

Lilbourne Windfarm

Benefits

Wind energy is

- **safe - no toxic chemicals or radioactivity to hide**
- **clean - no daily pollution, operational by-products or CO² emissions**
- **free - no fuel required, the wind is free**

The UK is the windiest place in Europe, providing a secure, unlimited supply of wind energy, which is projected to be the cheapest source of electricity by 2020 (Source: Sustainable Development Commission).

The windfarm will have a 25 year life span - under the planning regulations the turbines will be removed after 25 years and the site will be returned to its former state.

Community Benefit Fund

If the windfarm receives planning permission, Cetus will set up a Community Benefit Fund for local residents to benefit from the profits the wind turbines make. The mechanism by which this fund will be administered is open to consultation with local interest groups or the parish council.

We are keen to hear your ideas on what you would like the money to go towards. Some suggestions we have already received include

- funding for mains gas
- subsidy for domestic solar/ground source heat pumps
- funding for a Public House
- use of excavated material for sound barrier extension
- Community shareholding in a nominated turbine
- Parish street lighting
- Community Bus sponsorship
- Primary school teacher sponsorship
- Village play areas/Park landscaping.

If you have any further ideas you would like us to consider, please share them with us here at the exhibition or visit our consultation website, www.lilbourne-windfarm.co.uk, and get in touch.

The construction of the windfarm will also bring jobs into the local area.

Some people see community benefit funds as the developer's way of providing 'compensation' for building a windfarm in a particular area. However, the key idea behind the fund is for the local community to "share the rewards" of the windfarm i.e. since the wind is not owned by anyone, residents of the surrounding areas should share in the rewards reaped from farming the wind blowing across their locality.

Community Investment

A further opportunity for individual local residents to benefit from the windfarm is to invest in up to two of the turbines; with priority given to those living within a 10km radius of the site. If you are interested in investing in one of the turbines and becoming a shareholder, please speak to us here at the exhibition or visit our consultation website, www.lilbourne-windfarm.co.uk, and register your interest. Then we will get in touch with you at a later date with further information.

Many People Already Own Windfarms – Without Realising

"People who are part of private or occupational pension schemes will probably already own, indirectly, some part of a windfarm somewhere in the UK. Nearly all pension funds will hold some shares in major energy utilities who, in turn, own windfarms".

Delivering Community Benefits from Wind Energy Development:
A Toolkit, A report for the Renewables Advisory Board and DTI, May 2007