BANKS Renewables
development with care

Barnsdale Solar

Sustainable energy for everyone


Image for illustrative purposes

NEWS INSIDE: **Key project facts** • **Benefits for your community** • **Our proposals**

Keeping you informed

Banks Renewables is the company that developed and operates Hook Moor Wind Farm near Mickelfield.

We have a new and exciting renewable energy project proposal and we want to keep you informed with all the latest project information and our contact details so you can get in touch with us.

There are many ways for you to get involved including online consultation or you can visit the Barnsdale Solar page on our website, email, phone or write to us.

FIND OUT MORE: **www.banksgroup.co.uk/barnsdalesolar** • GET INVOLVED: **see back page for our contact details**

In case we haven't met yet

Banks Renewables is part of the Banks Group and we provide renewable energy solutions that help meet our society's demand for energy in a sustainable and considerate way.

Development with care is at the heart of our way of working, and it's proven in every one of our projects by actions, more so than words. Respect and consideration for your environment, your community and our customers, employees and suppliers are at the centre of everything we do.

YOUR PERSONAL CONTACT

Jamilah Hassan
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER

Jamilah is your community relations manager for the Barnsdale Solar project and is the first point of contact for the local community and members of the general public. You may have met her regarding our Hook Moor Wind Farm, built in 2015. Since it started generating energy in 2016, Hook Moor has provided clean, renewable electricity for around 7,000 homes every year. Jamilah is keen to know your community better and find out how you think it could benefit from the Barnsdale Solar project. If you would like to ask any questions and share your views, you can contact Jamilah using the details below:

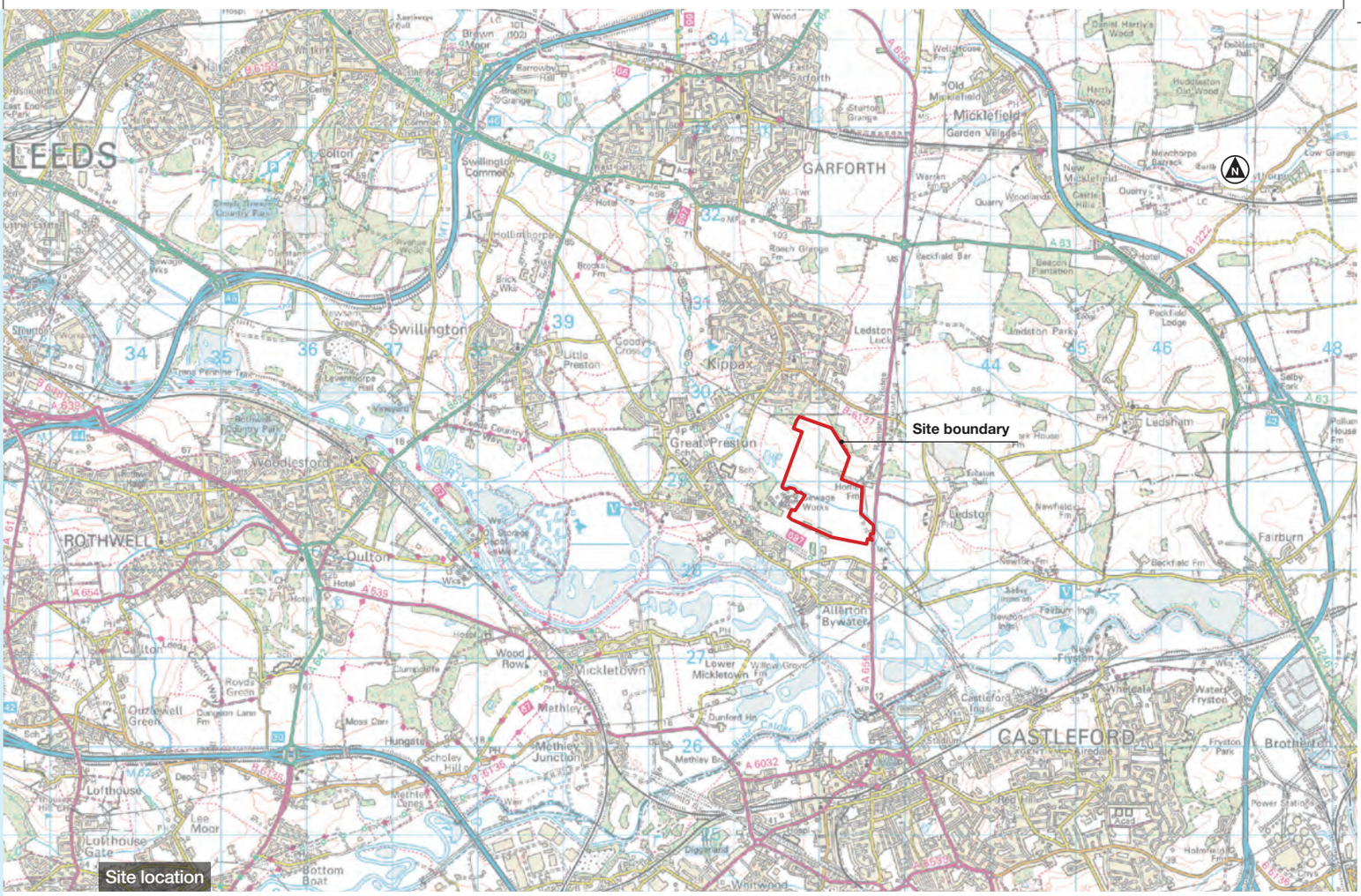
barnsdalesolar@banksgroup.co.uk

0191 378 6100

www.banksgroup.co.uk/barnsdalesolar

Jamilah Hassan, Banks Renewables, Unit 2, Harewood Yard, Harewood LS17 9LF

Our Hook Moor Wind Farm near Micklefield



Site location

Why solar? Why this site?

MEETING OUR NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE ELECTRICITY

The UK Government has set ambitious targets for renewable energy generation to help reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions and combat climate change. In order to meet these targets new, renewable infrastructure and generating facilities must be developed. By choosing electricity generated from solar technology we can help meet our energy targets and reduce GHG emissions whilst protecting and promoting local wildlife.

The cost for developing solar technology has also significantly reduced in recent years - meaning solar is now one of cheapest ways to produce electricity, which should help keep household energy bills low.

AN IDEAL SITE FOR SOLAR

After undergoing a detailed land search, the Barnsdale Solar site was identified as having the best opportunity to create a solar park that links directly into the electricity substation adjacent to the site.

The local electricity grid has sufficient capacity to accommodate our proposed south facing Barnsdale site.

An existing access point off Barnsdale Road will be used as the entrance to the development and the site is well screened with mature trees and hedgerows.

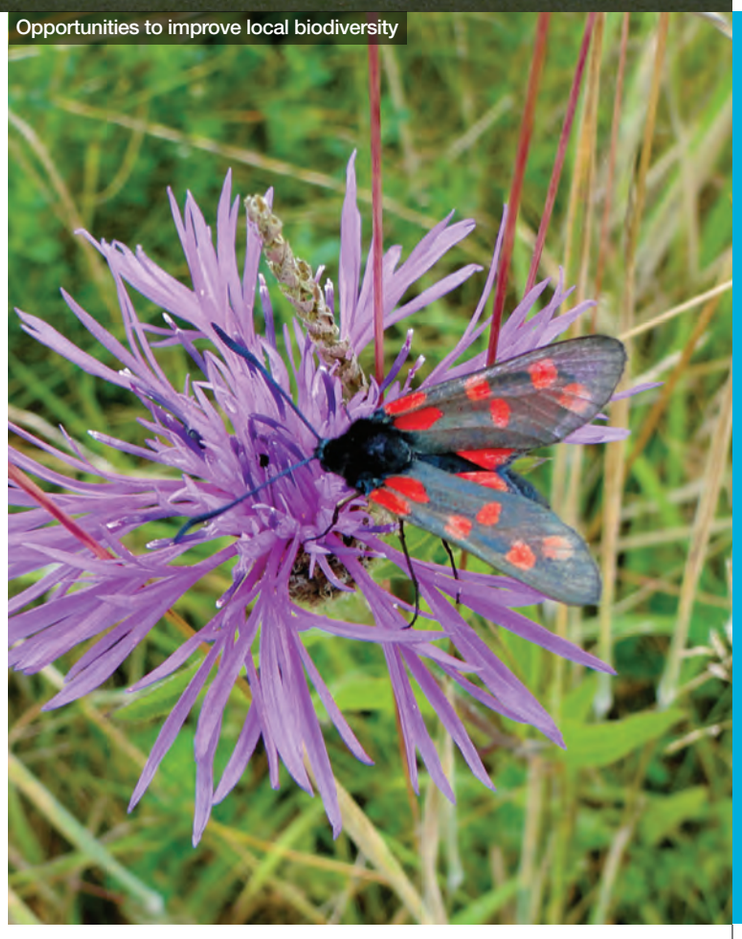
Benefiting your community

Supporting Aberford Bowling Club

We believe that the communities that host our projects should share in the benefits. The Barnsdale Solar project would bring a wide range of social, economic and environmental benefits. We'd love to hear from you on what these benefits could include.

The Barnsdale Solar project has a generous community fund which could be worth up to £25,000 every year. Just like the Hook Moor Wind Farm Community Fund we would work with your community to identify the priorities for the fund.

Your community will have a say in the local projects that should benefit from the funding. Get in touch and let us know how this fund could be used.



Opportunities to improve local biodiversity

KEY PROJECT BENEFITS AT-A-GLANCE

ENVIRONMENTAL

APPROXIMATELY 12,000 HOMES SUPPLIED WITH GREEN RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY EVERY YEAR

9,444 TONNES OF CARBON DIOXIDE SAVED EVERY YEAR*

*COMPARED TO FOSSIL FUEL GENERATION

THIS IS THE EQUIVALENT TO THE EMISSIONS SAVED BY REMOVING 3,635 PETROL CARS FROM UK ROADS EVERY YEAR

OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE HABITATS FOR WILDLIFE - ENCOURAGING BIODIVERSITY

SOCIAL

UP TO £25,000 COMMUNITY FUND FOR LOCAL GROUPS AND PROJECTS EVERY YEAR

HELPING TO KEEP NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICITY BILLS LOW

ECONOMIC

£25M PROJECT INVESTMENT

DIRECT AND INDIRECT JOBS ON SITE DURING CONSTRUCTION PERIOD

BANKS COMMUNITY FUND

Organisations and groups close to a proposed or operational Banks site may be eligible to apply for a grant from the Banks Community Fund. Since the fund was set up we have awarded over £5 million in grants which have benefited over 1,000 community groups.

Groups in your area who have already benefited include Aberford Bowling Club, Micklefield Tenants & Residents Association and playgroup charity Methley Mites. This year, special arrangements have been made to aid local groups helping community groups respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funding is available now for community groups, sport clubs and other local organisations in your area so please use the contact details on the back page to find out how to apply for a grant and to see if your project is eligible.

Our proposals

We have recently carried out various investigations on site so we can finalise the design of the solar farm. We are currently preparing a planning application that will be submitted to Leeds City Council Council later this year.

KEY FACTS

Potential amount of electricity generated:
Installed capacity of around 40MW, which would provide enough electricity for approximately 12,000 homes each year

Panel height: Circa 3.5 metres

Location: Situated on land south of Kippax, east of Great Preston, north of Allerton Bywater and west of the A656

Land used by solar panels: Approximately 50 hectares

Current land use: Agriculture

Lifespan: 40 years in operation

Decommissioning: Infrastructure will be removed with the site returned to farm land.

Footpaths/bridleways: No closures or diversions

Connection to electricity grid:
Limited grid infrastructure will be required as the solar farm will utilise the existing Ledston Primary substation

Construction period: 6-9 months

Traffic management during construction: A full Traffic Management Plan will be agreed prior to work commencing

BATTERY STORAGE

The project will also include a battery storage facility which will enable us to store energy generated from the sun and deliver it to homes when they need it most.

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT

The land used for the solar farm creates a safe place where nature and wildlife can flourish. The ground beneath the solar panels can allow the creation of a wildflower meadow and increased planting in hedgerows and field boundaries can bring both landscape and wildlife benefits.

We are keen to ensure a net gain in biodiversity on the site to ensure a benefit to wildlife, linking with the adjacent nature reserve and supporting and enhancing the Leeds Habitat Network along the Sheffield Beck running through the site.

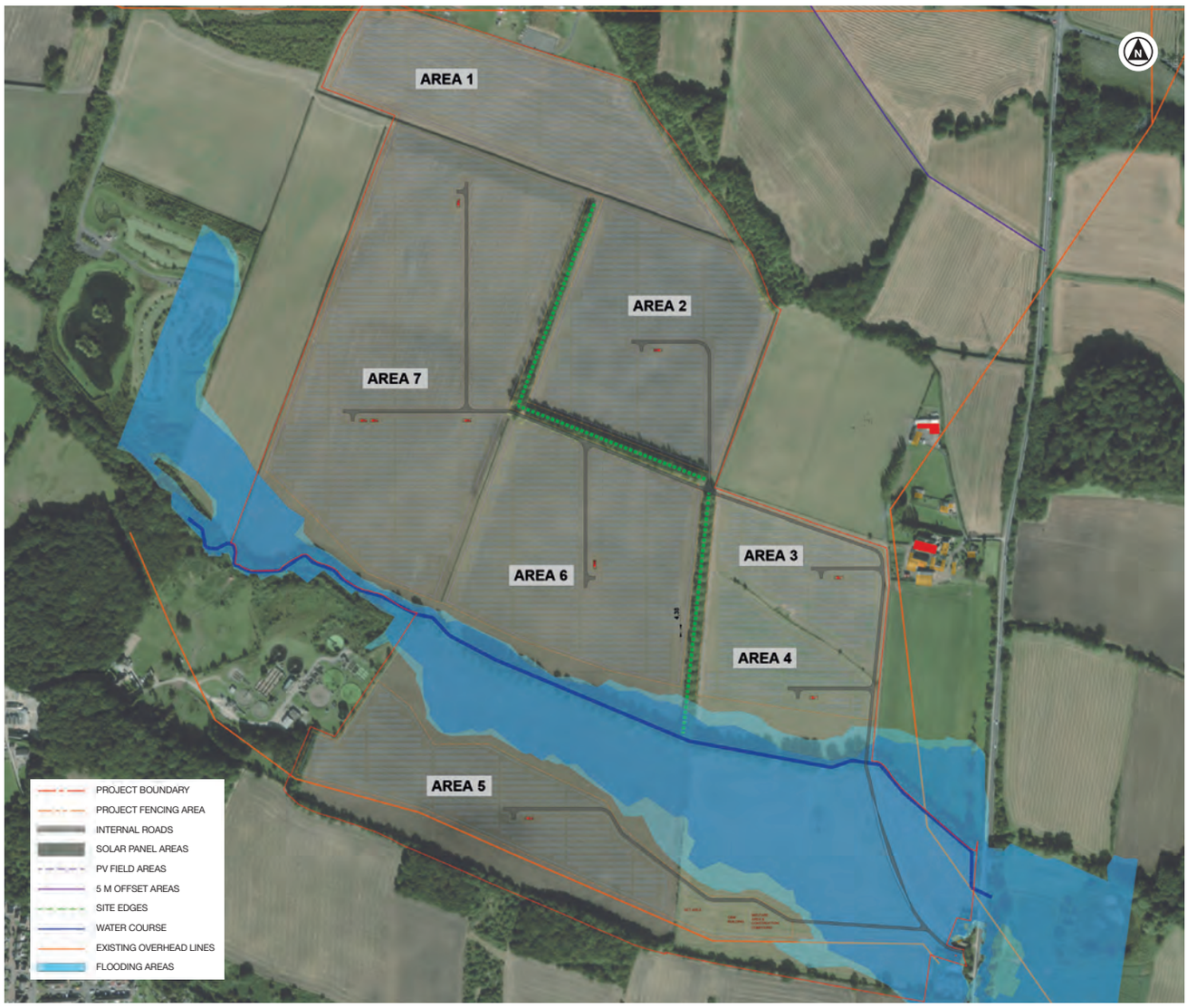
The specific enhancements will be decided using the results of our ecological surveys and liaison with the Council and Wildlife Trust.

WHAT COULD THE SITE LOOK LIKE?

This indicative visual shows the view of the site from residential properties along Park Lane, Allerton Bywater. This is a key viewpoint where panels on the site will be visible from a distance. A full landscape and visual assessment will be undertaken as part of the planning application.

PHOTOMONTAGE: Indicative view from junction of Park Lane and Park Avenue
BASE PHOTO TAKEN: March 2020 - Note low foliage on trees and hedgerows

PROPOSED LAYOUT



VIEWPOINT LOCATION

Get involved

Our dedicated project team would love to hear from you on how the Barnsdale Solar project could benefit you. If the COVID-19 restrictions change soon, we'll be coming to speak with you face-to-face in your community. In the meantime, please contact us using the details below to find out more about the project.

barnsdalesolar@banksgroup.co.uk

0191 378 6100 or 0844 209 1515*

www.banksgroup.co.uk/barnsdalesolar

The Banks Group

@The_Banks_Group

www.youtube.com/TheBanksGroup

Jamilah Hassan, Banks Renewables, Unit 2, Harewood Yard, Harewood LS17 9LF

*Calls to 0844 numbers are charged at local rate from a BT landline, charges from other providers and mobile networks may vary.

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