



Windsock
Solar Farm

Windsock Solar Farm

Project Introduction
Presentation to
Cranwell, Brauncewell & Byard's Leap Parish Council
3rd August 2026

Agenda

- Who We Are
- Project Team
- Location
- The Project
- Site Information
- Grid Connection
- Landowner's Perspective
- Project Timeline
- Community Consultation
- Community Engagement
- Responsible Development
- Community Benefit

Who we are?

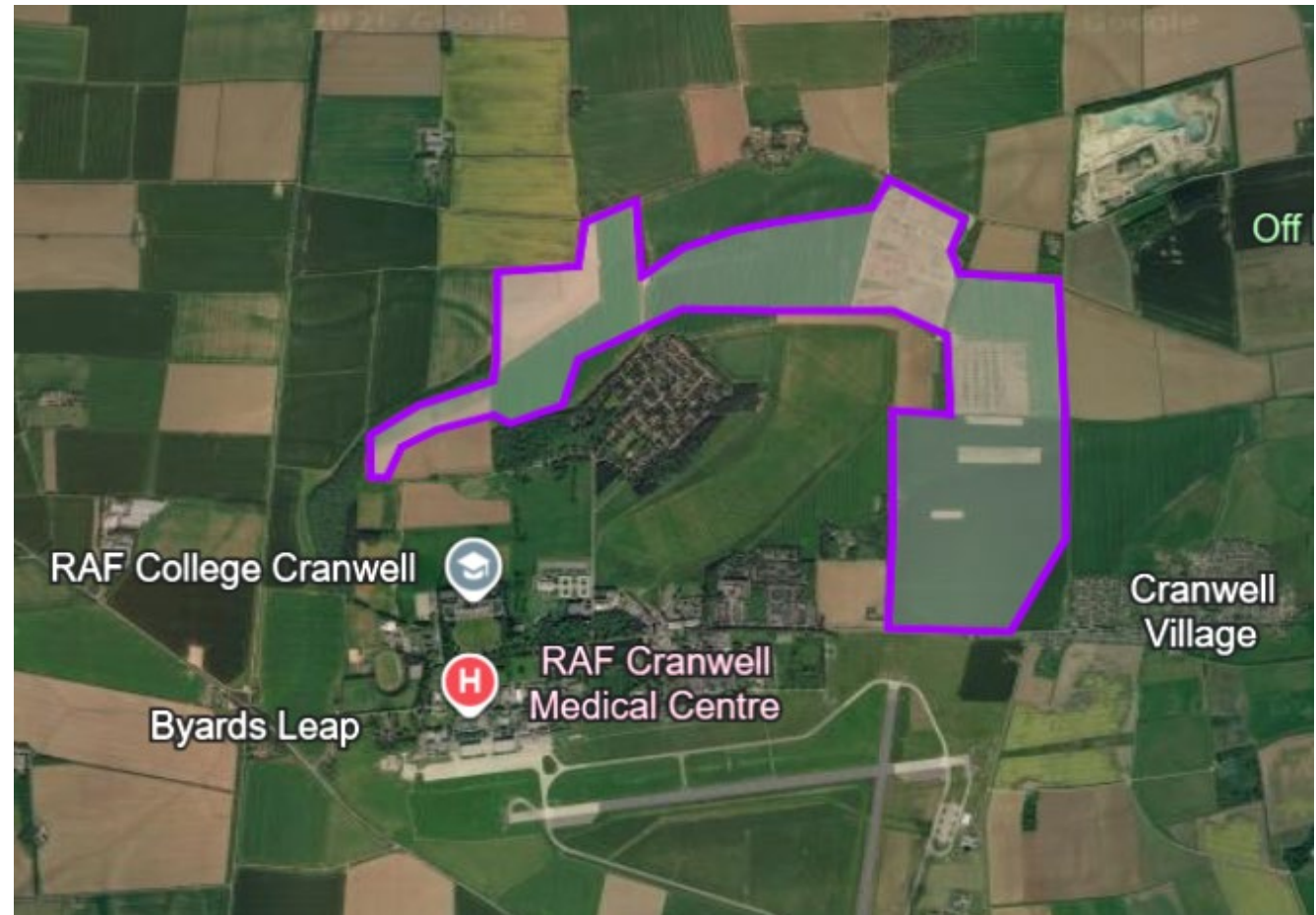
- The proposed Windsock Solar Farm is being developed by BLC Energy and is backed by Octopus Renewable Infrastructure Trust (ORIT) with funds managed by Octopus Energy Generation (OEGEN)
- We have set up TRIO Power Ltd which is wholly owned by ORIT and will be the project applicant.
- BLC Energy Ltd, a UK-based renewable energy development company, specialises in developing solar PV and co-located battery storage
- We have a development services agreement with ORIT to develop and manage a portfolio of 500MW of solar projects throughout the UK
- We currently manage 9 developments of which 2 are consented, 4 in planning and the remainder in early development.

Project Team

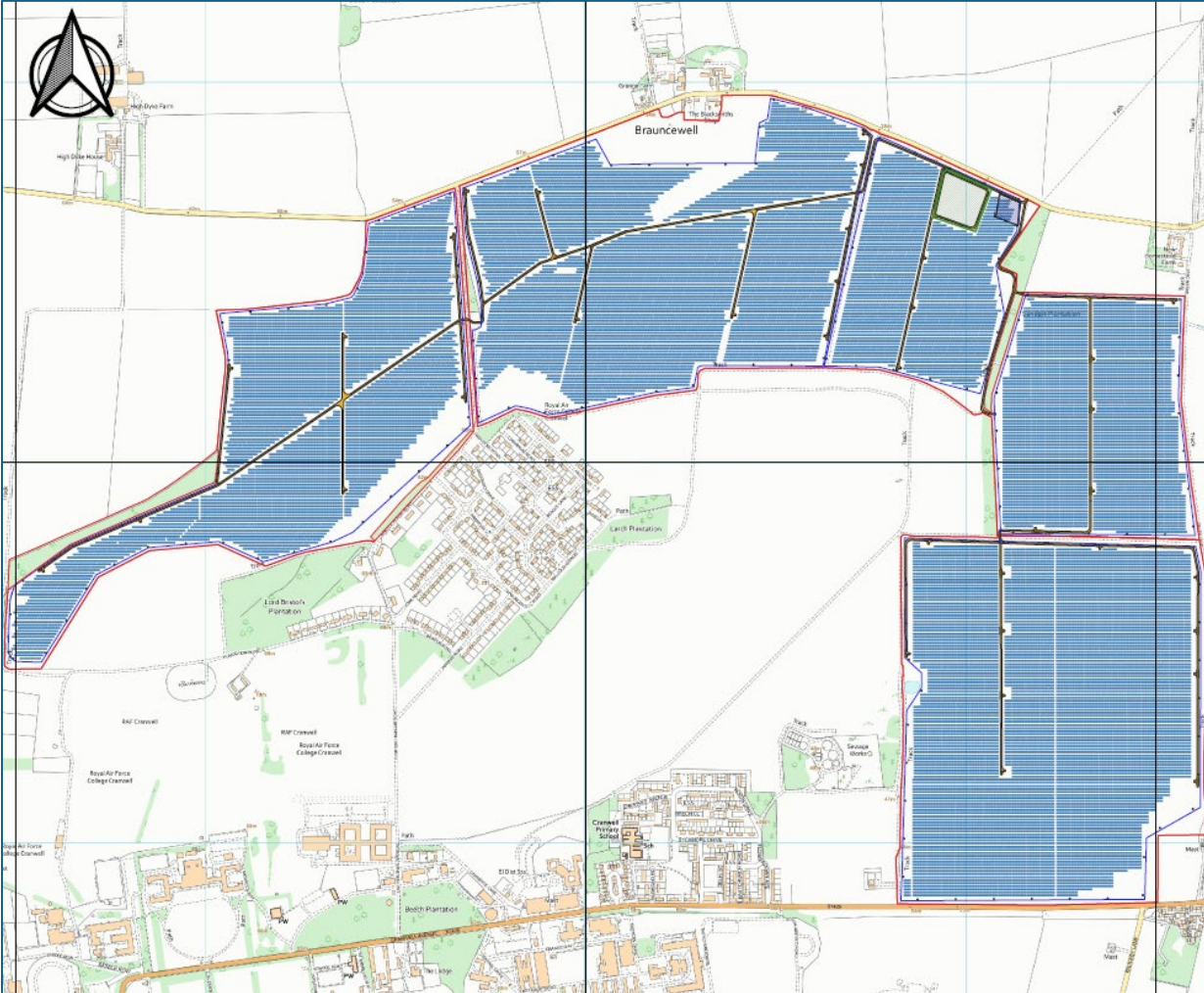
- **BLC Energy**
 - Neil Lindsay, Managing Director
 - Stuart McGowan, Project Manager
- **Community consultation**
 - Kitty Lindsay, BLC Energy
 - Sarah McDaid, McDaid PR
- **Planning advisor – David Bell Planning**
- **Environmental consultants – RSK Group**
- **Legal advisor – Richard Marsh, TLT**

Location

- Land to the north of RAF Cranwell and south of Long Lane
- Cranwell, Brauncewell & Byard's Leap Parish Council
- Residential properties will be at least 100m from panels and c500m from the BESS
- Site access directly from public road, which runs past Brauncewell quarry.



The Project

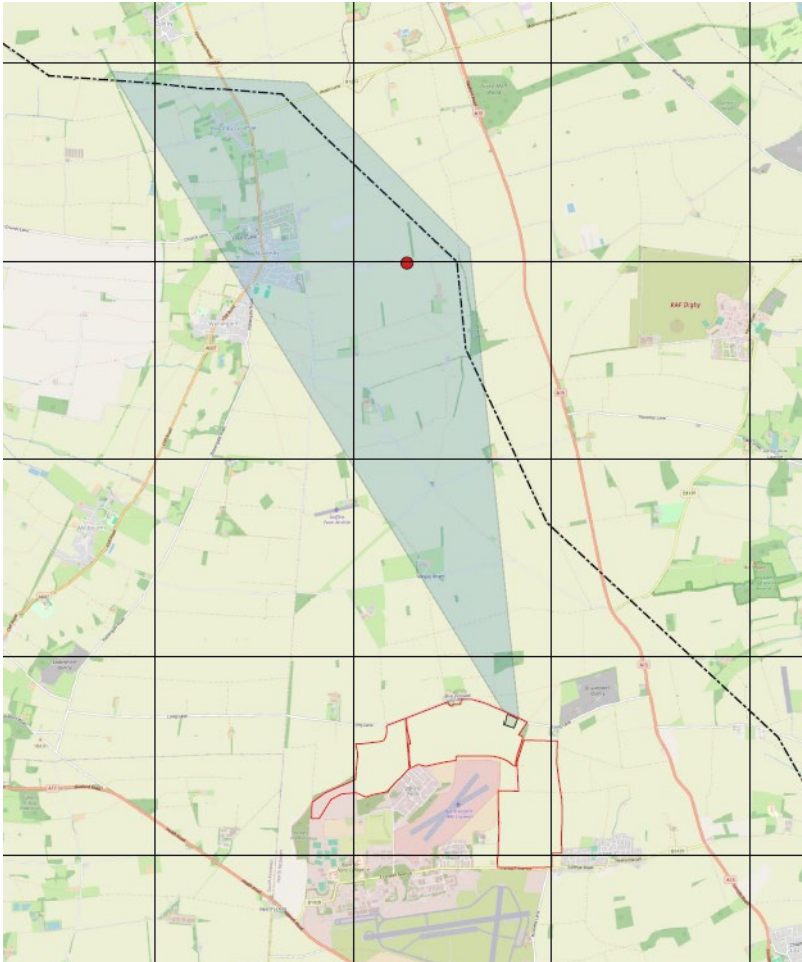


- Development land area of around 260 hectares
- 200 MW solar farm with provision for 100 MW of battery storage
- Habitat management and enhancement around site perimeter
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, application will go to Planning Inspectorate

Site Information

- The landowner's family has farmed here for 150 years
- Six fields, incorporating former Windsock forestry plantation
- Mixture of grade 2 and grade 3 (majority) land
- Land requires irrigation – limited water sources on site or nearby; recently lost water extraction rights
- No designations or constraints on site
- Right of Way through site, bridleway to east
- No flood risk concerns
- No AONB or LVIA designations
- Full EIA will be undertaken

Grid Connection



- Grid Connection to new substation, Trent Valley South Connection Node C (exact location tbc)
 - Expected connection 2035 (currently gate 1 offer). Initial connection date was 2034
- Navenby was initially discussed but now over subscribed



Project Timeline- to planning submission

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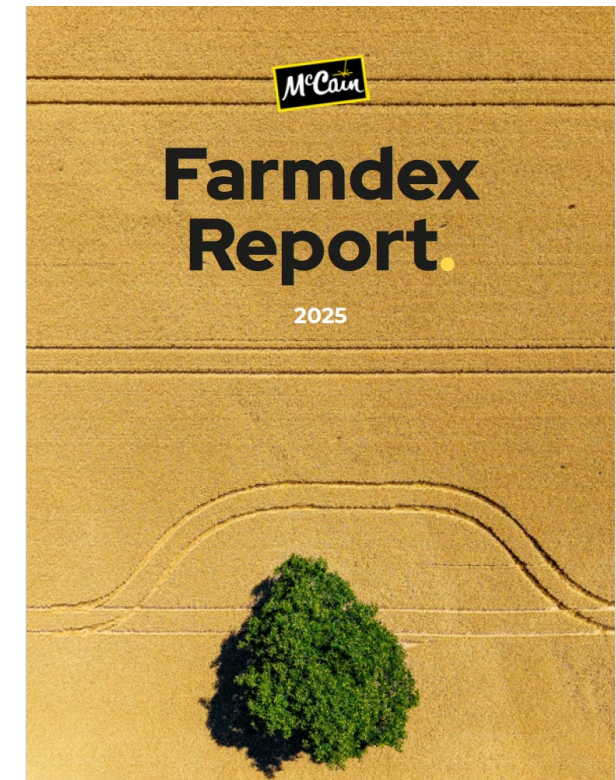
Landowner's Perspective

"The land we have set aside for solar panels is our least moisture retentive. We can't profitably grow wheat on it, and for the past two years we've lost money on the crops we grew there."

"Given this year's weather, we expect to lose money again."

"We had been irrigating some of the land with a local water source, but last year we lost the rights to it. Without that water, the land can no longer be irrigated restricting the crops we can grow. "Farmers are facing enormous challenges, from increasingly variable weather conditions to volatile prices."

"It will provide us with 40 years of steady income that gives us the confidence to invest in the future, protect jobs and potentially expand onto better, more productive land."



Community Consultation

How would you like us to consult with your community?

We would like your advice on:

- venues
- frequency of in-person updates
- community groups
- community events or newsletters

anything else?



Community Engagement

BLC Energy believes in early and meaningful community consultation – to be agreed with Parish Council

Suggested community consultation plan:

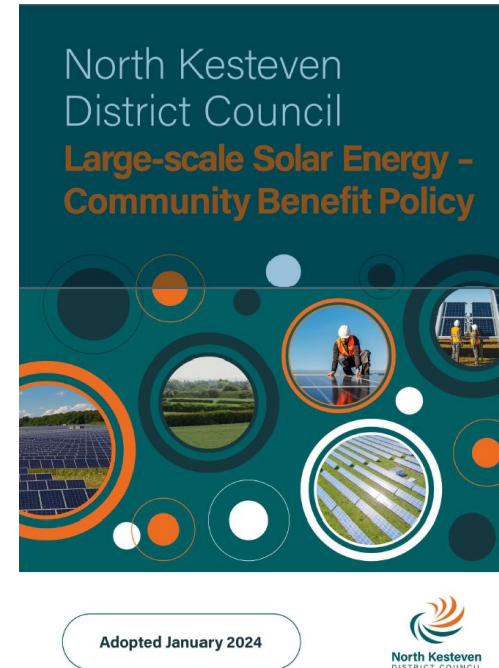
- Launch Project website with up to date information
- Direct contact with nearest neighbours to the site and individual visits planned
- Public exhibitions
 - Suggest advertising in local press and invitations sent to households within 2km of site
 - In October 2026, to introduce the project and development team, explain timeline and surveys to be carried out. Collecting input from attendees and local residents
 - In mid 2027 to show project design, output of surveys, mitigation and planning submission timeline
- We will keep a register of all people who wish to be kept informed on project progress
- Planned application submission - Autumn 2027

Community Benefit

- Designed around advice in North Kesteven District Council- *Large-scale Solar Energy – Community Benefit Policy*
- £500 for every MW installed solar capacity on the site for 40 years
- 200MW solar capacity: £100,000 per year, index linked
- £4million over project lifetime

An idea would be to split between

- Local energy discount scheme – in development to be rolled out across all BLC projects
- Local charities/ community projects
- Tell us local priorities



Example of Responsible Development

Binn Solar and BESS Farm

- Recently received unanimous approval from Perth and Kinross Council Planning Committee
- Officers and councillors complimented our sensitive approach to project design and community involvement
- To watch the committee meeting:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzZ7A2SQX_o&t=16s





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Thank you

Any Questions?

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