbeing Hub.

The Community Energy Network is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund.

CEN coordinates activity through two projects:

- Energy at Home - supporting residents to improve the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce energy costs.
- Energy in Your Community - working with communities to explore interest in community owned renewable energy through local conversations and engagement.

Energy in Your Community

Energy in Your Community is a project within the Community Energy Network that works with communities to explore interest in community owned renewable energy. The project focuses on listening to local views and helping communities understand and consider potential opportunities for community led energy initiatives. It begins with community conversations and does not involve identifying sites or developing proposals at the outset.

The process is exploratory and community driven, so each project is unique.

Through a series of workshops, we invite the local community to consider what renewables may be feasible in their area, understand what community energy is and how it could benefit their area. We then explore what type, location and size of technology they find acceptable, considering their feelings and attachment to their local landscape.

This report has been prepared by Centre for Sustainable Energy on behalf of the Community Energy Network. It summarises the workshops, surveys and events which made up the community energy conversation in Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe between November 2025 and October 2026.

For more information:

- Sign up to the Community Energy Network's e-newsletter.
- Check out the Community Energy Network website.
- Contact us at Community_Energy@bathnes.gov.uk.

People who cannot access this document in its original format are entitled to receive it in an alternative format such as Easy Read, large print, translated language or an audio recording. It can also be emailed as a Microsoft document. Email: Community_Energy@bathnes.gov.uk

Our method

The community engagement approach used in Energy in Your Community is called 'Future Energy Landscapes'. This method was developed by the Centre for Sustainable Energy.

Future Energy Landscapes is a community engagement approach that gives local people the information, time and space to explore what renewable energy could look like in their area. This method aims to start conversations with communities early and understand local views and priorities before planning decisions are made.

Rather than starting with a proposed development, the process enables communities to explore different renewable energy options, consider what they value about their local area and discuss where renewable energy might be appropriate and how their community could benefit.

The approach combines workshops with wider community conversations and surveys, helping to involve more people than a standard renewable energy process, and building a clearer picture of local views and consent.

Why Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe?

The Community Energy Network is working with several communities in Bath and North East Somerset. Peasedown and Wellow were selected to take part in Energy in Your Community after an initial community workshop and survey in Autumn 2022 showed local interest in renewable energy projects. The 2025-2026 engagement built on the earlier discussion. Shoscombe parish was added in 2025 following feedback from local residents.

Public support for renewables in the UK

At least three quarters of Britons are supportive or strongly supportive of solar energy (88%) and on-shore wind (78%) in principle, shown in

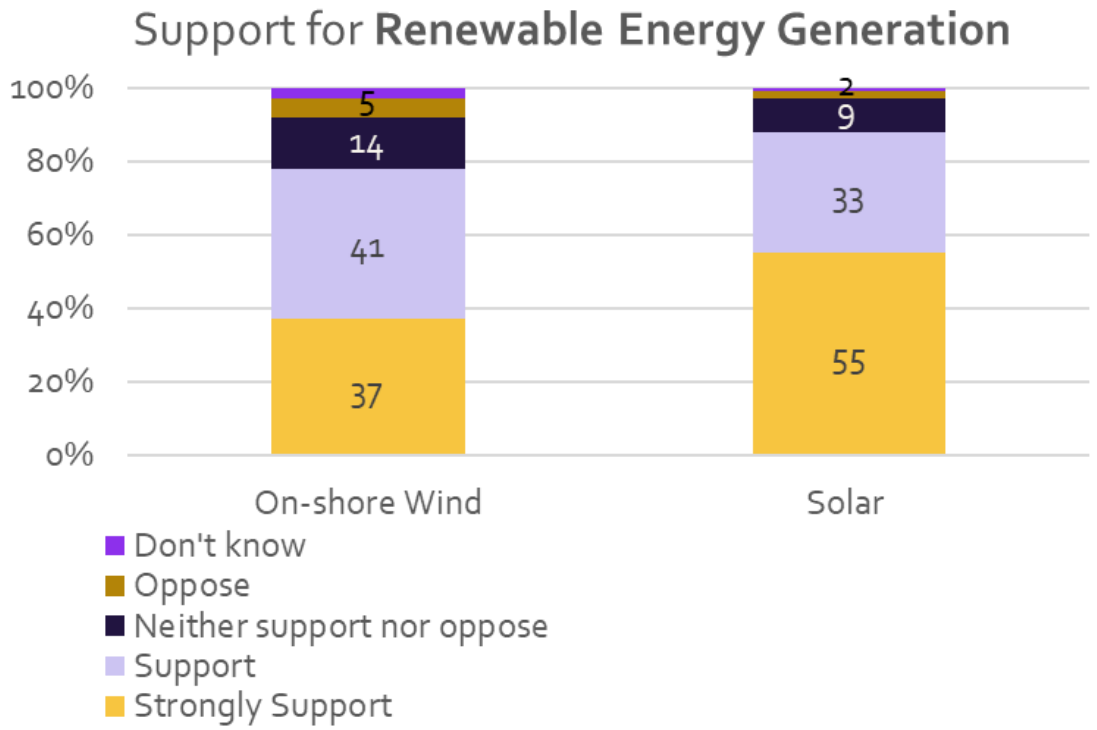
People expect that they can meaningfully influence how, and what renewable energy projects will happen in their area. Objections will happen if these expectations are not met. More meaningful public engagement is vital if we are to roll out renewable energy at scale and create benefits for local communities.

Figure 1.

However, public support for renewables often reduces when an energy development is proposed near communities. Figure 2 shows that only 54% of people would be happy about a solar farm being built in their local area, while 43% would be happy for an onshore wind farm to be built in their local area. Just over a quarter said they did not mind either way about each of these (28% for both wind farms and 27% for solar farms).

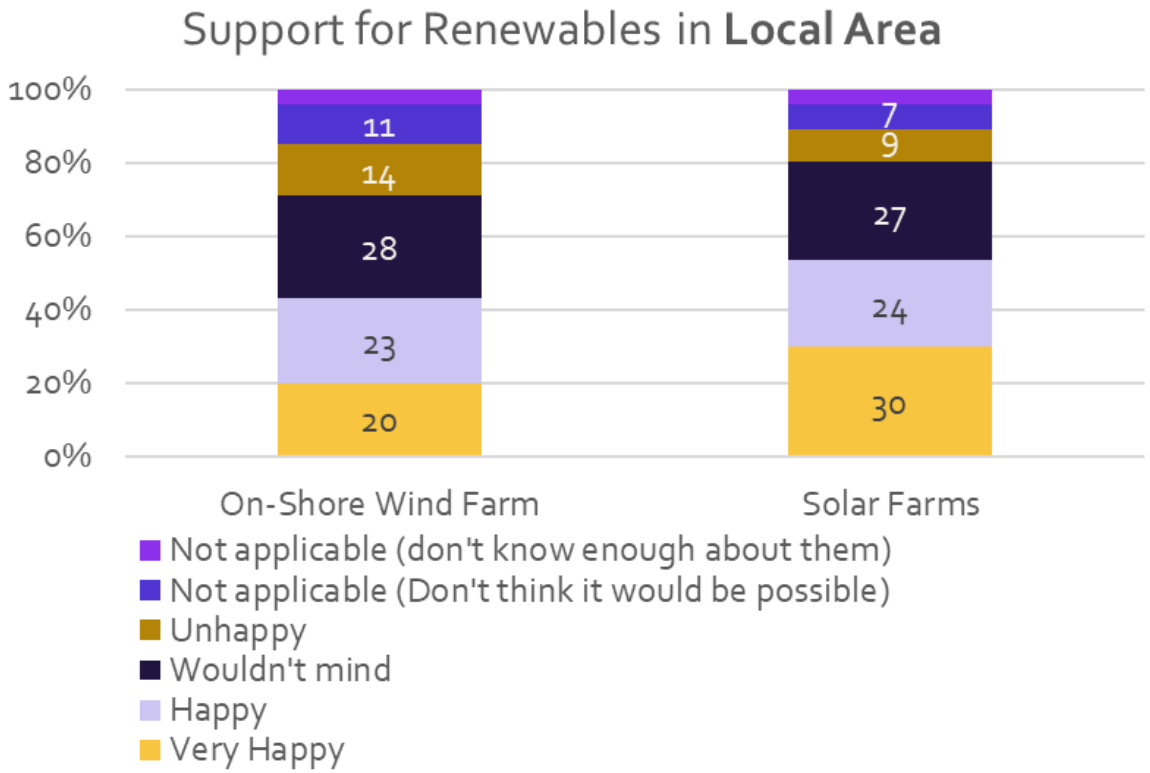
People expect that they can meaningfully influence how, and what renewable energy projects will happen in their area. Objections will happen if these expectations are not met. More meaningful public engagement is vital if we are to roll out renewable energy at scale and create benefits for local communities.

Figure 1: Public support and opposition for renewable energy developments, 2024. On-shore wind is supported by 41% of people and strongly supported by 37% of people. Solar is supported by 33% of people and strongly supported by 55% of people. Source: Centre for Sustainable Energy. Adapted from DESNZ.[1]



[1] DESNZ report.

Figure 2: Percentage of people that would be happy for an onshore wind farm and solar panel farm to be constructed in their local area. Source: Centre for Sustainable Energy. Adapted from: DESNZ.



Community energy in the UK

Community Energy England defines 'community energy'[2] as people and communities taking democratic control over their energy future, by understanding, generating, using, owning and saving energy in their communities, as well as working together across regions and nationally.

Community-led energy projects help to keep benefits from renewable energy production local, for example through investment in local facilities. When communities lead energy projects, they can create solutions that work for everyone.

In 2024, community energy projects contributed £24.5million to local economies and saved £1.86m in energy bills. They also reduced carbon emissions by 120,000 tonnes, the same as one million trees planted.

Community Energy Groups are community-led (whether wholly owned and/or controlled by communities or through a partnership with commercial or public sector partners) and can provide local generation of renewable energy to provide heat and/or power, energy

[2] communityenergyengland.org/guidance/what-is-community-energy/

efficiency improvements of buildings, low carbon community transport and electric vehicle (EV) charging.

Benefits of community energy can include:

- Investment in the local community (including grants for community groups or funding energy efficiency measures for homes).
- Contribution to national climate targets through reduction in carbon emissions.
- Lower energy bills (dependent on local models supporting this).
- Development of new skills, relationships and collaboration in the community.

Case study for community energy

Westmill Energy Cooperative, near Swindon, is an example of a community energy project benefitting a wide community and demonstrating practices in solar farm management that increase biodiversity. The cooperative owns a solar farm and five wind turbines.

1,600 members helped fund the local solar farm. They vote on decisions and are paid interest dividends. They also get money off their bills through a Trading Dividend as credit on their energy bills, for purchasing electricity from Your Co-Op Energy[3]. Your Co-Op Energy source their energy from renewable energy projects across Great Britain, including community energy co-operatives like Westmill. The solar farm is 30 acres in size (the equivalent of 17 football fields) and powers the equivalent of 1,600 homes a year. The solar farm has generated almost £1 million in grants for community groups since 2020. The wind farm has five wind turbines, producing enough energy for the equivalent of 2,800 homes a year. The wind farm has donated £105,000 to the local community[4].

The project has also taken opportunities to increase biodiversity. A herd of 40 sheep graze between the panels and are native to the Westmill area. The fields have been reseeded with a mix of local plant species. This has increased biodiversity, meaning healthier soils, more insects and birds. The sheep also help maintain biodiversity by disturbing the soil and eating plants that aren't helpful for the ecosystem.

[3] energy.yourcoop.coop
[4] westmillenergy.coop



Figure 3 - Example of a community energy project – biodiversity at Westmill Solar Park. Source: Hollie Blaydes / Westmill Energy Cooperative.

What this report covers

Community conversation activities happened between November 2025 and October 2026. Table 2 summarises what each activity was, the purpose, and the number of people engaged. All the activities were exploratory. Any future development would still need to go through full feasibility, business case development and planning processes.

The Community Energy Network is using the findings from the activities below to inform a Working Group on renewable and community energy in the area. Find out more about this Working Group on our website.[5]

Table 2 – Summary of project activities covered in this report. There were 10 major engagement activities reaching at least 3200 people from 2022 – 2026.

Activity and date	Activity outline	Number of people engaged
Future Energy Landscapes workshop, October 2022	Local people gave views on how they feel about their local area. They were shown information about different renewable energy options, as well as Bath and North East Somerset reports on the local landscape's protected status and potential for wind and solar. People suggested potential areas and quantities for renewables	9 people.

[5] fel.cse.org.uk

	technologies such as wind turbines and solar farms in small groups, and as a whole group generated a list of renewable energy ideas for the area that they were interested in having investigated further.	
Activity and date	**Activity outline**	**Number of people engaged**
Future Energy Landscapes survey, November 2022	The survey asked what people thought about the initial suggestions from the workshop on a digital map. The survey enabled more people from the community to feed in their ideas into the workshop conclusions.	71 people.
Wellow Village Fair, August 2025	This community engagement stand asked people for their input and additions to the suggested solar and wind locations from the 2022 workshop.	8 people.
Community Energy Open Day, November 2025	This drop-in day asked people for their input and additions to the suggested solar and wind locations from the 2022 workshop.	50 people
Survey re-opened, November 2025	The 2022 survey was re-opened for more responses. Due to low level of engagement, results were discounted from analysis.	7 people.
Community Energy Forum workshop February 2026	This Forum shared more technical information about the locations and technologies suggested in previous activities, and about options for community energy locally. Local people were asked if there was appetite to continue the conversation, specifically having a pre-feasibility assessment report conducted on options local people supported.	23 people.
Community Energy survey May 2026	The survey gathered more views from the wider community. Survey awareness was encouraged via engagement activities – see list below. The survey asked what people thought about locations discussed at the Forum. The survey aimed to gather information to reach a shortlist of locations.	237 people.
Other engagement activities, spring 2026	1. Drop in stall – at the Hive in Peasedown to speak to people about the Forum and encourage survey uptake. 2. Drop in stall – at Wellow Village Fair to encourage survey uptake.	Est. 3200 people.

	3. Leaflet drop – to 3000 residents to encourage people to complete the survey. 4. Meetings with members from Peasedown Environment Group, Future Wellow and Shoscombe PC Climate and Nature Working Group. 5. Comms releases to Parish Councils and in Community Energy Network e-newsletter.	
Pre-feasibility assessment, August 2026	Pre-feasibility assessment was completed by Empowered, a technical consultant, to find out more detailed information about grid connection, site access, cost, planning constraints, and land ownership. The assessment reviewed six areas based on survey results and community feedback.	NA
Choosing Your Energy Future workshop, September 2026	The workshop brought together a group of engaged people to review the pre-feasibility studies, key findings from community engagement, and to discuss options for whether a community energy project could work locally. Participants were invited to get involved in a working group.	26 people.

*Some people have been engaged with multiple times.

Throughout the project, efforts were made to engage a wide range of people from the community through the workshop, survey and other community engagement activities. The data in this report reflects the thoughts and opinions of the people engaged, however cannot be assumed to be fully representative of the whole community's opinions, due to the limitations of each engagement activity

3. Future Energy Landscapes workshop in 2022

About the workshop

Peasedown and Wellow parishes were selected by Bath & North East Somerset Council to take part in renewable energy conversations, facilitated by the Centre for Sustainable Energy.

The Future Energy Landscape workshop was hosted at Beacon Hall in October 2022 and attended by 9 residents. A community survey sought public opinion on workshop outputs and was completed by 71 people.

The results are summarised here and can be viewed in full in the Renewable Energy Conversations Findings report.

The workshop and survey:

- Asked people about local places that were special, liked or disliked.
- Shared information about renewable technologies so people had the information needed to make decisions.
- Asked people to suggest areas on a map, based on BANES Renewable Energy Resource Assessment Study and ecological sensitivities, which could have potential for a wind turbine, solar farm, anaerobic digestor, hydro or district heating project, to differing scales.
- Reported how much energy the technologies could produce and how much carbon might be saved.

The workshop and survey briefly referenced the concept of community ownership but did not discuss options in any depth.



Figure 4 – Group discussion at workshop in 2022. Four people sit talking with a Centre for Sustainable Energy facilitator, in Beacon Hall.



Figure 5 – Map of discussion and ideas for renewable energies.

Workshop outputs

Table 3 summarises what people talked about in the workshop in 2022.

Note: The 2022 workshop included proposed sizes, scales and outputs of technologies. These were not carried through to Energy in Your Community as CSE received technical advice that indicated these factors should be discussed only after pre-feasibility reporting.

You can access the full workshop report here: 2022 Renewable Energy Conversations Findings report.

Technology	Suggested areas
Wind turbine	Identified 8 discussion areas for a wind turbine/s: • South of Combe Hay • Upper Baggridge Farm • North of White Ox Mead, to the east of Peasedown • North of Peasedown • South-west of Twinhoe and north of Link Hill • Adjoining Covert woodland, to South of Stony Littleton
Solar farm	Identified 5 discussion areas for a solar farm: • Between Peasedown and Shoscombe • White Hill in Peasedown • South of White Ox Mead • Link Hill • Upper Baggridge
Other technologies supported	• Rooftop solar photovoltaic panels on suitable commercial or industrial buildings (non-listed) • Micro-hydro on any feasible location • Anaerobic digestor if sufficient foodstock

Table 3 – Summary of 2022 workshop location suggestions which went in the survey.

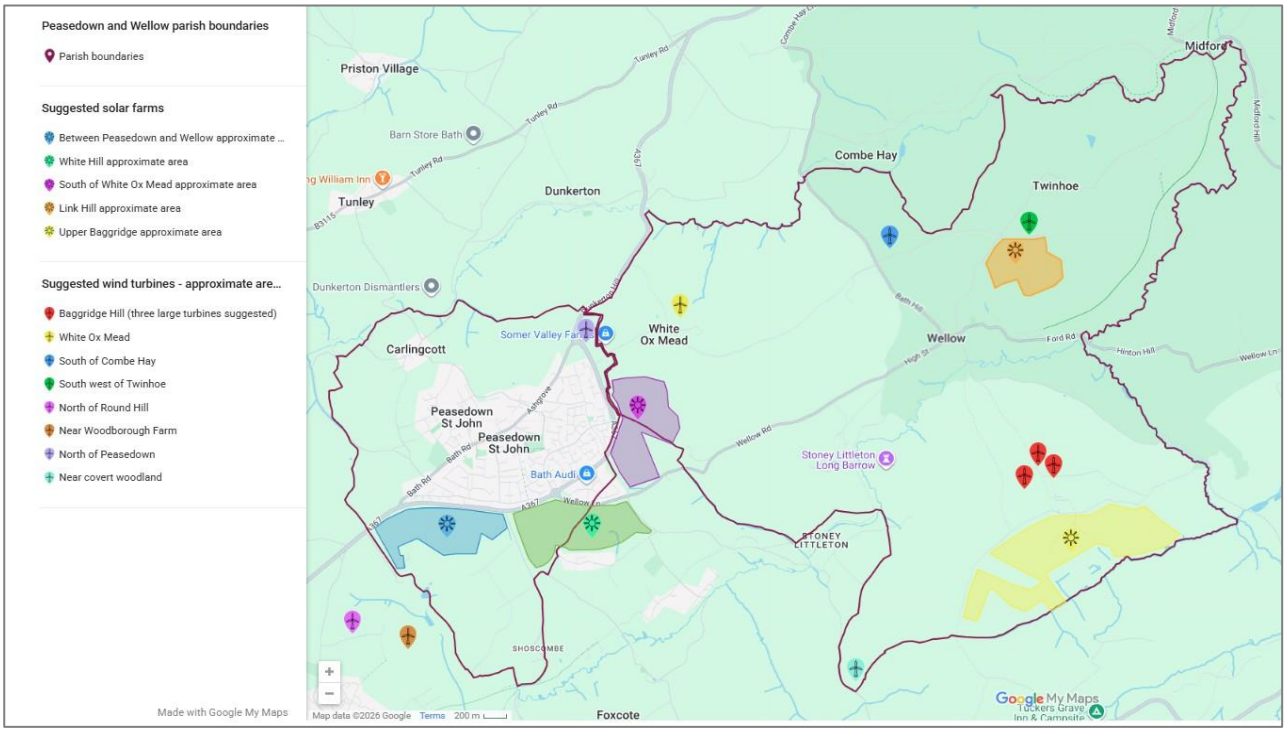


Figure 6 – Discussion areas from 2022 workshop and survey. Map shows 5 areas for solar farms and 8 areas for wind turbines. Source: Centre for Sustainable Energy. Made using Google My Maps.

Survey

The follow up survey was completed by 71 people.

You can read the full results in the 2022 Renewable Energy Conversations Findings report.

The key findings from the survey were:

- Wind turbines received a generally positive response (about 70% ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with the concept of wind in the area), but there were significant concerns and dissatisfaction over their visual impact, particularly in a National Landscape (formally known as Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty).

- Ground-based solar farms also received a generally positive response (about 60% ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with suggested locations for solar farms). Similarly to the wind turbines, there was concern over the impact in a National Landscape. There were also comments expressing a preference for rooftop solar rather than fields potentially useful for agriculture.

- The suggested anaerobic digestor received the most mixed response, with doubts raised about its environmental benefit, visual impact, potential for smell and

potential impact on traffic.

- Respondents were keen to see how the community could benefit from hosting renewables and suggested technology in areas part of the National Landscape needs careful consideration.

4. Energy in Your Community

In 2025 the Community Energy Network received funding from the National Lottery Climate Action Fund, and through the Energy in Your Community project the partners continued engagement in Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe, to explore community interest in community-owned renewable energy projects.

Community Energy Network partners met with Peasedown Energy Group and Future Wellow and contacted parish clerks to make them aware of the project and begin community engagement.

On Saturday 30 August 2025, the team attended Wellow Village Fair to spread awareness about Energy in Your Community and gather opinions on the 2022 workshop outputs and discussion locations.

On Saturday 8 November 2025, the team held a Community Energy Open Day for Peasedown, Wellow & Shoscombe. The event invited residents to discuss whether any of the locations considered in 2022, or community-owned renewables more generally, would be acceptable to the community. We spoke with 50 residents and incorporated feedback leading to a Community Energy Forum event (see next section).

Themes from early conversations indicated:

- Support for renewable energy and climate initiatives.
- Concern about impact on the Cotswolds National Landscape and Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
- Support for a larger number of local residents to be involved in the conversation.
- Concern about the level of local disagreement that a renewable energy development may instigate in the villages of Wellow and Shoscombe

We incorporated the following changes to the Energy in Your Community process:

- Inclusion of Shoscombe parish, based on close distance and relational proximity between areas. We also reached out to Shoscombe Parish Council to engage the local environmental group.
- Inclusion of 2 additional locations for discussion on solar farms, based on community support for those areas.
- Inclusion of BANES Local Plan proposals for new housing, as housing proposals limit the possibility of long-term renewable development in those locations.

The 2022 survey was also reopened. However, only 7 responses were received for the survey, which prohibited useful analysis of results.



Figure 7 – CEN staff at engagement stall at Wellow Village Fair 2025, with leaflets and LEGO wind turbine.



Figure 8 – Local residents at Community Energy Morning looking at large handmade map of 2022 location suggestions with CEN staff explaining.

5. Community Energy Forum

About the Forum

Energy in Your Community hosted a Community Energy Forum at the Hive in Peasedown on 25 February 2026, which was attended by 23 residents. The majority were from Peasedown and Wellow, with a smaller number from Shoscombe and one attendee from elsewhere in North East Somerset.

The aim of this Forum was to share more information about the options for community energy locally. Residents discussed the locations brought up in 2022, alongside new technical information, and whether any should be explored in further detail.

Forum format

1. Introduction to the Energy in Your Community process and results from the 2022 survey and 2025 engagement activities.
2. A presentation on community-owned renewable energy models based on Bath and West Community Energy's model, with question-and-answer session.
3. A presentation on possible locations for wind and solar, with high-level constraints for each location (see Appendix 1).
4. A group activity to review the possible locations.
5. A final discussion on whether attendees wanted to explore any areas in further detail, whether the Energy in Your Community project should continue in this area and who else should be included in the conversation.

All areas/locations discussed were:

- Generated by residents during the 2022 Future Energy Landscapes workshop or 2025 Community Energy Open Day.
- Not proposals, not industry recommendations, not in-depth feasibility tested.
- Presented for the purpose of grounding the discussion.

Voting was used only to understand which areas/locations residents wished to discuss further. It did not indicate support for development. The resident who attended from outside the 3 parishes did not vote.



Figure 9 – Photo showing table group discussions at the Community Energy Forum.



Figure 10 – Photo showing Bath & West Community Energy presenter speaker to audience at the Community Energy Forum.

Summary of feedback

Participants discussed hypothetical locations using discussion maps and constraints information, as well as their own knowledge of the local area.

A public summary of the Forum workshop including comments and vote records is available here: Summary of Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe Community Energy Forum.

Wind turbine areas

Comments about wind discussion areas included:

- Concerns about the visibility of wind turbines
- The significance of the Cotswolds National Landscape and heritage settings nearby
- Concern for impact on wildlife
- Road access to possible sites
- Whether a development would set a planning precedent

The locations with the most support from participants for further exploration and discussion were:

- A – North of Peasedown
- D – Twinhoe
- E – Baggridge Hill
- G – Near Woodborough Farm

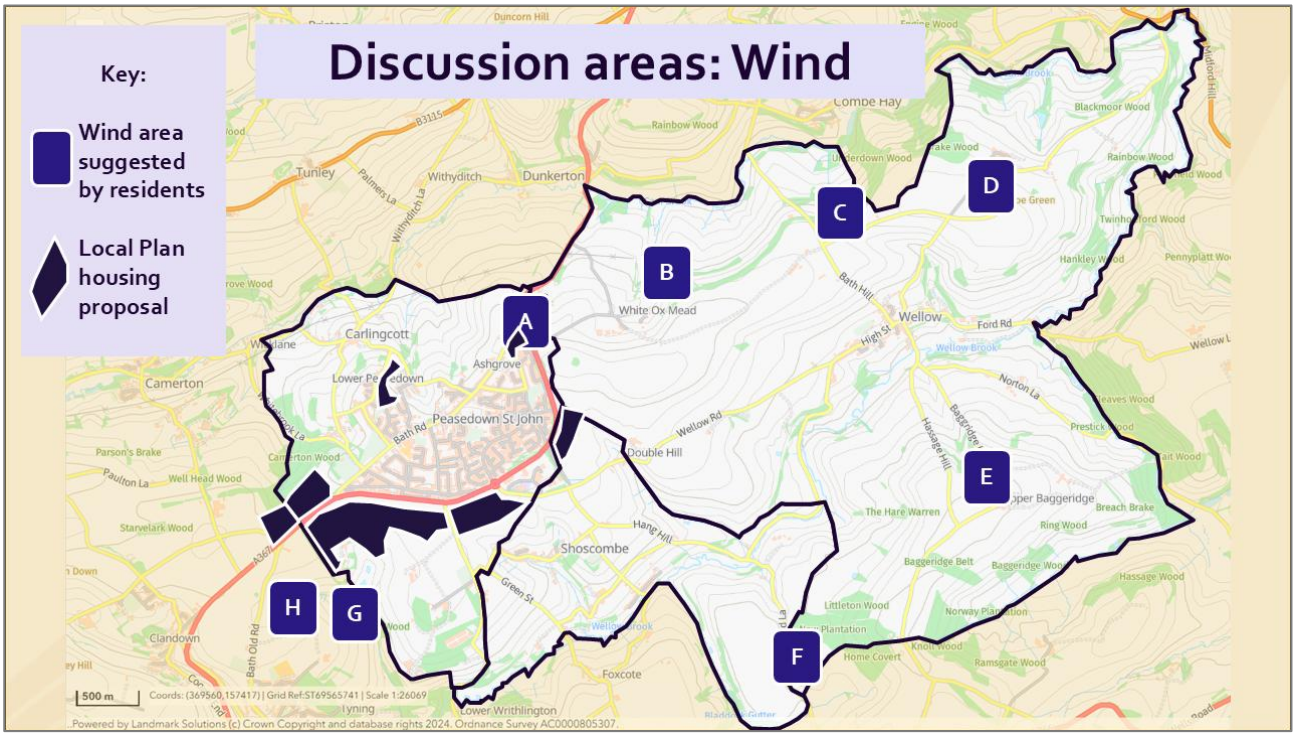


Figure 11: Eight areas identified by residents in 2022 for discussion (wind). These are hypothetical and for conversation only. Map includes 2025 Local Plan consultation proposals for participant information only. Source: Centre for Sustainable Energy.

Solar farm areas

Comments reflected considerations around visibility, land use, wildlife, screening potential and proximity to housing.

The locations with the most support from participants for further exploration and discussion were:

- B – By Colliery Lane
- G – Upper Baggridge

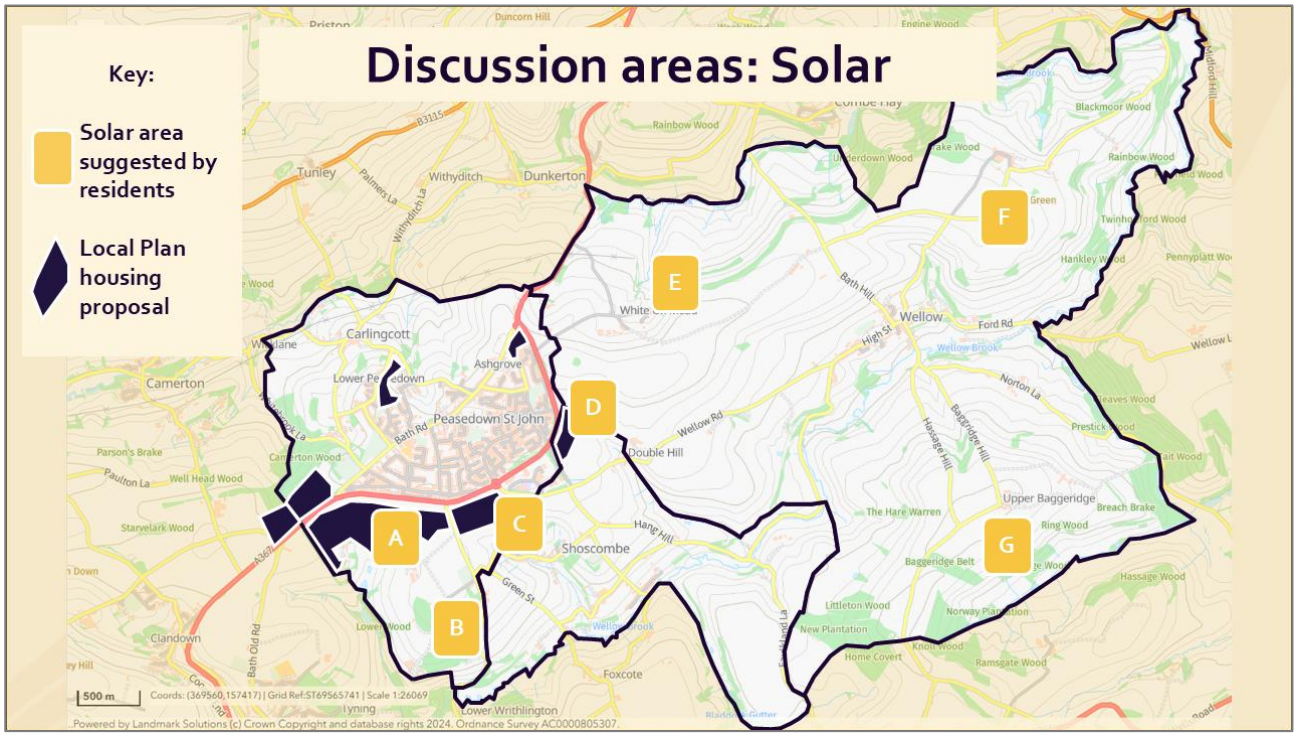


Figure 12: Seven areas identified by residents in 2022 for discussion (solar). These are hypothetical and for conversation only. Map includes areas proposed for housing development in the 2025 Local Plan consultations. Source: Centre for Sustainable Energy.

6. Community Energy Survey

A community survey was conducted to hear the views of more residents on community-owned renewable energy. The survey ran for eight weeks from May to July 2026 and was based on the Community Energy Forum outcomes. The survey received 237 responses.

- It was intended to gather views and inform discussion, rather than act as a referendum or consultation.
- As an open survey, the results may not be representative of the wider community. However, they provide valuable insight into community interests, concerns and priorities, which can help inform future conversations.
- The identification of locations for further exploration and conversations does not indicate community support for development or a decision to proceed. It simply reflects that there is some interest to justify further investigation alongside technical, environmental and community considerations.

Survey activities

To encourage uptake of the survey, Community Energy Network partners conducted the following engagement activities over May to July 2026.

- Drop in stall at the Hive in Peasedown to speak to people about the Forum and encourage survey uptake.
- Drop in stall at Wellow Village Fair to encourage survey uptake.
- Leaflet drop to over 3000 households in Peasedown, Wellow, Shoscombe and surrounds to encourage people to complete the survey.
- Meetings with members from Peasedown Environment Group, Future Wellow and Shoscombe PC Climate and Nature Working Group (various).
- Comms releases to Parish Councils and in Community Energy Network e-newsletter (various).

Community Energy Network received a signed opposition letter from Wellow Preservation with 123 signatures which requested Wellow parish to be removed from the Energy in Your Community process in its entirety.

Additionally, Wellow Parish Council passed a motion on 5 July 2026 with regard to 'duty to protect the natural landscape surrounding the Wellow Conservation Area and the Cotswold National Landscape', requesting 'these (9) sites be removed from the [Energy in Your Community Project] project.'

Results summary

Overall, 51% of respondents said they would support further conversations to explore the possibility of a community energy project near Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe, 29% said they would not, and 18% said maybe.

- **Wind:** Overall, 56% of respondents selected one or more wind turbine locations for further discussion or investigation. This varied by area, with 43% of respondents in Wellow selecting one or more locations, compared with 75% in Peasedown and 82% in Shoscombe.

- **Solar:** Similarly, 53% of respondents selected one or more solar farm locations for further discussion or investigation. This again varied by area, with 43% of respondents in Wellow selecting one or more locations, compared with 69% in Peasedown and 64% in Shoscombe.

Removal of National Landscape sites: Based on feedback received via survey, public engagement, Wellow Preservation petition and Wellow Parish Council motion, as well as environmental and landscape constraints identified, the locations within the National Landscape were not taken forward for further exploration as part of the Energy in Your Community project.

Locations taken forward for further conversation about a community owned wind turbine or solar farm are shown in the Figure below.

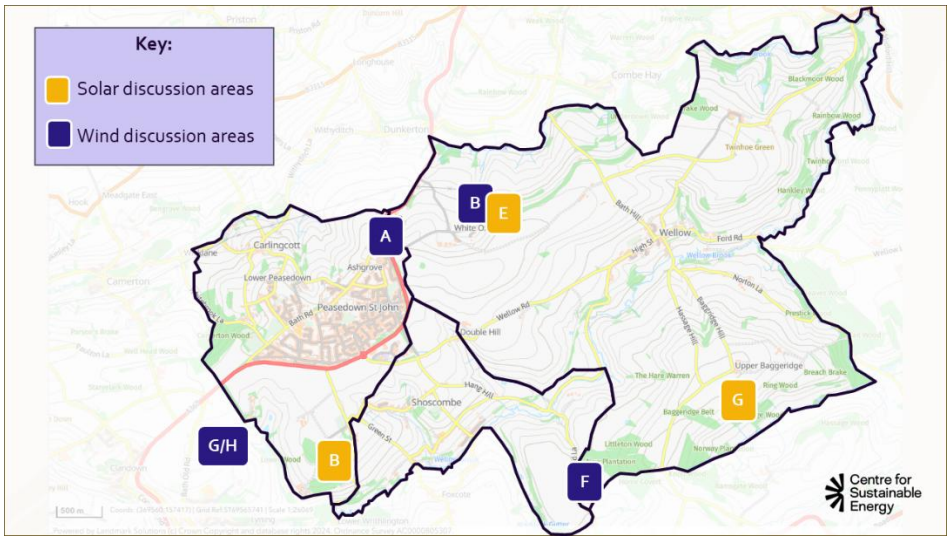


Figure 13: Map showing areas for continued conversation of a community-owned wind-turbine or solar farm. Five wind areas are identified: A – North of Peasedown; B – White Ox Mead; F – Near Covert Woodland; G – Near Woodborough Farm; and H – North of Round Hill. Three solar areas are identified: B – By Colliery Lane; E – White Ox Mead; and G – Upper Baggridge.

Results by parish

Would you support further conversations to explore the possibility of a community energy project near Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe?

Across all three areas, 51% of respondents said yes to supporting further conversations to explore the possibility of a community energy project locally, 29% said no, 18% said maybe and 2% said they did not know or could not comment. Responses varied by area: 75% of Peasedown respondents and 77% of Shoscombe respondents said yes, compared with 36% in Wellow.

Quantitative responses by parish area are summarised here. Please see Appendix 2 qualitative comments and themes.

All responses from Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe (237 responses)

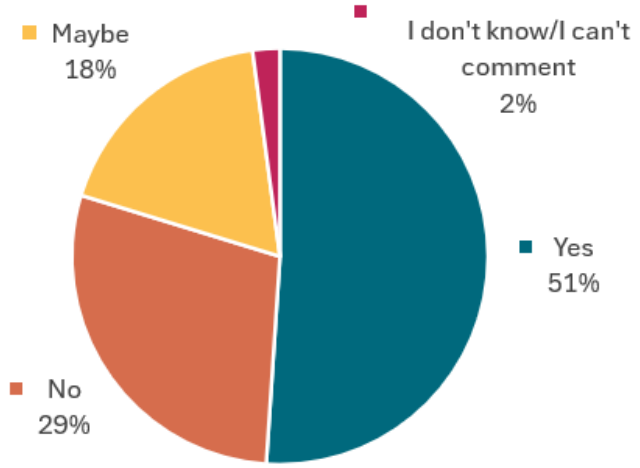


Figure 14 – Pie chart showing responses from all areas as 51% yes, 29% no, 18% maybe and 2% I don't know/I can't comment.

Wellow responses only (146 responses)

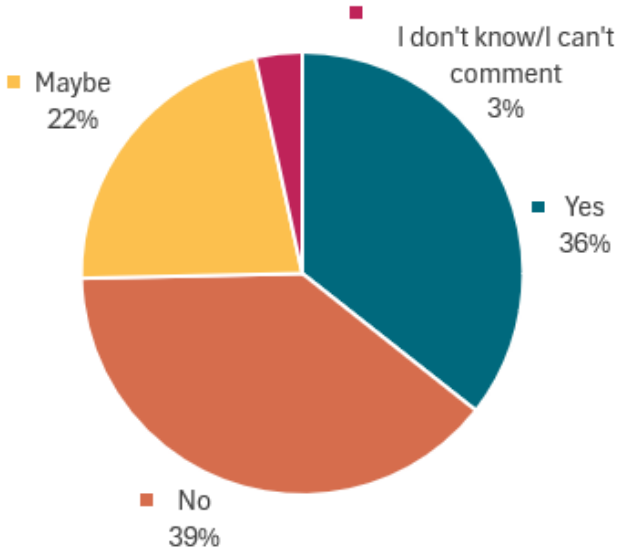


Figure 15 – Pie chart showing responses from Wellow as 36% yes, 39% no, 22% maybe and 3% I don't know/I can't comment.

Peasedown responses only (69 responses)

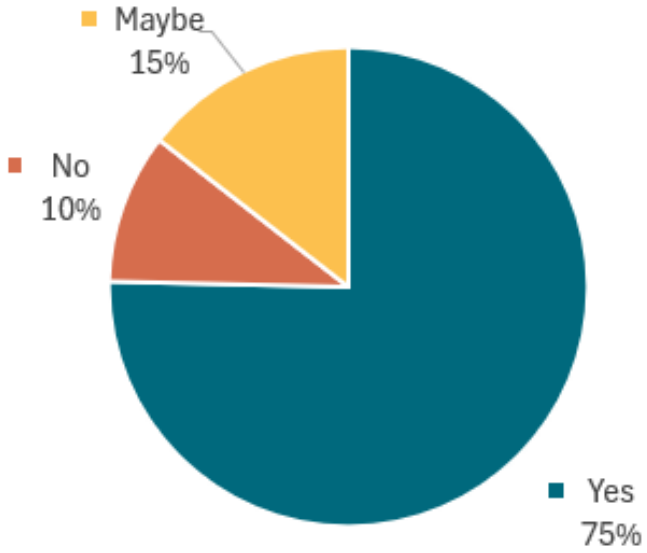


Figure 16 – Pie chart showing responses from Peasedown as 75% yes, 10% no and 15% maybe.

Shoscombe responses only (22 responses)

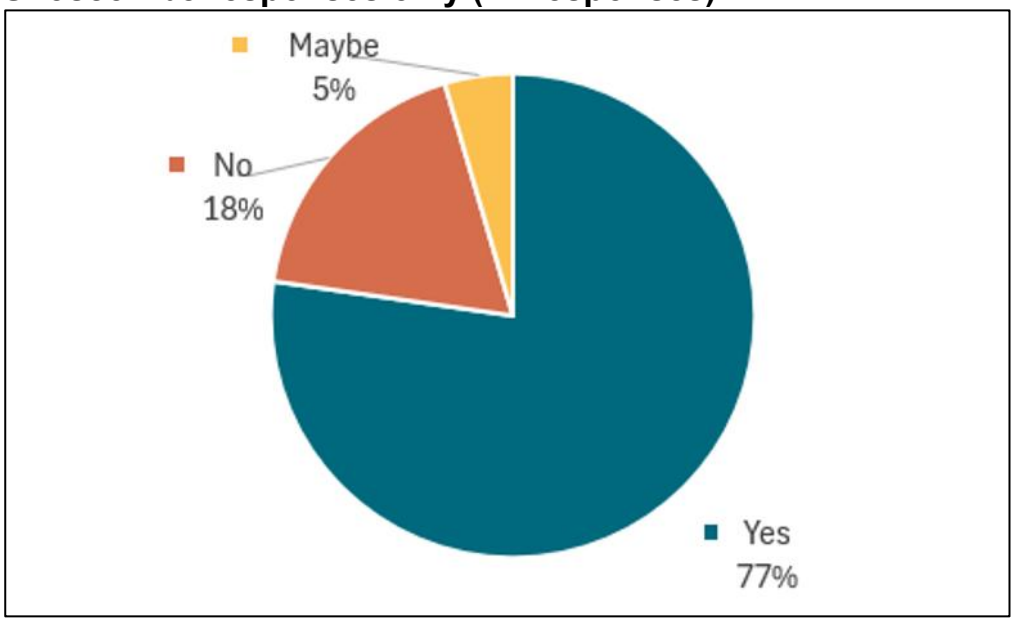


Figure 17 – Pie chart showing responses from Shoscombe as 77% yes, 18% no and 5% maybe.

Do you support any wind turbine locations being discussed or looked into further (breakdown by individual survey response)?

Overall, 56% of respondents selected one or more wind turbine locations for further discussion or investigation. This varied by area, with 43% of respondents in Wellow selecting one or more locations, compared with 75% in Peasedown and 82% in Shoscombe. 'Location/s selected' means the respondent selected one or more locations as a preferred location for further discussion and exploration. Selection of a location does not represent approval of a specific development proposal.

Wind location responses for all areas (237 responses)

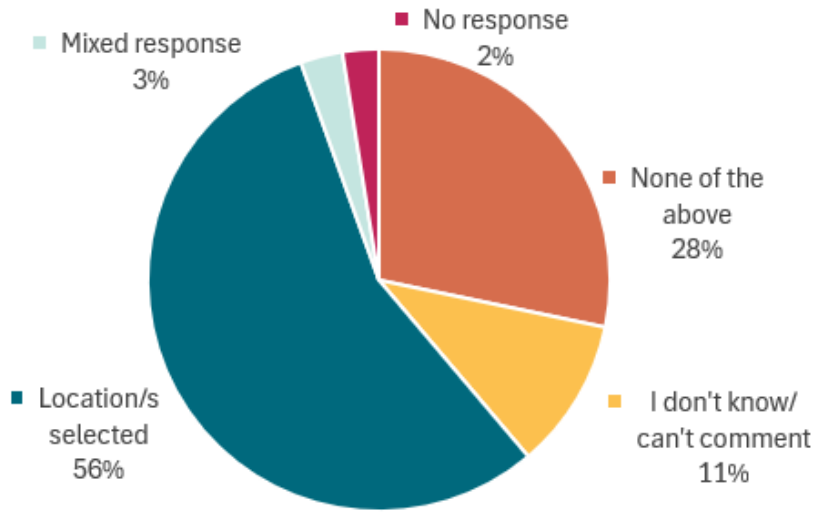


Figure 18: Pie chart showing responses from all areas regarding wind locations; 56% location/s selected, 28% none of the above, 11% I don't know/can't comment, 3% mixed response and 2% no response.

Wind location responses for Wellow (146 responses)

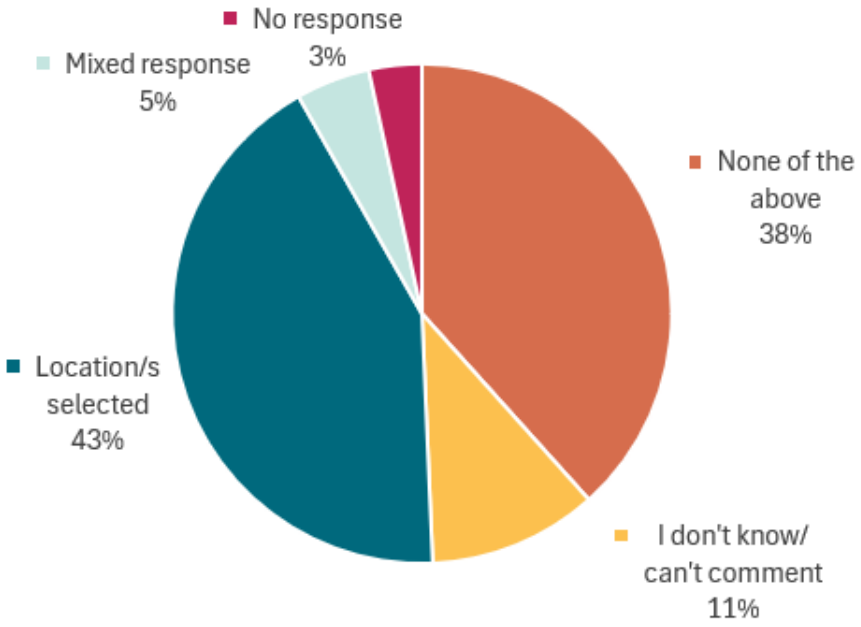


Figure 19: Pie chart showing responses from Wellow regarding wind locations; 43% location/s selected, 38% none of the above, 11% I don't know/can't comment, 5% mixed response and 3% no response.

Wind location responses for Peasedown (69 responses)

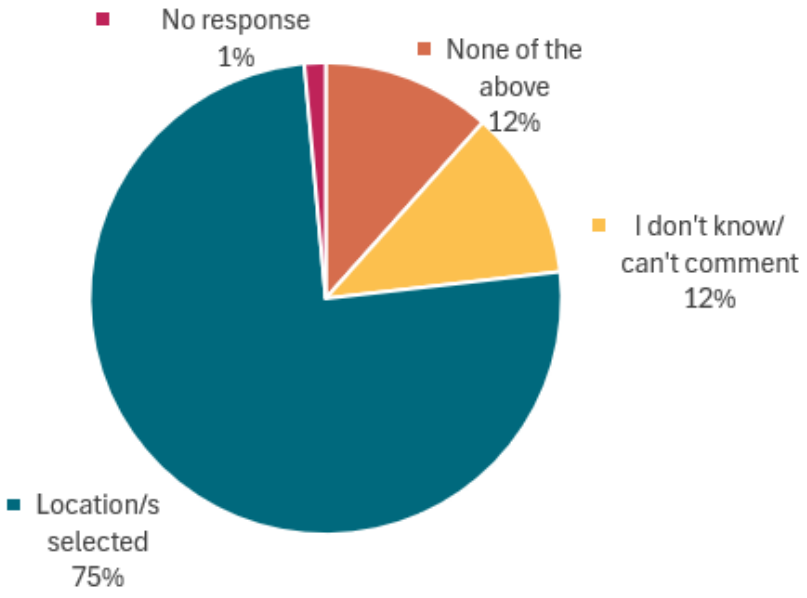


Figure 20: Pie chart showing responses from Peasedown regarding wind locations; 75% location/s selected, 12% none of the above, 12% I don't know/can't comment and 1% no response.

Wind location responses for Shoscombe (22 responses)

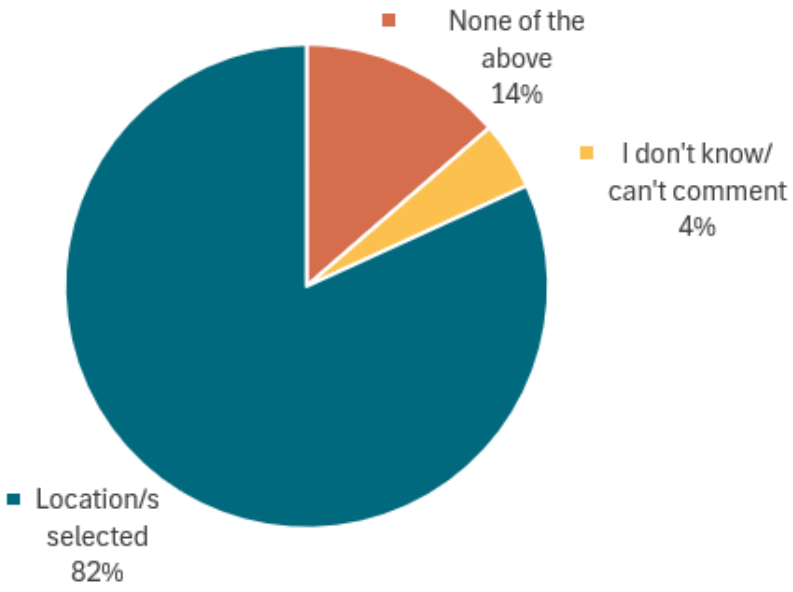


Figure 21: Pie chart showing responses from Shoscombe regarding wind locations; 82% location/s selected, 14% none of the above and 4% I don't know/can't comment.

Do you support any solar farm locations being discussed or looked into further (breakdown by individual survey response)?

Overall, 53% of respondents selected one or more solar farm locations for further discussion or investigation. This varied by area, with 43% of respondents in Wellow selecting one or more locations, compared with 69% in Peasedown and 64% in Shoscombe. 'Location/s selected' means the respondent selected one or more locations as a preferred location for further discussion and exploration. Selection of a location does not represent approval of a specific development proposal.

Solar location responses for all areas (237 responses)

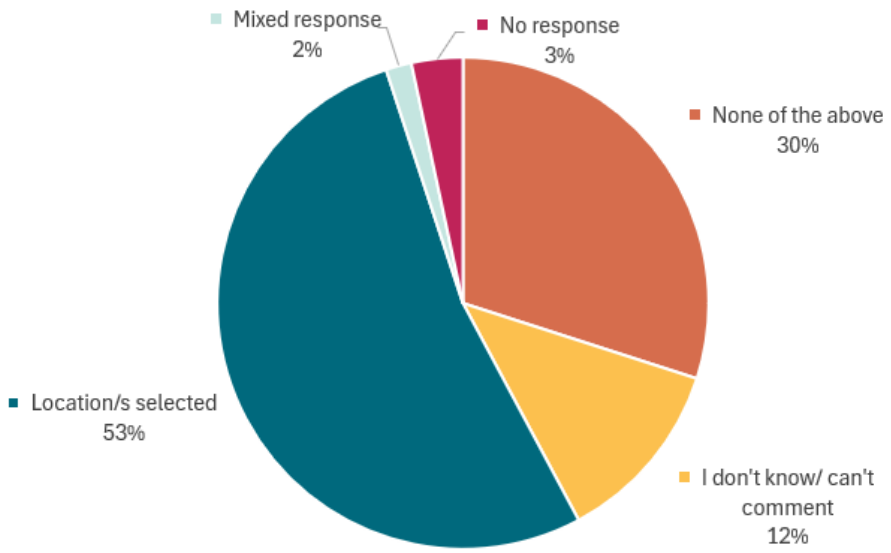


Figure 22: Pie chart showing responses from all areas regarding solar locations; 53% location/s selected, 30% none of the above, 12% I don't know/can't comment, 2% mixed response and 3% no response.

Solar location responses for Wellow (146 responses)

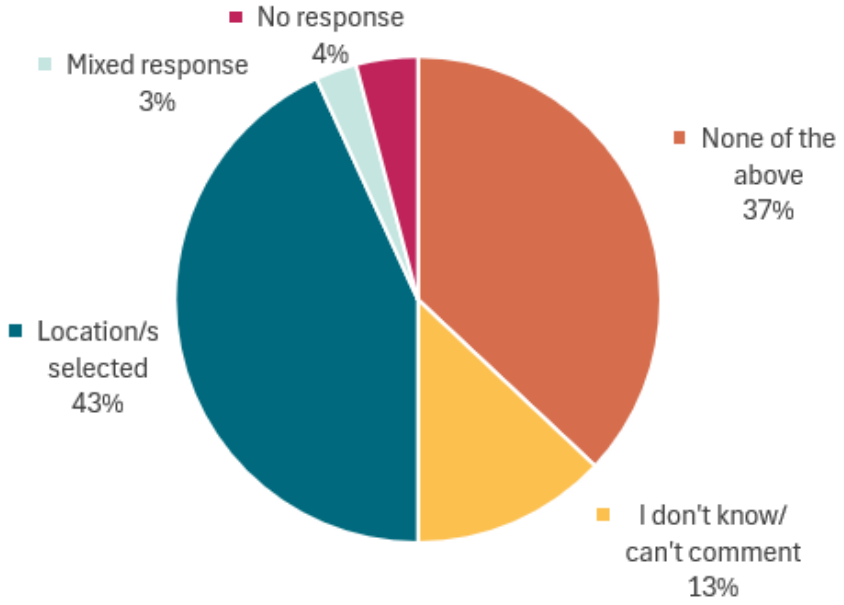


Figure 23: Pie chart showing responses from Wellow regarding solar locations; 43% location/s selected, 37% none of the above, 13% I don't know/can't comment, 3% mixed response and 4% no response.

Solar location responses for Peasedown (69 responses)

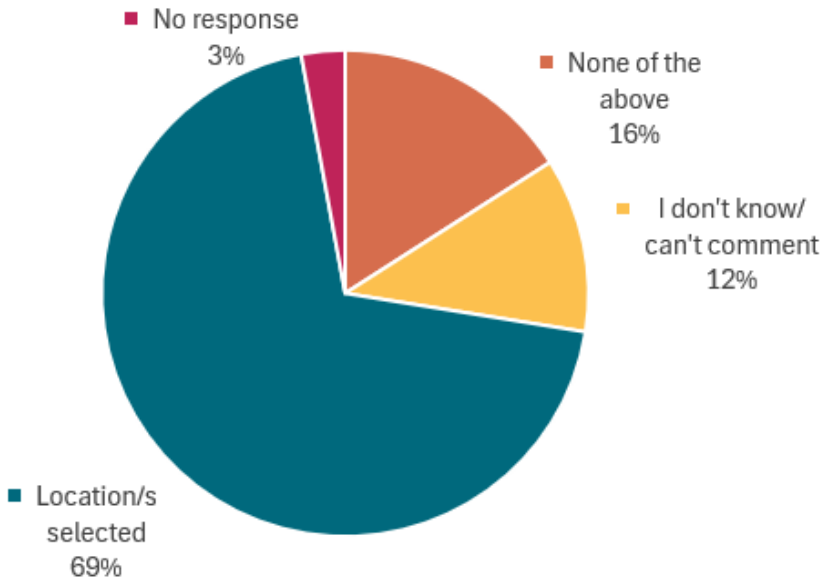


Figure 24: Pie chart showing responses from Peasedown regarding solar locations; 69% location/s selected, 16% none of the above, 12% I don't know/can't comment and 3% no response.

Solar location responses for Shoscombe (22 responses)

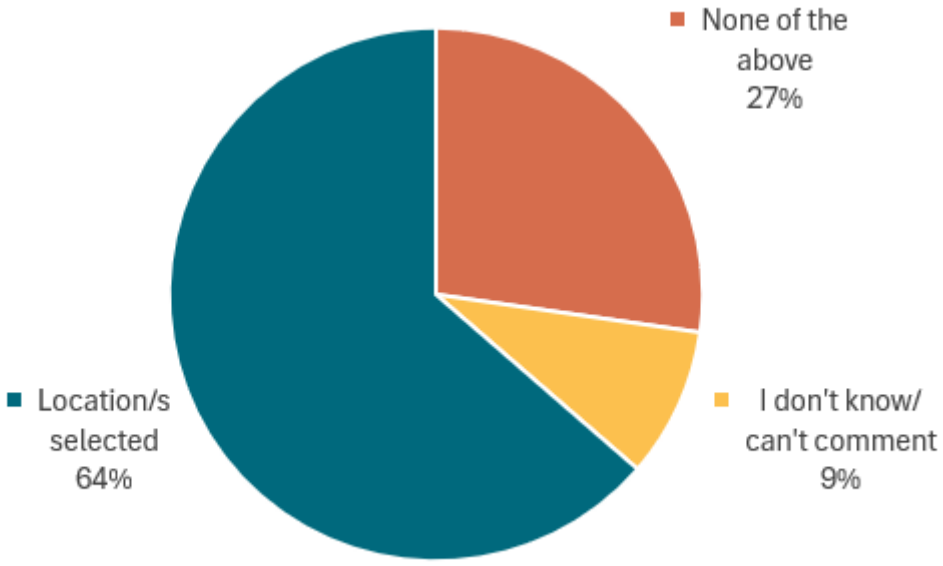


Figure 25: Pie chart showing responses from Shoscombe regarding solar locations; 64% location/s selected, 27% none of the above and 9% I don't know/can't comment.

Results by technology location

There were 237 responses and up to 3 locations were selected per response. Table 4 and Table 5 below summarise responses and next steps determined by the Community Energy Network partners. The percentages indicate respondents' preferred locations for further discussion and exploration. They do not represent approval of a specific development proposal.

Outcomes for wind discussion areas

Area	Percentage of responses selecting this area as a preferred location	Comments	Next steps
A – North of Peasedown	40%	Higher level of interest in further discussion.	Continue the conversation - higher priority.
B – White Ox Mead	12%	Lower level of interest in further discussion, no opposing comments in survey.	Continue the conversation – lower priority.
C – South of Combe Hay	17%	Opposing comments in survey due to Cotswolds National Landscape border.	No further exploration through the Energy in Your Community project.
D – Twinhoe	16%	Opposing comments in survey due to Cotswolds National Landscape.	No further exploration through the Energy in Your Community project.
E – Baggridge Hill	15%	Opposing comments in survey due to Cotswolds National Landscape border, views of Stony Barrow and Wellow.	No further exploration through the Energy in Your Community project.
F – Near Covert Woodland	5%	Lower level of interest in further discussion, no negative comments in survey.	Continue the conversation – lower priority.
G – Near Woodborough Farm	13%	Outside the parishes borders. Very close to area H and an area being considered through the emerging Local Plan.	Continue the conversation and engage with Radstock/Westfield parishes. Combine with H.
H – North of Round Hill	**27%**	Higher level of interest in further discussion. Outside the parishes borders	Continue the conversation and engage with Radstock/Westfield parishes.

Table 4: Table of survey results and next steps for wind discussion areas A-H.

Outcomes for solar discussion areas

Area	Percentage of responses selecting this area as a preferred location	Comment	Next steps
A – South of Peasedown	43%	Further exploration is not proposed at this stage due to the potential interaction with proposals being considered through the emerging Local Plan.	No further exploration through the Energy in Your Community project; relevant survey feedback will be shared with B&NES Council Local Plan team.
B – By Colliery Lane	33%	Higher level of interest in further discussion.	Continue conversation – higher priority.
C – White Hill	8%	Further exploration is not proposed at this stage due to the potential interaction with proposals being considered through the emerging Local Plan.	No further exploration through the Energy in Your Community project; relevant survey feedback will be shared with B&NES Council Local Plan team.
D – South of White Ox Mead	29%	Further exploration is not proposed at this stage due to the potential interaction with proposals being considered through the emerging Local Plan.	No further exploration through the Energy in Your Community project; relevant survey feedback will be shared with B&NES Council Local Plan team.
E – White Ox Mead	8%	Lower level of interest in further discussion, no	Continue the conversation – lower priority.

		negative comments in survey.	
F – Twinhoe	7%	Opposing comments in survey due to Cotswolds National Landscape.	No further exploration through the Energy in Your Community project.
G – Upper Baggridge	15%	Higher level of interest in further discussion.	Continue the conversation for south-facing slope not visible from Wellow.

Table 5: Table of survey results and next steps for solar discussion areas A-G.

Next steps by technology location

Locations were shortlisted based on survey results, feedback received at engagement activities, other feedback received such as the Wellow Preservation petition and Wellow Parish Council motion, and new clarification on the emerging BANES Local Plan.

CEN partners made the decision to remove locations within the Cotswolds National Landscape and those which interacted with BANES Local Plan housing proposals. The remaining locations were shortlisted in priority order by survey response, and prepared for handover to Empowered for pre-feasibility technical assessment. The decision was made to include Wellow parish locations which were outside Cotswolds National Landscape for pre-feasibility assessment, despite community feedback requesting Wellow to be removed entirely. This decision was made due to some continued community support for a community energy project in Wellow, and because further shortlisting could remove these locations at the Choosing Your Energy Future event if desired by residents.

7. Pre-feasibility assessment of shortlisted locations

Based on feedback from engagement throughout all previous stages of the project, it was felt that there was indeed interest from local people, and that more technical information on the more favoured or least controversial discussion areas would be beneficial to support further community conversation.

Empowered were commissioned to undertake pre-feasibility reports to understand whether these areas would be suitable for a future renewable energy project. Any future development would still need to undergo full feasibility, business case development and planning processes.

Empowered provided a high-level overview of prospects for a community energy project, more in-depth information on key constraints, and requirements for the next stages of development, if the community wanted to pursue a project. The reports aimed to give the community a better chance of success if they decide to move to development.

The pre-feasibility reports reviewed the following areas:

- Financial viability – how much the project may cost to deliver based on size.
- Grid connection – what the options are for connecting to the electrical grid following a review with the District Network Operator.
- Planning assessment – looking at agricultural land classification, heritage and archaeology, historic landfill, priority habitats, residential and non-residential buildings, National Grid transmission lines and towers, and public right of way.
- Land ownership – identifying and attempting to make contact with the landowner.

Shortlisting

Six locations were reviewed by Empowered. They are referred to using Empowered's classification from here onwards (see map on next page):

Community Energy Survey location name	Empowered location name	Technology
A North of Peasedown	WA	Wind
B White Ox Mead	WC	Wind
G North of Round Hill and H Near Woodborough Farm	WB (combined)	Wind
F Near Covert Woodland	WD	Wind

A By Colliery Lane	SA	Solar
G Upper Baggridge	SB	Solar

Table 6: Table of shortlisted six locations reviewed by Empowered.

The areas were shortlisted based on a review of all the community engagement and the technical information gathered to date. Decisions were as follows:

- Due to interaction with Local Plan proposals, several locations around Peasedown were removed entirely. Three locations were altered to be smaller areas outside of Local Plan proposals. WA was altered and restricted to land outside of the housing proposal area. Wind G and H were combined as WB and also restricted to land outside the housing proposal area.
- The remaining areas were selected based on preferences expressed in workshops, survey and community feedback, which identified the areas SA and WA most preferred locations, and other locations as either supported or uncontroversial at this early stage in community discussions.
- Solar E – White Ox Mead, a low priority supported location, was removed due to Empowered's advice that the area was prohibitively steep for solar.

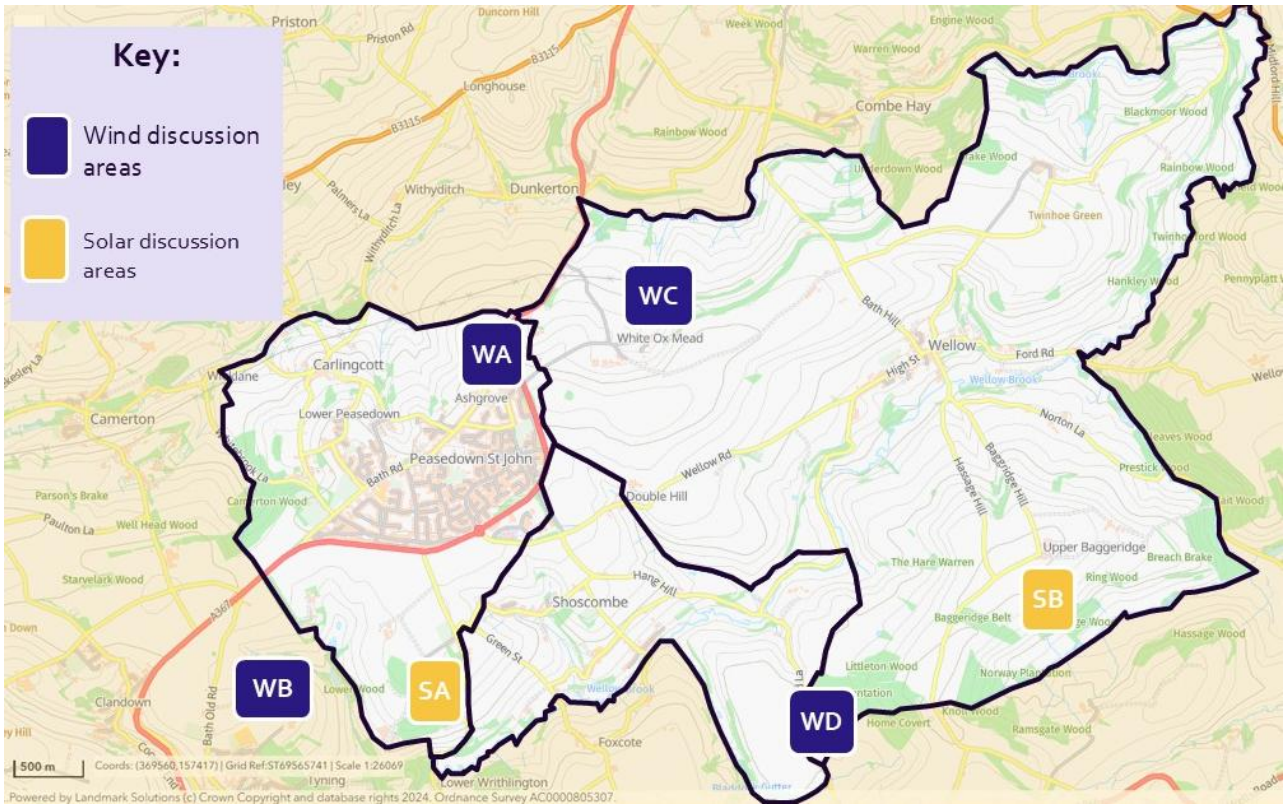


Figure 26 – Map of four wind and two solar areas shortlisted for pre-feasibility reports conducted by Empowered, as summarised in Table 6.

Assessment results

The pre-feasibility reports offered insights into the technical feasibility of the shortlisted areas. They were developed to inform participants at the next stage of the process, the 'Choosing Your Energy Future' workshop.

Key insights

Key insights from the reports include:

- Both solar areas have potential for development. SA may have higher potential. SB is in the Green Belt although this does not prohibit potential projects being explored here.

- For wind locations, WA, WC and WD are in the Green Belt and proximity to housing needs to be considered. None of the wind areas had constraints which would prevent the potential projects being looked at in further detail, however the benefits of a project in the Green Belt or near housing would need to be clearly demonstrated to the planning authority.

- Grid connections theoretically available for all wind and solar areas, although wind locations WB, WC and WD would likely have the cheapest connection.

- Further technical, financial and planning studies will be required before any site could progress to development. Benefits of projects need to be clearly demonstrated to the local planning authority.

Substation connection

Key insights about connecting to the electricity network:

- Peasedown Primary Substation has limited generation connected at the moment, which suggests potential to connect one, or possibly more, projects of approximately 5MW.

Areas closer to the Substation are likely to be preferable for less cabling and lower connection costs.

- The existing overhead 11kV network connected to Entry Hill Primary Substation may also allow for smaller projects between 1 – 2 megawatt, and areas closer to Peasedown would likely be more cost effective.

Wind insights (WA, WB, WC, WD)

WB, WC and WD have some barriers for future development, although nothing to rule them out at this point. WA appears to have the best development potential. To take this

area forward, landowner and community engagement and support is essential, and benefits of the project would need to be clearly demonstrated to the local planning authority. A summary of key findings can be found below:

- **Aviation:** An active airstrip in the vicinity presents a key constraint for WA and WB, restricting turbine height to 120 and 100 metres respectively and requiring early engagement with the operator. WC and WD are not constrained by aviation.

- **Wind resource:** The sites have acceptable wind speeds suitable for wind generation, although further wind monitoring would be needed to confirm energy yield and financial viability.

- **Slope angle:** WA and WB are located on 8 and 9 degree slopes respectively, which would be assessed and factored into the cost of developing either area.

- **Heritage:** Nearby conservation areas and scheduled monuments within 2km of all sites, requiring preliminary heritage and visual impact assessments and mitigation measures.

- **Ecology:** None of the sites are within conservation or biodiversity protected areas. Any development should maintain best practice standards on the protection and enhancement of biodiversity e.g. maintaining and planting hedgerows.

- **Residential amenity:** Most properties are 350m away or further, which is an acceptable distance for wind projects. However, designing size and scale of wind turbines must take into account protections for the amenity of the residents nearby.

- **Landscape:** WA is within the Green Belt and WC and WD are close to the boundary of the Cotswolds National Landscape. WA is an area of moderate to high potential based on the B&NES Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Renewable Energy (2021). WC and WD may be challenging for local planning approval. Landscape and visual impact assessments would be needed to determine an appropriate wind turbine size and exact location for these sites.

- **Agricultural land:** All the wind sites are on Grade 3 agricultural land. At this stage, Grade 3 subclassification (3a or 3b) was not available. As wind turbines have a small land take, impacts on agricultural use are expected to be limited, but Grade 3 subclassification and further assessment would be required to fully justify development.

- **Public rights of way:** Public footpaths and recreation routes are near all areas and would need to be protected and incorporated into the project design.

Ground-mounted solar insights (SA, SB)

Overall, both solar farm areas offer potential for development. As above, to take an area forward, the benefits of the project would need to be clearly demonstrated to the local planning authority. A summary of key findings can be found below:

- **Agricultural land:** Both areas are on Grade 3 agricultural land. At this stage, Grade 3 subclassification (3a or 3b) was not available. Subclassification and detailed further assessment would be required to confirm land quality and suitability for solar development.
- **Heritage:** Nearby conservation areas and scheduled monuments within 2km of all sites, requiring preliminary heritage and visual impact assessments and mitigation measures.
- **Historic landfill:** A former landfill site near Area SC is unlikely to constrain development but would require further assessment.
- **Ecology:** neither solar locations are within conservation or biodiversity protected areas. Any development should maintain best practice standards on the protection and enhancement of biodiversity e.g. maintaining and planting hedgerows.
- **Landscape:** SA and SB are designated as having moderate potential for solar under the B&NES Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for Renewable Energy (2021). SB is within the Green Belt and close to the boundary of the Cotswolds National Landscape. Benefits of the project would need to be clearly demonstrated to the local planning authority.
- **Residential amenity:** The nearest residential buildings are 20m away from both sites. This is not a showstopper however early designs must take into account protections for the amenity of nearby residents e.g. setback distances and scale.
- **Public rights of way:** Public footpaths and recreation routes are near all areas and would need to be protected and incorporated into the project design.
- **Slope angle:** SB is located on an 8 degree slope, which would be assessed and factored into the cost of developing the site.
- **Overhead distribution lines:** Overhead cables are present at site SA.

Next steps for feasibility

The pre-feasibility reports provided a helpful overview of key features for the community to consider and discuss; however, they do not cover everything in detail. If an area is

selected by the community for further development, an initial planning assessment should be undertaken, as well as additional investigation into the following:

- The interaction between ecology, landscape and visual impact.
- The layout of the technology's infrastructure and other equipment.
- Access to the area for delivery and construction vehicles, and the impact of this on the local community.
- Detailed financial modelling.
- Detailed grid connection studies.

8. Choosing Your Energy Future workshop

Choosing Your Energy Future was held at the Hive in Peasedown on Monday 21 September 2026 and attended by 26 people. The workshop was hosted by the Community Energy Network and led by Bath & West Community Energy and informed by the pre-feasibility assessment results.

Workshop aimed to discuss what further exploration could involve, potential community ownership and the idea of a community working group.

The workshop discussed:

- What is the engagement process we've been following and how can community energy benefit the local area?
- What do we need to take into account in further exploration of a potential community energy project?
- What are your views on models of community ownership in any renewable energy projects, if they were to go ahead?
- The potential role of a community energy working group

Workshop format

- Presentation on community-owned renewable energy.
- Presentation of learnings from the community conversation so far.
- Presentation and discussion of the pre-feasibility reports with Empowered, with group discussion and feedback about each site.
- Presentation and discussion of the different possible community-ownership structures, with group discussion and feedback:
    - Option 1: Projects owned and operated by BWCE.
    - Option 2: Projects owned and operated by a joint venture between BWCE and a local group.
    - Option 3: Projects owned and operated by an independent local group.
- Presentation and discussion of the role of a working group in moving the next steps forward.

Workshop outcomes

The strongest message was that participants wanted the community conversation to become:

- More transparent, with better and broader engagement
- More informed by residents nearer the locations

There was a clear tension in the workshop between participants who felt frustrated that the community conversation process had taken too long and should now move towards a focused concrete project, and those who felt that more engagement, technical assessment and local research were needed before proceeding.

Participants maintained concerns about only pursuing community energy where an evidence-based, genuinely viable project can be identified.

Other issues raised at the workshop:

- Questions about whether Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe villages should be treated separately and given separate working groups.
- Concerns about the survey and how findings are presented.
- A desire for clearer benefits and a stronger case for action.
- Economic and technical feasibility needs to be clearer.

The outcomes from the three activities in the workshop Table 7: Workshop Activities and Outcomes below.

Table 7: Workshop Activities and Outcomes

Activity	Outcome
Site discussion	• Sites inside Wellow parish area were both vehemently opposed by some Wellow participants and very supported by other Wellow participants (WC, WD, SB). • Sites in Peasedown and Shoscombe also had mixed responses (WA, WB, SA). • There was a split in opinion between people who wanted no projects and people who were in favour of any suitable sites. • No individual sites were favoured above others. • White Ox Mead (WC) raised particular concerns due to the nearby airstrip and possible ecological impacts on the biodiversity near the border of the National Landscape.

	• Participants suggested visiting the locations in-person and engaging with landowners to aid any further site decision-making.
Community-ownership structures	• Participants were eager to learn more about community ownership models, particularly case studies of successful community-owned projects. • Participants were interested in a BWCE-owned or joint venture governance model.
Expression of interest in joining a working group	It was decided that a single working group should be set up, with potential to split into separate Peasedown area and Wellow area working groups later. Participants strongly felt that landowner engagement should be the next step in any prospective site. Following the event, 10 people signed up for a working group to meet in winter 2026, faciliated by Bath and West Community Energy.

9. Conclusion

Throughout the project, local people have considered whether there is local interest in a community energy project, where such a project might be best located and what key issues need to be resolved for any project to begin development. The conclusion of Energy in Your Community in Peasedown, Wellow & Shoscombe summarised in this report is intended as part of an ongoing process.

The community conversation undertaken through events, surveys, meetings and informal engagement activities has helped build an understanding of local priorities and concerns. Alongside the technical evidence gathered through the pre-feasibility assessments, these findings provide an important foundation for future exploration.

Overall, there was support from interested residents for a community energy project to be discussed and investigated further, provided that future work remains transparent, evidence-led and continues to involve local people throughout the process. There has been a general preference to concentrate on projects with better financial feasibility, and which have limited impacts on residents.

There was a clear tension between local people who felt frustrated that the community conversation process had taken too long and should now move towards a focused concrete project, and those who felt that more engagement, technical assessment and local research were needed before proceeding.

The location of any proposed renewable energy project remains for discussion by local residents. Sites closer to Peasedown substation may have easier connection to the electricity network (WA, WB, WC and SA) and locations closer to the National Landscape or within the Green Belt will need to clearly demonstrate benefits to the planning authority.

As the Energy in Your Community project ends, a local working group has been established to consider whether to take any proposals forward. The working group will be supported by Bath and West Community Energy to consider issues such as governance, funding opportunities and project development.

The next phases of work could include the following:

- Agreeing governance arrangements for the working group.
- Reviewing the pre-feasibility findings in more detail and identifying preferred opportunities for further investigation.

- Engaging with landowners to understand whether potential sites are available and suitable for a community energy project.
- Applying for grant funding from GB Energy, or other sources, to enable the group to undertake further early-stage development work and engagement activities.
- Undertaking further feasibility studies, including planning, ecology, landscape, heritage, grid connection and financial assessments where appropriate.
- Continuing engagement with residents, especially those living near to any shortlisted sites, to ensure local knowledge and concerns help shape project development.
- Exploring how any future community energy project could deliver meaningful and lasting benefits for local people.
- Exploring other opportunities for community energy, such as non-domestic rooftop solar.

The completion of this project does not mean that a renewable energy development will happen. Any future project would require considerably more technical work, environmental surveys, financial appraisal, community engagement and planning permission before anything is built. The pre-feasibility assessments undertaken as part of this project are intended to identify potential opportunities and constraints rather than determine whether a development should proceed.

Energy in Your Community helps local people explore opportunities for community-owned renewable energy. The community conversations help residents understand what may be possible, explore options and find out what's feasible. The formation of a working group represents an important transition from conversation to action. Going forwards, Bath & West Community Energy will be supporting the working group to decide whether any renewable energy project should be pursued. **No decision has been made to develop a community energy project.**

This community conversation has demonstrated that local people are willing and able to engage thoughtfully with complex questions about renewable energy when they are provided with technical information and meaningful opportunities to influence outcomes. The conversations, ideas and evidence brought together through this project provide a strong foundation for future collaboration between residents, community organisations and project partners as they continue to explore whether a community-owned renewable energy project in Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe should become a reality.

10. Appendices

Appendix 1: Empowered's constraints assessment: Forum workshop

The purpose of the constraints table is to assess potential of the discussion areas as part of the Community Energy Forum. These areas and relevant constraints have been entered into a mapping software. The proximity of each constraint has been calculated and inputted to create a constraints table. Each area is displayed in first column and the constraints across the top row.

Constraints Key Guide:

	The proximity of the constraint will not impose on the area's technology.
	The proximity of the constraint is at a moderate distance from the area's technology.
	The proximity of the constraint may impose on the area's technology.

Site	Tech	Agricultural Land Classification	Slope (Degrees)	Distance to Listed Buildings	Scheduled Monuments	Historic Landfill	National Landscapes	Sites of Special Scientific Interest	In Greenbelt	In Conservation Areas	Distance to Priority Habitats	Distance to Ancient Woodland	Distance to Residential / Non-residential buildings	Local Plan Housing proposal
A Between Peasedown & Wellow	Solar	3 & 4	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	10m away – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	100m	Overlaps
B Disused Coal Mine	Solar	3	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	40m – may impose	NA
C White Hill	Solar	3	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	150m	Overlaps
D South of White Ox Mead	Solar	3	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	200m	Overlaps
E White Ox Mead	Solar	3	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	10m - Good quality semi improved grassland – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	NA
F Twinhoe Solar	Solar	3	No constraint	80m	No constraint	No constraint	Inside National Landscape – may impose	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	20m - Deciduous woodland – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	NA
G Upper Baggridge	Solar	3 & 4	Max 14.7	50m– may impose	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	30m - Lowland calcareous grassland, Trad orchard & Deciduous woodland – may impose	No constraint	100m	NA

Table 8 – Initial technical constraints for solar discussion areas. Source: Empowered.

Site	Tech	Agricultural Land Classification	RADAR	Slope (Degrees)	Wind Speed (m/s @ 100m)	Distance to Listed Buildings	Scheduled Monuments	Historic Landfill	National Landscapes	Sites of Special Scientific Interest	In Greenbelt	In Conservation Areas	Distance to Priority Habitats	Distance to Ancient Woodland	Distance to Residential / Non-residential buildings	Local Plan Housing proposal
A North of Peasedown	Wind	3	120m	Max 9.7	7.9	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	110m – may impose	Overlaps
B White Ox Mead	Wind	3	160m	No constraint	7.6	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	10m - Good quality semi improved grassland – may impose	No constraint	250m – may impose	NA
C South of Combe Hay	Wind	3 & 4	120m	No constraint	8	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside National Landscape – may impose	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	30m - Deciduous woodland - – may impose	30m – may impose	No constraint	NA
D Twinhoe Turbine	Wind	3	120m	No constraint	8.2	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside National Landscape – may impose	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	198m	250m – may impose	NA
E Baggridge Hill	Wind	3	100m	Max 11	8.1	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	Lowland calcareous grassland- – may impose	No constraint	200m – may impose	NA
F Near Covert Woodland	Wind	3	160m	No constraint	7.4	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	Inside Greenbelt – may impose	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	NA
G Near Woodborough Farm	Wind	3	120m	Max 8.3	7.6	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	400m	NA
H North of Round Hill	Wind	3	100m	No constraint	7.8	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	No constraint	300m – may impose	NA

Table 9 – Initial technical constraints for wind discussion areas. Source: Empowered.

Appendix 2: Community Energy Survey 2026 comments and themes

Survey questions

Q1. What are your initial thoughts about the idea of a community-owned wind turbine or solar farm in Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe?

Q2. Would you support further conversations to explore the possibility of a community energy project near Peasedown, Wellow and Shoscombe? [Multiple choice: Yes/No/Maybe/I don't know/I can't comment]

Q3. Please tell us why/why not? [short text]

Q4. Do you support any of these WIND locations being further discussed and looked into? [Multiple choice]

Q5. Please share any thoughts? [Short text]

Q6. Do you support any of these SOLAR locations being further discussed and looked into? [Multiple choice]

Q7. Please share any thoughts? [Short text]

Responses to Q.2, Q.4 and Q.6 can be viewed in the 2026 Community Energy Survey Summary.

Themes in responses to Q.1 and Q.3

- **Protecting the "countryside" / National Landscape**, which was valued for its beauty, heritage, biodiversity, tranquillity and legacy. This was the most common theme overall.
    - it was more prevalent among Wellow residents compared to residents who live outside the National Landscape area. Wellow residents spoke of their attachment to their area and their responsibility to protect the heritage landscape.
    - Peasedown residents referencing the countryside spoke about the importance of wildlife more often than the Natural Landscape specifically.

    "We live in an area of outstanding natural beauty and it is possible to very quickly and irreparably damage the actual environment, the scenery, the harmony and people's lives through installation of ill-thought through infrastructure."

- **Opposition to development of wind in Wellow.** This was the next most common theme for Wellow residents after protecting the National Landscape, directly referenced in 20% of surveys from Wellow residents.
- **Benefits to local people.** These included; concerns about the legitimacy of local benefits from community energy, scepticism about the cost-benefit analysis for locals; support for local profits over corporate profit; support for decentralisation; support for lowering energy bills and employment opportunities; and overall a desire to ensure that fairness to the community is a primary consideration.
    - Very few comments demonstrated specific understanding of community energy.

- Concern about the **impact of climate change.** About 20% of comments referenced this, more commonly for residents from outside Wellow (35% of other respondents).

- The need for **energy independence** from reliance on gas/oil, international affairs, private corporations, and central Government. This was referenced at similar frequency to climate chance concerns.

  "Better to have community owned energy than that of a private corporation that doesn't reinvest and doesn't care about local people."

  "it's increasingly urgent that we have these conversations at local levels and not simply leave things up to central government"

- Concerns about the **technical feasibility** of the proposed locations.
    - either rejecting the proposals as unfeasible,
    - or requesting more information to understand the proposals better.

  "I don't believe that wind turbines in our locality are viable. My personal view is that the wind is neither strong enough nor consistent enough to generate the amounts of power stated in the preamble."

Other minor themes:

- Preference for solar over wind technology
- Perceived financial benefits or disadvantages to local energy
- Support for rooftop solar

Themes in the wind turbine comment section Q.5 (117 comments):

Impact on National Landscape and heritage setting

- Comments considered wind inappropriate for the Area of Outstanding National Beauty, with reference to the beauty and sensitivity of the area, cherished by the residents.
- The view from Wellow village and the Stony Barrow were referenced specifically.

Proximity to housing

- The wind locations outside the AONB did not receive targeted feedback compared the locations within the National Landscape, rather a general view that being too close to homes should be avoided.
- Comments viewed proximity to housing as a negative due to concern about noise and view interruption, while for others proximity to industrial areas and roads could be permissible.

Request for more information

- Some comments highlighted that there was a need to understand the viability of the sites before ruling them out. References were made to environmental surveys, military flight paths, wind speed, grid connection, pylon connection and more.

Differentiation between Wellow and Peasedown

- Almost all comments in this section were from Wellow and Twinhoe residents (40 responses compared to 6 others)

Themes in the solar farm comment section Q.7 (105 comments):

The primary concern related to solar farms was the **land usage**, and situating solar in a reasonable location. Comments on this topic showed a preference for brownfield sites, being closer to build up areas of motorways, being able to be screened from view, smaller scale, avoiding using prime agricultural land.

    - A number also referenced a preference for rooftop solar rather than ground-mount, to preserve countryside and farmland

Comments were more commonly **supportive of solar in principle** compared to wind comments, or supportive under conditions that the solar would not impact the local environment negatively.

Respondents wanted to know more about which areas were **technically feasible**, what it would look like, whether the grid could connect or whether a development would create enough electricity to be worth it.

Two people suggested new locations – Tunley Equestrian Centre and South of Combe Hay.