

The Westmill Centre

Welcoming visitors to the Wind and Solar farms at Westmill Farm

Westmill Farm is still the only place in southern England where people can see wind and solar power in action on the same site. Our wind farm has been running for over ten years and has five turbines that produce enough electricity to power over 2,600 homes. The solar development beside the turbines produces the electricity for a further 1,100 homes. Both projects are community-owned. The Farm is near the village of Watchfield, between Oxford and Swindon.

The Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust (WeSET) manages a growing number of visits to the wind and solar farms. These vary from primary school classes to universities, community groups and government experts. In particular we are always very pleased to welcome visits from planners, civil servants, councillors and others involved in making decisions about renewable energy. We are at present limited in the support we can offer our guests due to a lack of facilities on site.

We are therefore planning to build a visitor centre



This includes a large 'yurt' – a permanent canvas based structure big enough to hold 70 people. The new centre will enable us to run year-round activities for schools and colleges as well as visits by community groups, local councils, enthusiasts and businesses. We will also be able to offer facilities for private events and run more events ourselves.

Other facilities at the new centre will include:

- A small toilet block
- Facilities for visitors with disabilities
- Simple catering provision
- Improved access facilities, especially for the elderly and people with disabilities
- Car and coach parking and cycle racks
- Exhibition boards and display materials

As Britain moves towards a zero carbon economy, it is important that people can understand and see the solutions that are available. The Westmill Centre can play a significant part in helping make that happen by getting people 'up close' to these technologies and see them for themselves.

Funding the new Westmill Centre

We have planning permission for this work and the project will cost c. £180,000. We have raised much of the money from a rural development grant scheme but we need to find another £26,000. **We need to do this within the next three months.**

We are asking you to support this new permanent asset for Westmill.

Support on any scale is very welcome and we encourage you to consider supporting with a gift of £100, £250 or £1,000.

All donors will be kept fully informed of the progress of the project. Once we have raised the balance of the funds and the project is realised, we plan to hold a special celebratory opening party on site to which you as a supporter of the project with family and friends will be warmly invited.

We also have regular guided tours – we would be happy to welcome you to the site for one of these tours, and you can visit and walk around the wind turbines at any time.

You can make a donation in various ways:

Donate directly

Use the Westmill Centre 'Virgin Giving' link on this page: <https://bit.ly/3cFrKUu>

Send a cheque

Send a cheque, made out to 'Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust' to Westmill Centre, 8 Maple Gardens, Milton, Abingdon OX14 4GP

For more information see the Centre webpage: www.weset.org/?page_id=685

For more information please contact: events@weset.org

The Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust is grateful to the Westmill Solar and Westmill Wind cooperatives and the LEADER Rural Economic Development programme for their support for this project.

