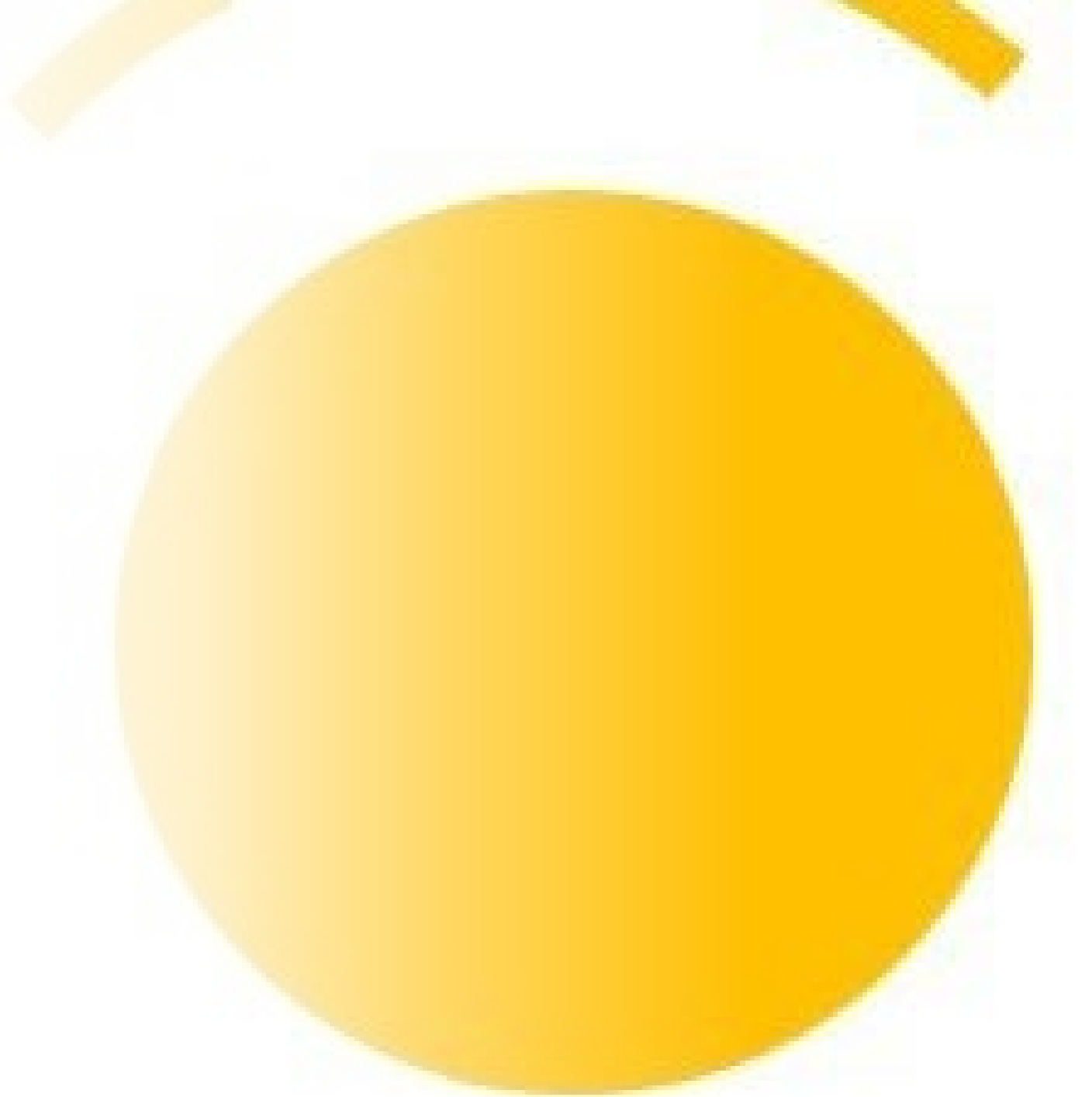


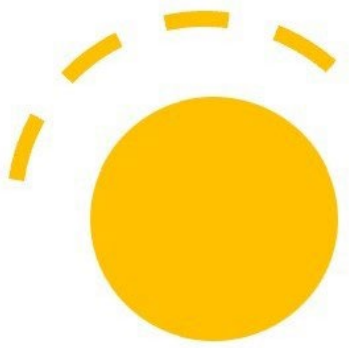


Humshaugh Community Solar Farm

Share Offer Launch

6th June, 2024





Agenda



What is the project



How will it be structured

Community Benefit
Society

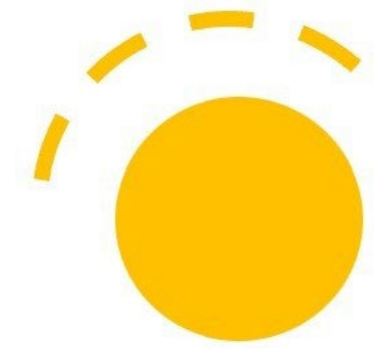


How will it be funded

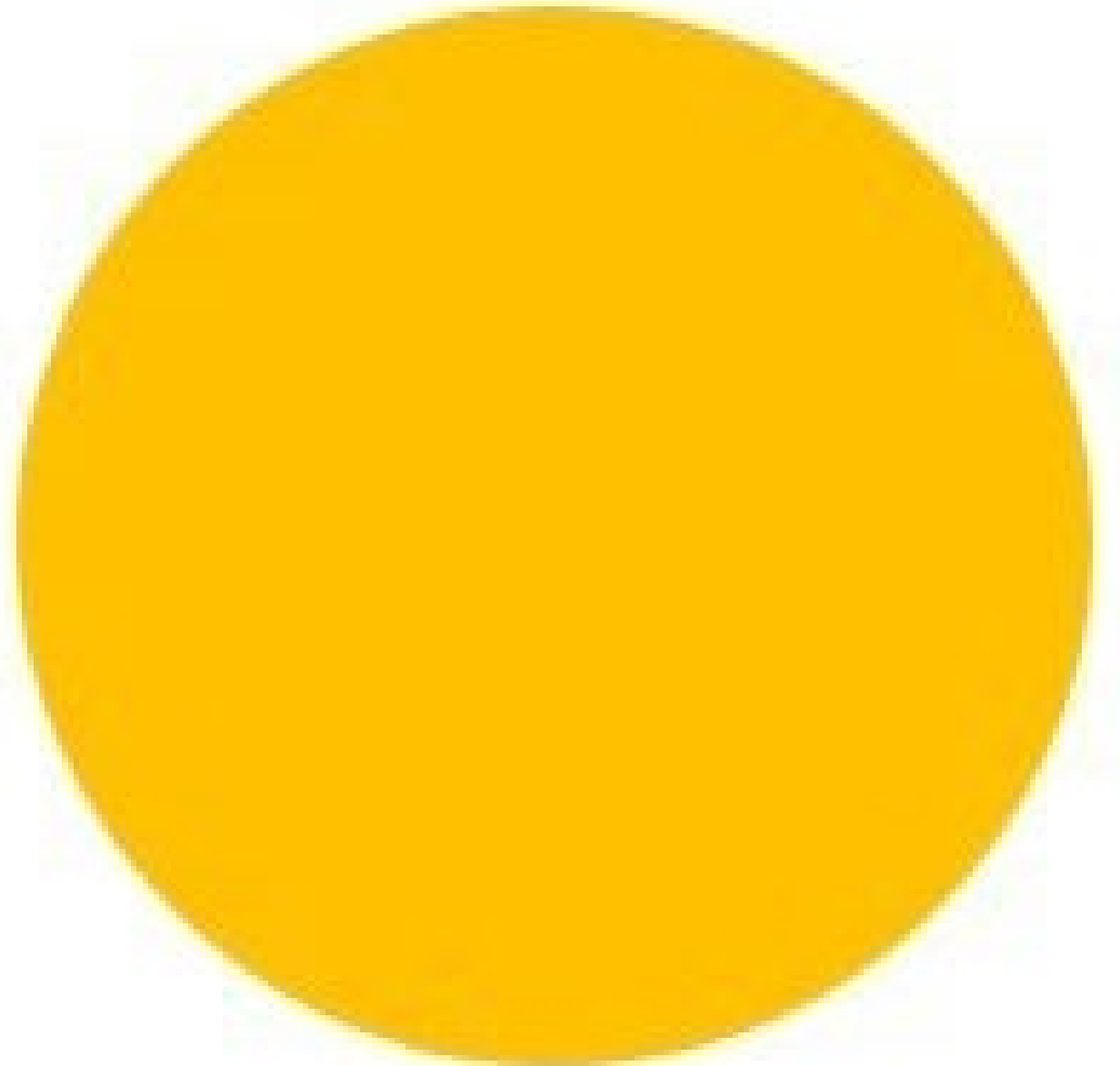


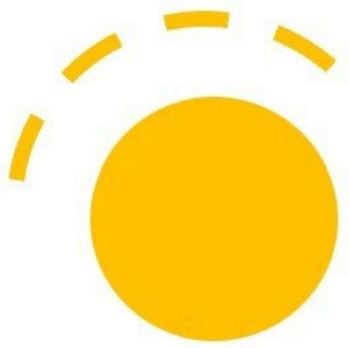
Questions



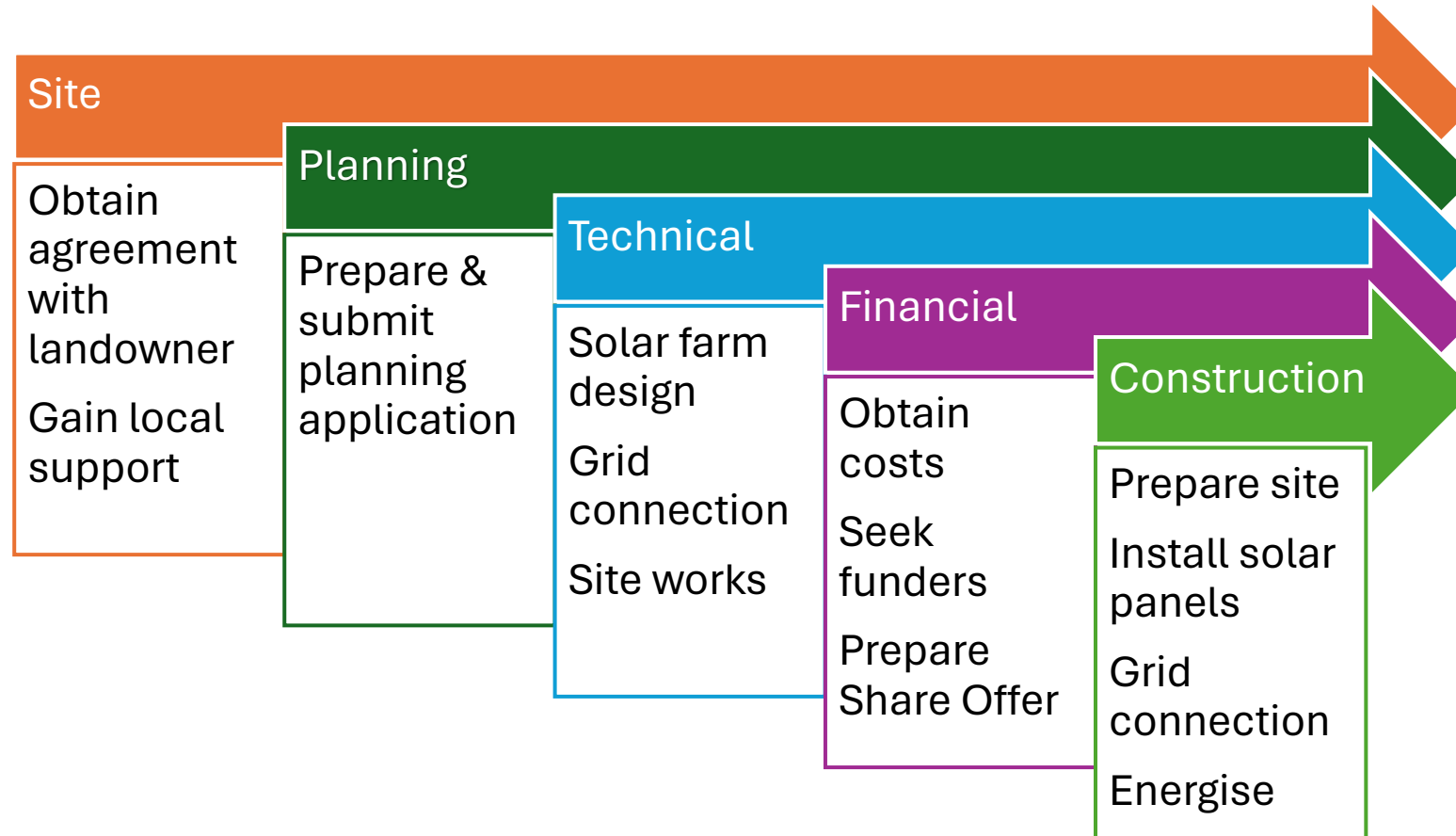


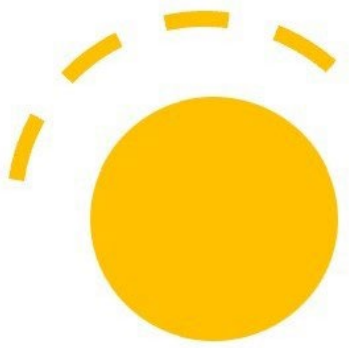
The Project



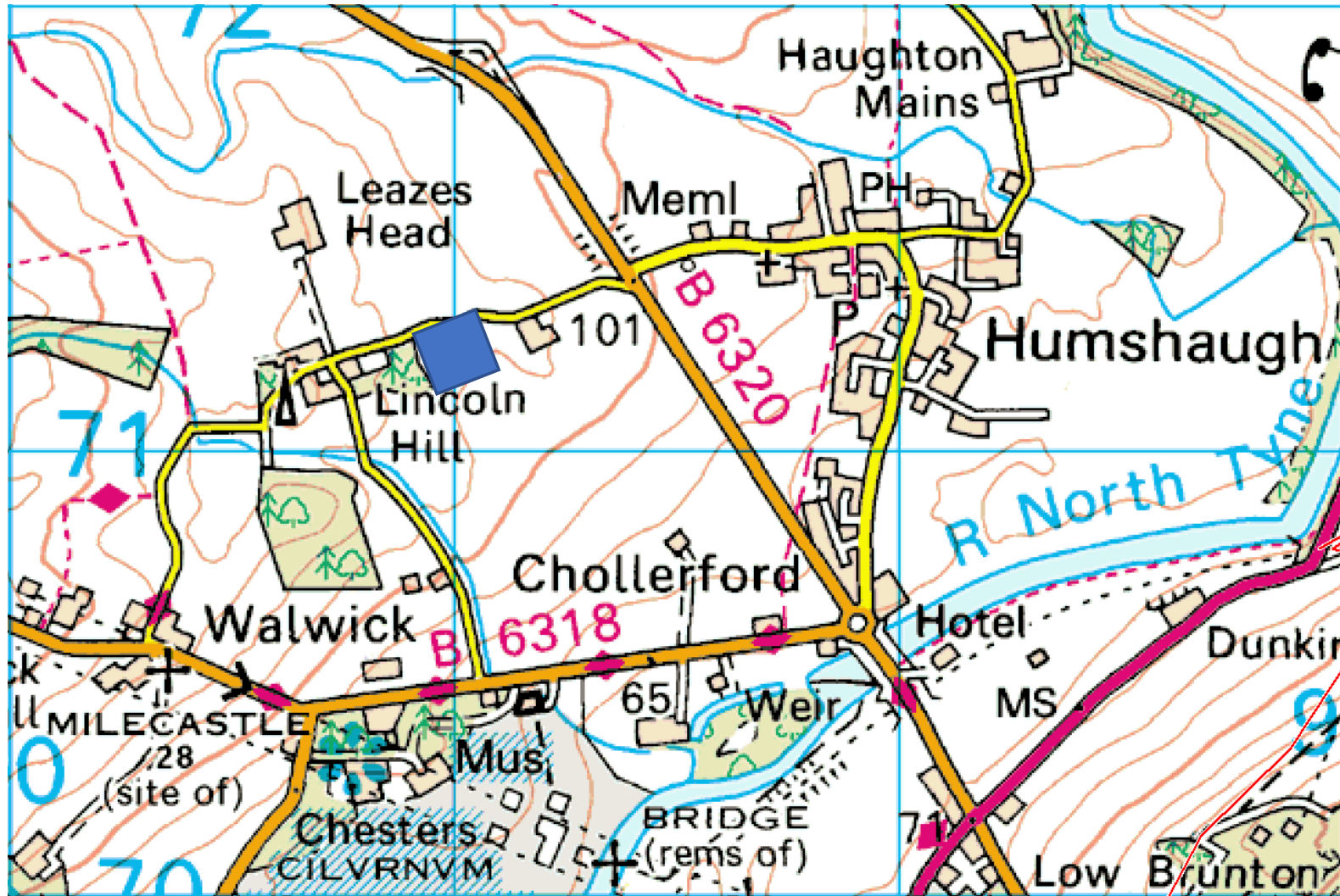


How to build a solar farm





1 MW Solar Farm at Lincoln Hill



Solar Farm site details

Access to site

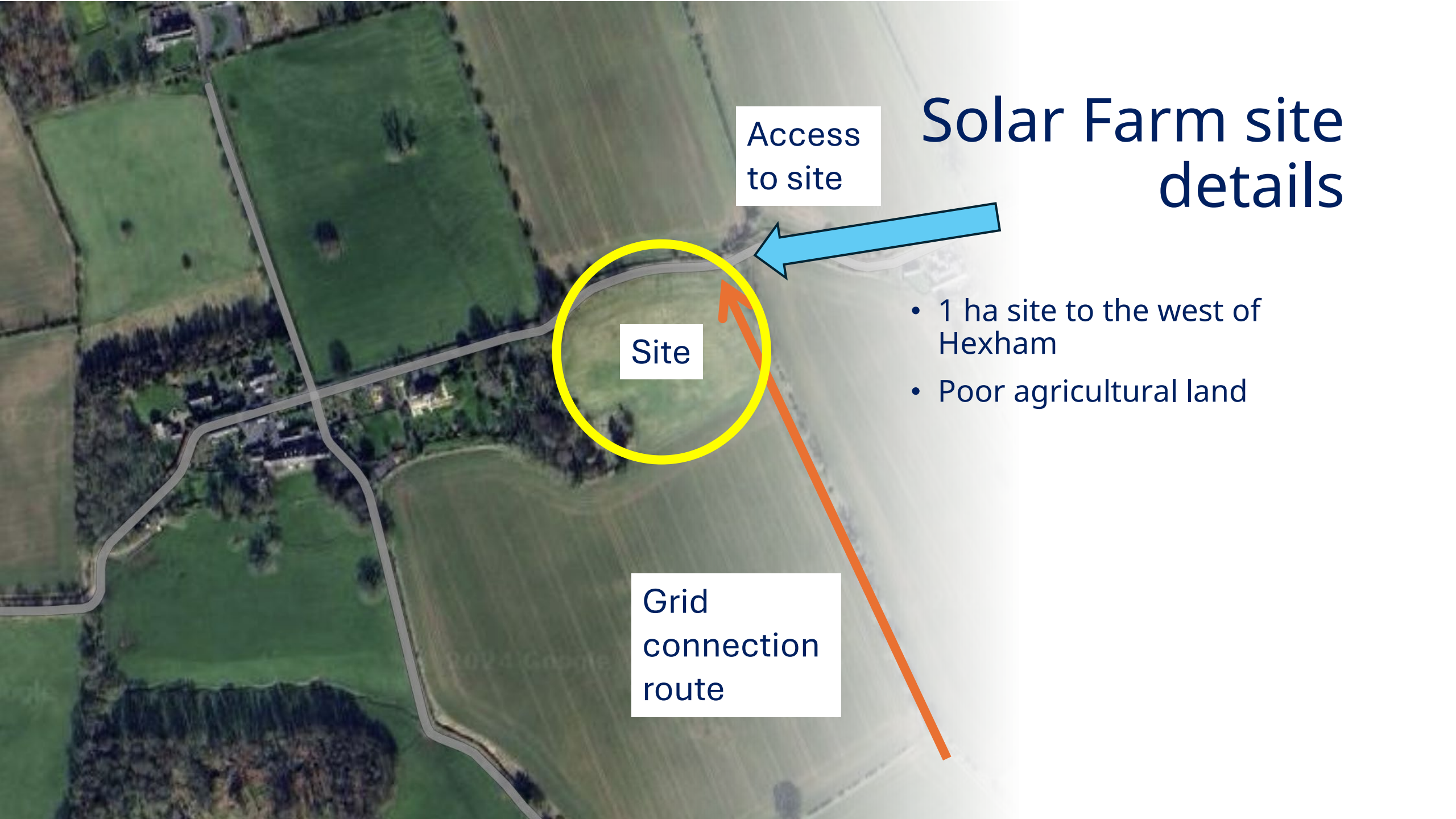


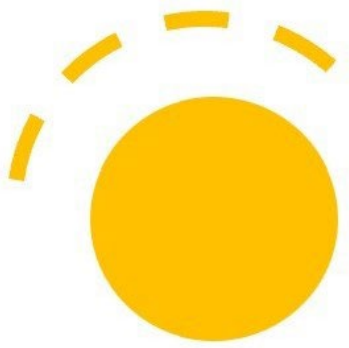
Site



- 1 ha site to the west of Hexham
- Poor agricultural land

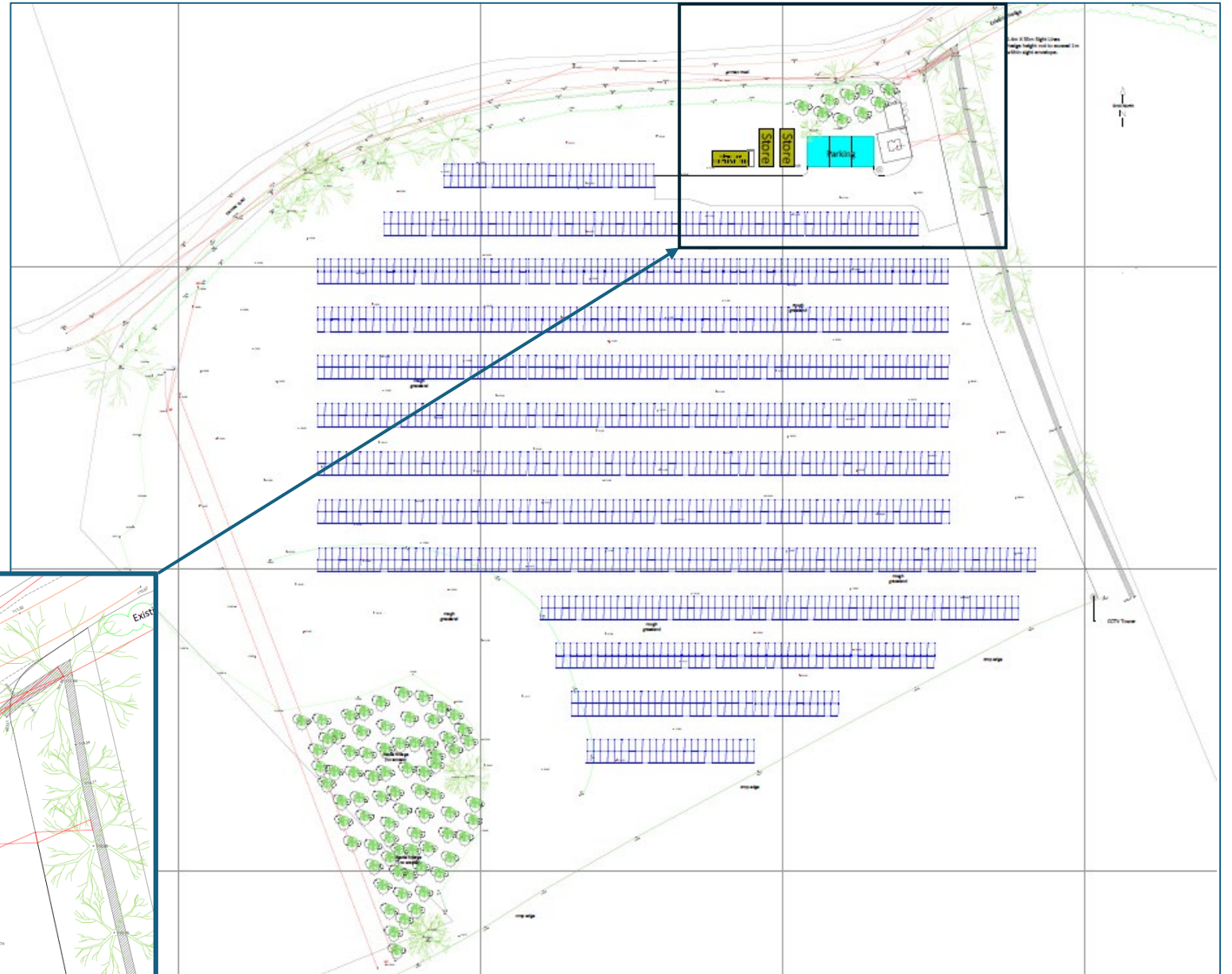
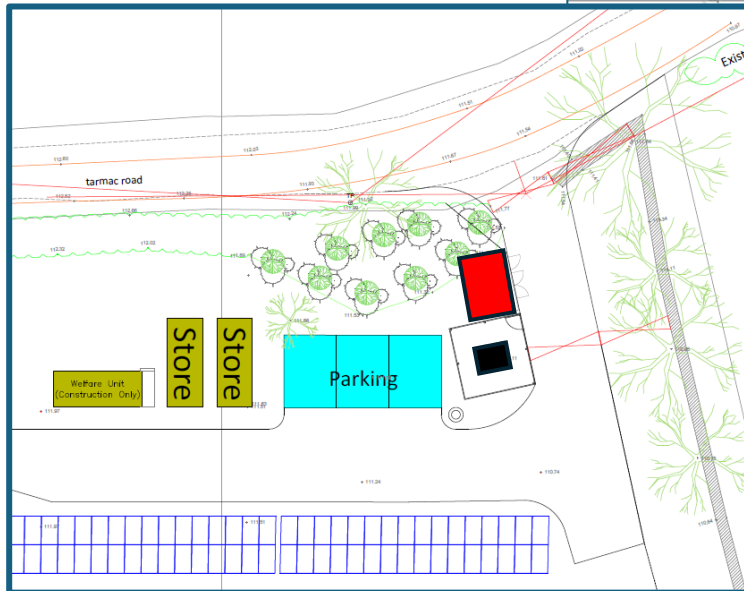
Grid connection route

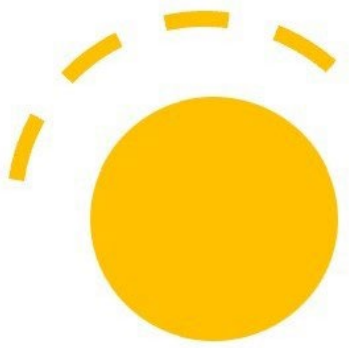




Layout

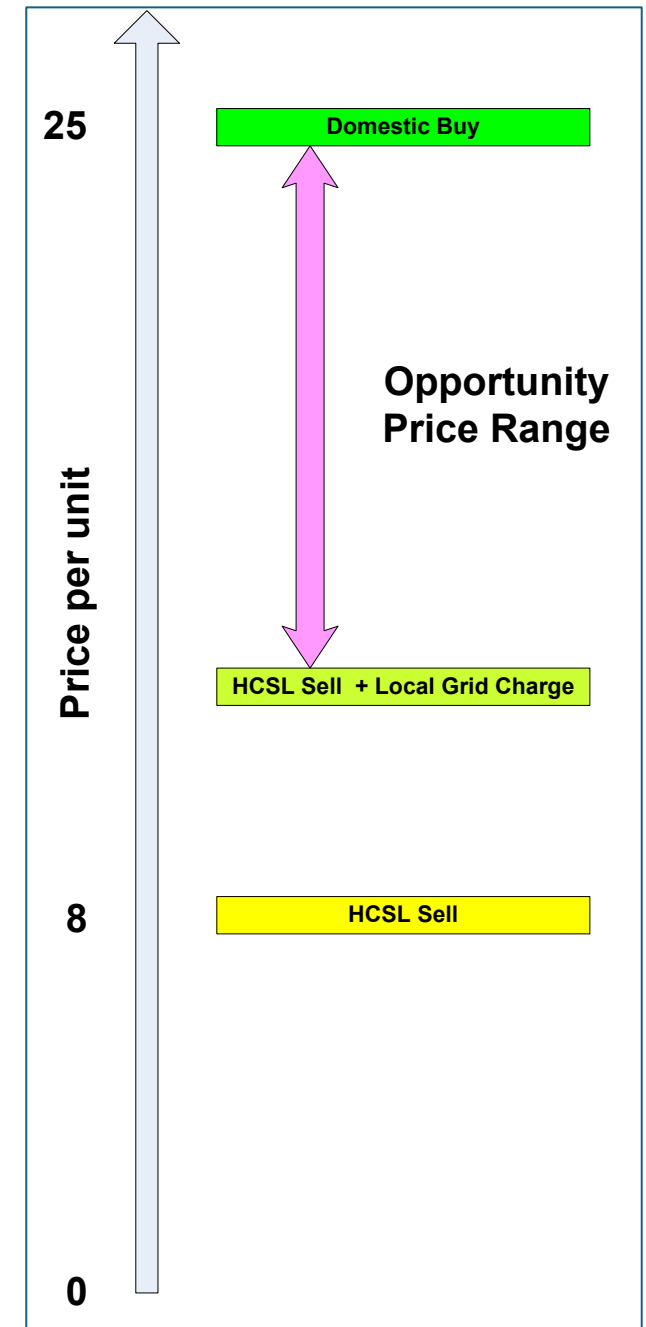
- 1 MW capacity
- 2,000 solar panels on metal stands
- Small substation (red)
- Transformer (black)

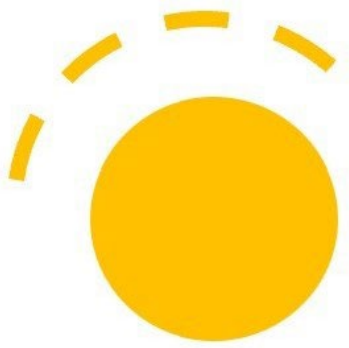




Local Electricity Sales

- Selling locally clearly has scope to raise the received price (and community benefit fund) and local consumers to pay less.
- UK Regulations stop HCSL to selling direct to local consumers at the moment
- The Government refused to change the law repeatedly
- We are setting up to be able to respond if this changes
- Our current plan is to make the electricity available to everyone in the Parish, not just those who invest in HCSL, when the law changes

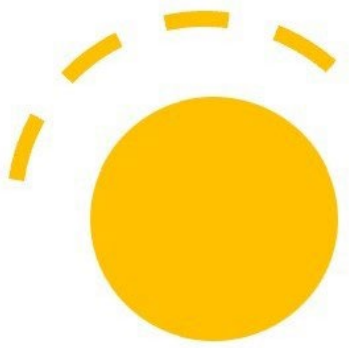




Carbon Emissions Impact

- Expected annual electrical output – 1,100,000 kWh
- Avoids 217 tonnes of CO₂ emissions a year
- 4% of the Parish's CO₂ domestic emissions (2020 baseline data)
- 50% of the Parish's CO₂ emissions associated with domestic electricity use

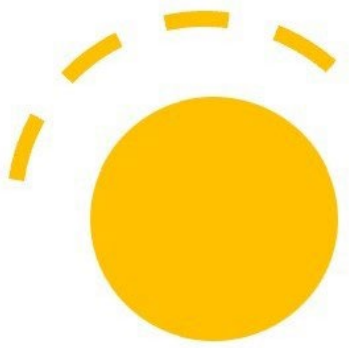




A Nature Positive Development

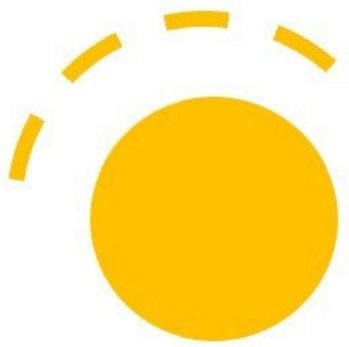
- Importantly, work will also be carried out at the site to improve its biodiversity. Hedging will be laid/improved, a wetland area created, wildflower seeds sown, and bird boxes installed.
- The aim is for this to be a Nature Positive development.
- see <https://www.undp.org/blog/creating-nature-positive-future> for details of this concept.



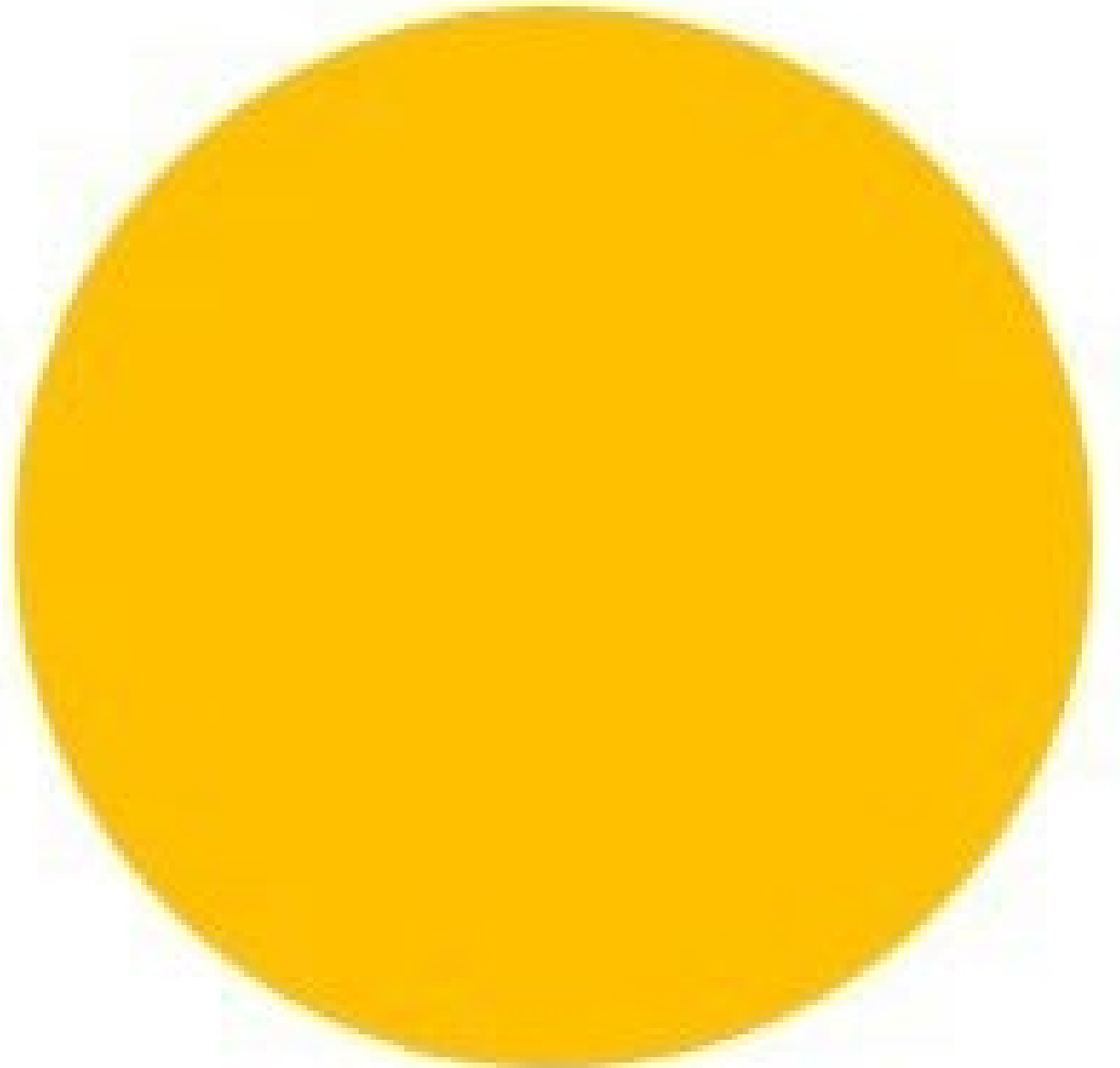


Timeline

Jan 2024	Apr 2024	July 2024	Oct 2024	Jan 2025	Apr 2025
Funding					
	Financial Close				
		Share Offer			
		Procurement & Construction			
					Generation



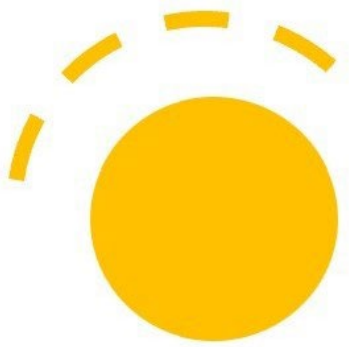
The
Community
Benefit
Society





Humshaugh Community Solar Limited (HCSL)

- Humshaugh Community Solar Limited is registered as a Community Benefit Society – the legal structure to own and operate the solar farm.
- HCSL is registered with and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and is placed on the Mutuals Public Register.
- A Community Benefit Society is owned by its members/shareholders on the basis that each member/shareholder has one vote in general meetings.
- The governing document 'The Rules' sets out how HCSL must operate
- This structure allows shares to be offered and a return (interest) to be paid to shareholders.
- Surplus profit will go to a community fund
- The rules include an "Asset Lock" clause.



Current Directors of HCSL



David Still CBE



Herbie Newell CBE



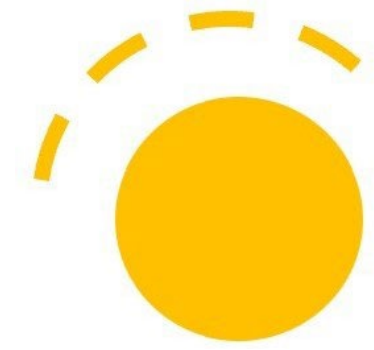
Nick Hayward



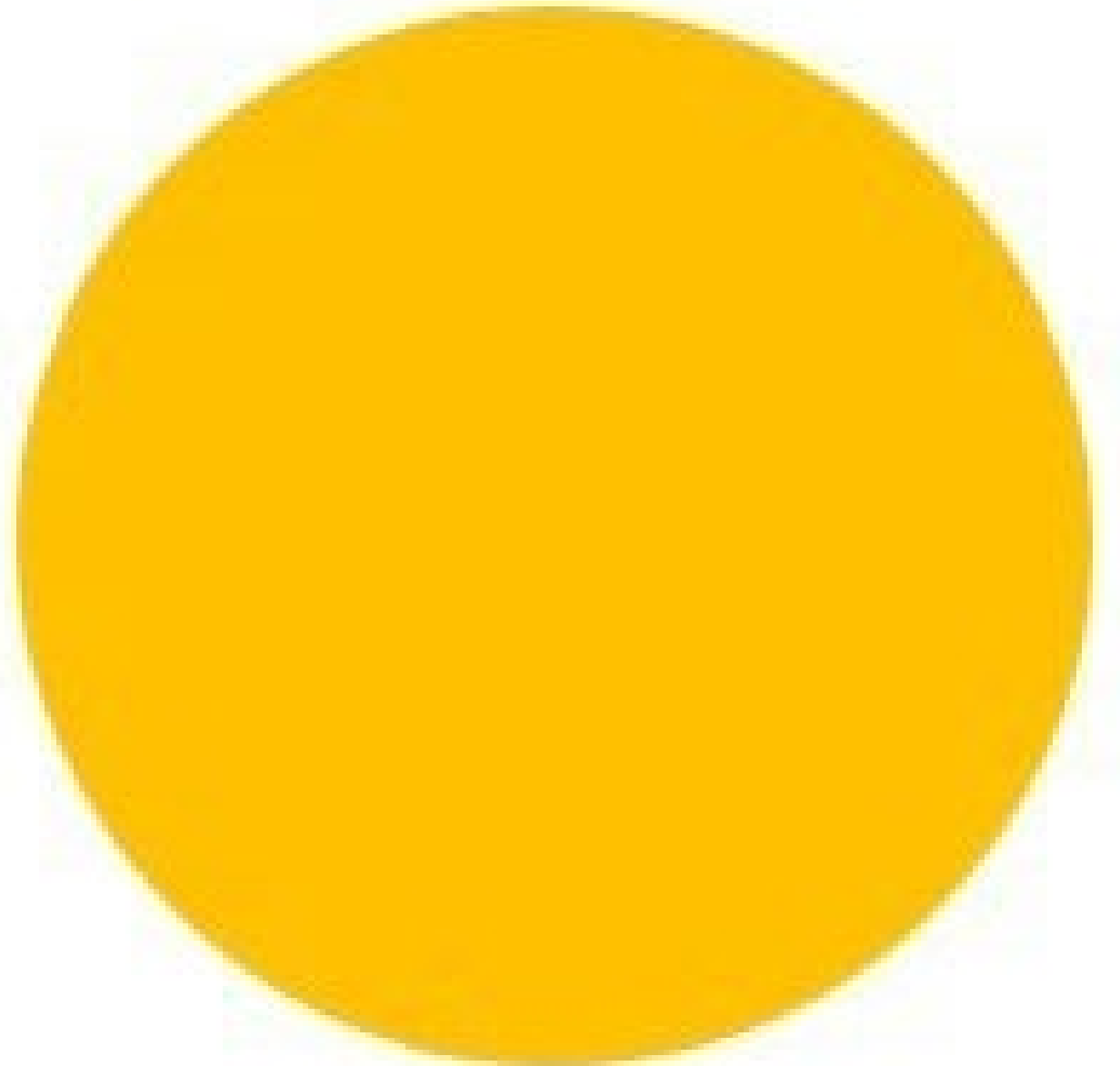
Bill Grainger

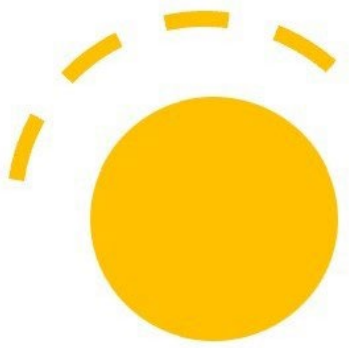
The intention is that new Directors will be elected at the first Annual General Meeting of Humshaugh Community Solar Limited (HCSL). This is expected to be by June 2025

The Society Secretary is Rhona Still.



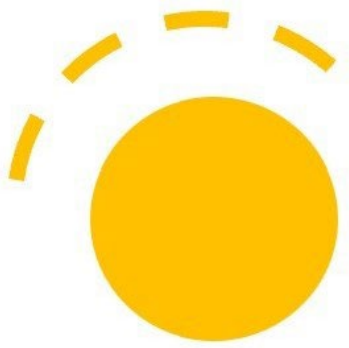
The Share Offer





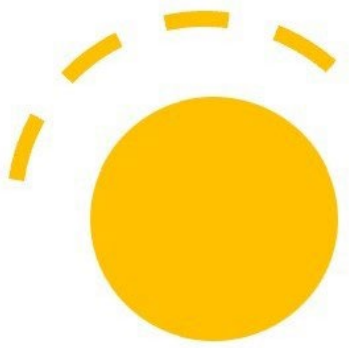
Funding

- The total project cost will be about £1,100,000
- The Community Share Offer aims to raise a minimum of £100,000 and a maximum of £400,000
- Currently we are well advanced in raising loans and grants to fund the project
 - We are talking to bodies who can provide short-term and long-term loans, and grants.
- We will only draw down on offers to buy shares when the total financial package is in place.



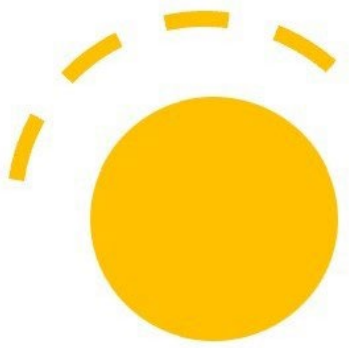
Community Share Offer in HCSL

- 400,000 shares with a value of £1 available
- We can pay up to 3% interest on shares from 2029
- Share investment to be repaid after 20 years or before if funds allow
- Minimum investment £500
- Maximum investment £100,000
- Withdrawable community shares cannot be transferred (only in exceptional circumstances), only repaid by HCSL
 - Events such as death, bankruptcy



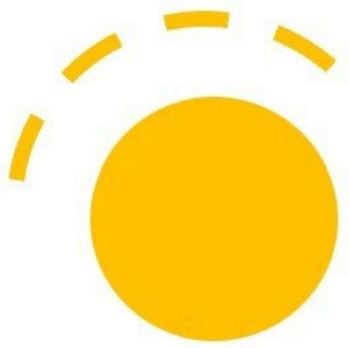
Community Fund

- Expected to amount to £200,000 over lifetime (£10,000 a year)
 - Could be more if power prices increase
- Funds will be dispersed for activities which promote the aims of the Society –
 - promoting the use of low carbon technologies
 - promoting energy efficiency
 - promoting bio-diversity
 - promoting community action on climate change
- Details to be determined by the elected HCSL board



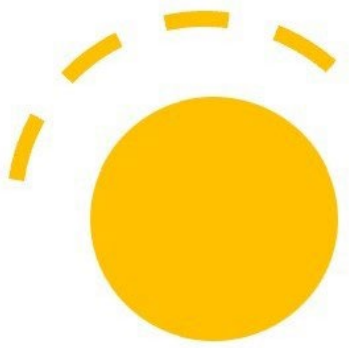
Why invest?

- Your opportunity to make a positive change in reducing the carbon emissions
- Be part of generating more than 1,100,000 kWh annually of low carbon electricity - 50% of the electricity used in the village
- Contribute to saving 217 tonnes of CO₂ or 4% of the carbon emissions created within the parish.
- Show Government what really can be done locally!!
- Your opportunity to make a difference for future generations NOW!



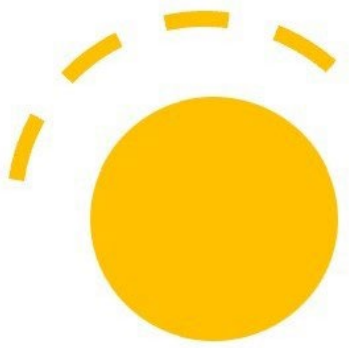
Risk Management

- Solar farms have been built all over the UK; the technology and installation techniques are well established.
- To reduce uncertainty over the cost of the installation, a ground investigation survey has already been carried out to see what foundation type would be most suitable. The potential contractors have been supplied with this information.
- Several contractors were approached for costs and production estimates.
 - These contractors have a good reputation of delivering solar projects in the North East.



Due Diligence

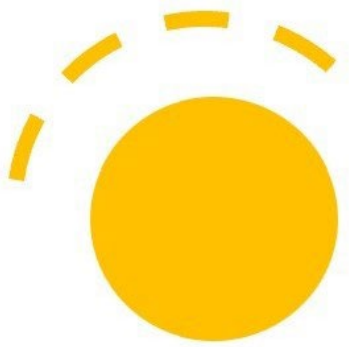
- We have used a specialist solicitor and Cooperatives UK to advise us on the structure of the Community Benefit Society and to review the content of the Share Offer document.
- We have appointed accountants to the Society.
- The financial plan has been scrutinised by our potential funders.



The Small Print

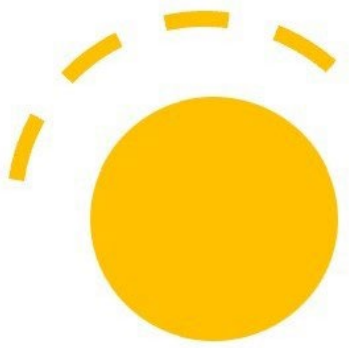
- Study the share offer document carefully
- Shares in HCSL are NOT regulated by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000
- Your shares will NOT be safeguarded by any depositor protection scheme or dispute resolution scheme
- The share offer is NOT regulated by the Prospectus Rules because Community Benefit Societies have a specific exemption from this
- You should buy shares only with money you can afford to have tied up, without interest, and without capital appreciation, for several years or longer.
- In making an Application you are making an irrevocable offer to enter into a contract with the Society.

THE SHARE OFFER DOCUMENT CONTAINS THE DEFINITIVE TERMS AND CONDITION OF THIS SHARE OFFER



THE SHARE OFFER

- We are seeking a minimum of £100,000 and a maximum of £400,000 investment in shares
- The project will generate more than 1,100,000 kWh of electricity each year or more than 50% of the current electricity used within the parish.
- The project will save more than 210 tonnes of CO₂ per annum
- A community fund will be established to support local projects
- We will be able to pay up to 3% interest on your share investment under the rules of the Society
- To invest please look at the Share Offer document online and complete an application form, which you can download or we can email you a copy



HCSL website

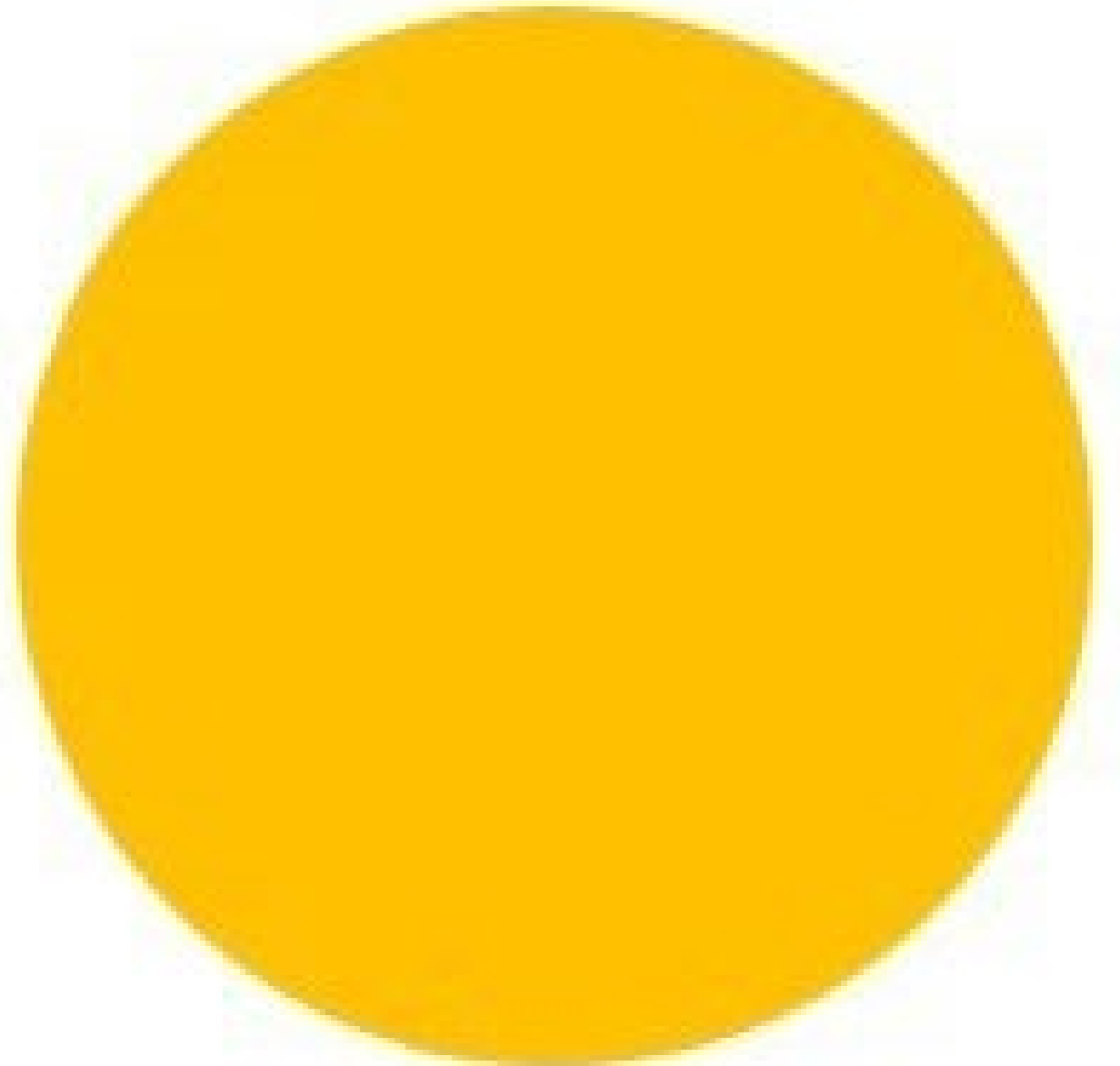
The share offer document, the Rules of HCSL and the application form are all on the web site.

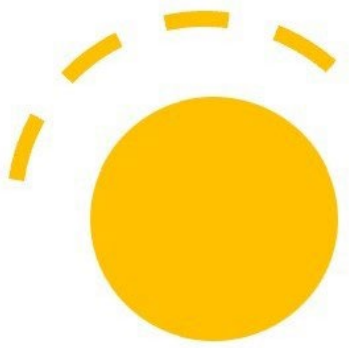
<https://humshaughsolar.org>





Any
Questions





Further Information

The share offer document, the Rules of HSCL and an application form are on the web site.

<https://humshaughsolar.org>

info@humshaughsolar.org

