

Great Harmeston Solar Farm

Community Newsletter March 2026

We would like to inform you that statutory consultation for Great Harmeston Solar Farm is underway.

Arise Renewable Energy UK, who are proposing the development, will seek to generate clean electricity from the 65MWac solar farm, on land to the south of Johnston and 1km to the north of Steynton, Milford Haven. This amount of power is enough to supply approximately 34,444 homes each year, helping to cut carbon emissions and support the transition away from fossil fuels. The project would also result in a reduction of carbon dioxide emissions of over 11,532 tonnes of CO₂ per year.¹

Clean, renewable energy is a key part of the Welsh Government's plan to reach net-zero by 2050, including a goal

for all electricity to come from 100% zero-carbon sources by 2035.

This proposal will allow the farmers involved to diversify their income, strengthening the viability of their overall farming operations.

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) notes that even under ambitious solar expansion plans, solar farms are expected to cover less than 1% of the UK's agricultural land, resulting in minimal impact on food production and security.² In the case of this project, under 20% of the land identified is classified as Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land.



Scan the QR code to view the project website, draft planning application, consultation materials and provide feedback.



To find out more request a call back from the team on **07493 060539** or visit **www.greatharmestonsolar.co.uk**

¹Source: Homes: 65MWac / 2700kWh (average UK home) = 34,444. CO₂: 65MWac solar scheme based on a reasonable expected yield of 1,000 kWh/kWp/year and a carbon intensity of 0.124 kg CO₂/kWh per the 2023 BEIS dataset = 11,532

²<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-10-08/7826/>

SITE LOCATION

Great Harmeston Solar Farm is proposed to be located on parcels of land to the south of the village of Johnston in Pembrokeshire.

As the project is for a solar farm with a generating capacity of between 10MWac and 350MWac, it will be determined under the Development of National Significance (DNS) planning system. Following completion of statutory consultation we will submit a planning application to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW). PEDW will assess our application before Welsh Ministers determine if it is to be granted planning consent. Temporary planning permission is being sought for a period of 40 years, when the site will be decommissioned and the land returned to its current use. This is our second round of consultation having conducted early engagement and non statutory consultation in 2025.



Site location plan exhibiting the site location and boundaries. The full site layout plan and landscape masterplan can be viewed on the project website and at the public exhibitions.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Great Harmeston Solar Farm is predominantly made up of fields which are currently used for agricultural purposes. The application area covers approximately 316 acres (128 hectares), which will be used to accommodate the development as well as new biodiversity areas.

The energy converted by the solar panels will feed electricity directly into the National Grid, connecting to an existing local overhead line at the south of the site. This power will then be distributed through the local grid, helping to provide nearby homes with clean, renewable electricity. One of the main reasons that the site was chosen is because it sits close to a suitable grid connection point with the capacity to safely receive the renewable energy generated. This is an important requirement for projects of this nature and also one of the main reasons why brownfield sites often cannot accommodate solar developments.

The solar farm has been carefully designed to be low-impact, quiet and environmentally responsible. We've chosen a location with limited visibility from nearby homes, making use of existing hedgerows and mature trees to help screen the site. Setbacks from field boundaries in some areas have been incorporated into the design following the first round of consultation. We believe this project can deliver meaningful benefits for local wildlife through the creation of new habitat areas and by removing the

requirement for the use of agricultural pesticides and machinery runs.

Once the site is up and running, we expect only a small number of vehicle movements, far fewer than a typical housing development, for example. We will include a Construction Management Plan with our planning application, setting out how we will manage vehicle activity during the construction phase. This document can be viewed on our website alongside the wider draft planning application.

CONSULTATION

We have commenced statutory consultation and would like to invite you to attend drop in public exhibitions at:

- **Johnston Baptist Church (Village Chapel), Glebelands, Johnston, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PW on Thursday 26 March from 1pm to 7pm**
- **Old School Room, Tiers Cross, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3DA on Monday 11 May from 1pm to 7pm**

If you would like to attend, please register your interest at katie@powiscommunications.co.uk. Registering is not essential but will help us get an idea of the likely number of attendees.

Additionally, the project website www.greatharmestonsolar.co.uk provides further information on the proposal, draft planning application, consultation materials and project plans. It also allows interested parties

to comment on the community benefit fund which will be included as part of the proposal.

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR FEEDBACK ON OUR PROPOSAL

You can send us your thoughts via any of the channels listed below:

- ✍ Feedback forms are available at the public exhibitions and online at www.greatharmestonsolar.co.uk. We will also post hard copies upon request.
- @ Written feedback can be sent to katie@powiscommunications.co.uk
- ✉ You can post your feedback to **FREEPOST PC CONSULTATION** (no stamp required)
- ☎ Register your views or request a call back from the team by calling **07493 060539**
- 📄 Complete the online form at www.greatharmestonsolar.co.uk

The closing date for comment is **22 May 2026**.

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