



WIND POWER OPPORTUNITY

Bigbury, Ringmore, Kingston,
Aveton Gifford and Churchstow





Proposed OCTOPUS ENERGY Rolliers Fan Club wind turbine in Bigbury

Within the next two years, subject to planning permission, Octopus Energy proposes to install a 1 MW wind turbine in Rolliers Field in the parish of Bigbury. None of the energy produced would be sent to the national grid. It would all be used by our local community. We now have a choice. Back it or Lose it.

The potential benefits to our communities are huge:

- If we **have the choice** to use both solar and wind-generated renewable energy, our community would be **less vulnerable** to future price shocks from oil/gas prices and shortages that are beyond our control.
- Members of the **Rolliers Fan Club** would benefit from **discounts of 20 - 50%** on energy bills, depending on the prevailing wind speeds. This would reduce the impact of the cost of living crisis and help families to move away from oil-fired heating systems.
- Octopus helps customers move towards **100% renewable energy** by adding **solar panels and air-source heat pumps** to their local wind energy supplies. Octopus helps homeowners by **surveying** their home energy needs, accessing government **grants** and offering **top-up interest free loans** with **monthly installments**.

Innovative model

Fan Clubs are an Octopus model which embeds a **single 1MW turbine into the local grid**. Octopus is piloting this as a strategy to reduce demand for energy from the National Grid. The National Grid infrastructure needs massive investment to make it possible to meet Government targets to decarbonise electricity nationally by 2030. Our single local turbine would be independent of this infrastructure.

Octopus describes Fan Clubs as '**community energy projects**'. because they are very small projects, relative to the large wind farms that serve the whole nation.

Our normal understanding of what a 'community energy project' involves is that the 'community' would have to raise ALL the funding to buy the turbine, engage with the National Grid to get a connection offer, undertake all the studies needed for the planning application, handle the public consultations, figure out the financials and how to sell the energy and bill customers. We may not have the local appetite to take on this challenge. Octopus are fully responsible. If we want to, we may be able to purchase bonds and be a co-investor.

Understand it
Embrace it



Up to 500 homes
in **Bigbury,**
Ringmore,
Kingston,
Aveton Gifford
and **Churchstow**
could benefit
from Fan Club
discounts of 20
- 50% on energy
bills.

Positives

The proposed Rolliers Fan Club turbine already has a **confirmed connection offer from National Grid Energy Distribution** (to the local grid) – subject to planning permission from SHDC because **none of the energy from the proposed Rolliers Fan Club, will be exported** out of our local grid. **No additional pylons** will be required to move the wind power to our homes. Rolliers Fan Club can go ahead as soon as Octopus gets planning permission from SHDC.

The proposed field site allows the turbine to be **sensitively sited** so that it does not dominate the landscape in spite of its size because of: the high hedges along the narrow approach roads to Bigbury and the very few homes within line of sight and the lack of viewpoints of the site from public footpaths or other roads in the far distance.

The site is very 'windy' and will therefore be a reliable source of energy - worth the investment. The nearest homes are about 600 m away from the turbine and the prevailing south-westerly wind takes any noise away from St Ann's Chapel. Planning authorities require turbines to be at least 300 m away from the nearest habitation to minimise any noise disturbance. Modern small turbines make less noise than an electric fridge.

How do you benefit?

Register an interest in the **Rolliers Fan Club** <https://octopus.energy/Rolliers-Development-Project/>
You will be contacted once planning permission has been obtained. Membership is free but you have to be an Octopus customer. Octopus would facilitate any necessary transfer of energy accounts.

What next?

There is a public consultation at the **Bigbury Memorial Hall in St Ann's Chapel on Tues 8th Oct** 10.00am to 4.00pm. Experts will also explain what additional offers are available from Octopus for installation of heat pumps, solar panels, grants and credit terms etc.

Local Support

Many local people already buy their energy from Octopus and there are positive vibes here about the turbine. It is possible that planning application will go before the SHDC Development Management Committee in the spring of 2025. The more local support that can be voiced for this project - the more assurance the DMC committee members will have that there is a demand for sensitively-sited onshore wind projects of an appropriate scale that specifically benefit local communities.

Louise Wainwright
Chair Bigbury Net Zero
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Disclaimer

Bigbury Net Zero has presented information herein to the best of its knowledge and accepts no liability for any inaccuracies. Readers are invited to view the Octopus website for accurate updates and attend the public consultation on **8th October in St Ann's Chapel**.
<https://octopus.energy/Rolliers-Development-Project/>

Our parishes could move away from oil - with a Fan Club

These are our parish carbon footprints which show how reliant we are on fossil fuels (oil, mains gas, LPG, coal) which are causing our climate to change. The figures are the total tons per year of CO₂ equivalent emissions from each parish. Download the full reports for a full explanation.

The charts below show the reliance on fossil fuels - OIL, MAINS GAS, COAL and LPG



For more information download the full carbon footprint report for your parish here..

<https://impact-tool.org.uk/footprint/search>



"I hope people will come to the consultation and see the sensitive site plans which mean the turbine is NOT visible 'for miles around' We need every parish and council to switch to greener energy".

Farhana Yamin
 Bigbury resident
 Bigbury Net Zero Committee
 Director & Coordinator
 Climate Justice - Just Transition
 Collaborative
 Senior Adviser, SYSTEMIQ
 Director, Impatience Ltd
 Creative Director, Culture COP
 Hon Fellow, Somerville College,
 Oxford
 Visiting Professor, University of
 the Arts, London



"Seadream's activities reduce eco-anxiety, promote energy efficiency, celebrate our stunning coastline and biodiversity and promote renewable energy. We inform how eco and energy ambition builds community resilience, and this local wind turbine is a hugely exciting leap for our community"

Dr Juliette Jackson
 Seadream Education CIC
www.seadreameducation.com/

"A wind turbine, properly planned and located and benefiting the community is a great idea good luck."

Peter Brown
 Resident and renewable energy
 champion Noss Mayo & Newton
 Ferrers



"Wild About Loddiswell's watch words are "Wildlife-Conservation-Sustainability-Community" and our main aim is to work with the community to enhance the biodiversity of the green spaces in and around Loddiswell. One of our other aims is to "provide information and encourage residents to live more sustainably".

Climate and biodiversity are very much intertwined and if we all do not urgently address the current climate emergency, the biodiversity of the entire planet will suffer irreversibly. This is why Wild About Loddiswell supports the proposed Rolliers Fan Club that will generate renewable energy efficiently for the small communities in the locality of the wind turbine.

We understand that ecological surveys are being conducted and mitigation measures will be taken to protect bats and other wildlife as required.

Liz Montague
Resident Loddiswell
Chair, Wild About Loddiswell
www.wildaboutloddiswell.co.uk



Totnes Renewable Energy Society (TRESOC) support the new onshore wind turbine development at Bigbury, linked to an Octopus Energy Fan Club.

TRESOC believe that more onshore wind should be developed in the South Hams and welcome any model that encourages this. The development of local wind resources is a way for communities to become more energy dependant and reduce their reliance on fossil fuels. Ideally, these wind resources would be 100% community owned, however, few communities have the financial resources, skills and risk appetite needed to develop a turbine. To make small projects economically viable they need to be linked to some type of local supply model such as an Energy Local Club, which we are developing in Totnes, or an Octopus Energy Fan Club.

More clean and green renewable energy on the system in this area can only be a good thing and we hope the project is successfully developed.

Good luck with it all.

Dr Sally Murrall-Smith PhD
Totnes Renewable Energy Society
Managing Director
www.tresoc.co.uk



"How exciting to see this innovation allowing direct community participation in the financial benefits of clean energy!"

Nigel Topping
Resident Totnes
UN High Level Climate Action Champion, COP26



"Kingsbridge Climate Action is a community focussed group tackling the Climate and Nature Emergency in positive and engaging ways, identifying deliverable solutions, organising change-promoting events, supporting the District and Town Council and working with neighbouring parish groups and others, on Climate (and Nature) addressing actions in and around Kingsbridge.

We see the Rolliers Fan Club as an excellent way to increase local generation and availability of renewable energy with direct local benefits.

Paul Vann
Resident Loddiswell
Chair Kingsbridge Climate Action
www.kingsbridgeclimateaction

Time to redefine our priorities?

South Hams District Council will debate HM Government proposed amendments to the National Planning Policy Framework. Our government wants to “accelerate and streamline deployment of onshore wind” to reach zero carbon electricity by 2030. The decisions of SHDC will send a clear message to community groups working hard to respond to the climate emergency.

Extract from:

HM Government Consultation on National Planning Policy Framework (Aug 24)



“We are proposing amendments to direct decision makers to give **significant weight to the benefits associated with renewable** and low carbon energy generation, and proposals’ contribution to meeting a net zero future.

In doing so, this aims to **increase the likelihood of local planning authorities granting permission to renewable energy schemes** and contribute to reaching zero carbon electricity generation by 2030.

Further amendments seek to set a stronger expectation that authorities **pro-actively identify sites for renewable and low carbon development** when producing plans, where it is likely that in allocating a site, it would help secure development.

“We are proposing to set the threshold at which onshore wind projects are determined as Nationally Significant at 100MW; potentially allowing projects that fall beneath these thresholds to move through the **local planning system**, given they are less complex and geographically spread out, they could result in **faster consenting, and at lower cost.**”

Can we make a plan that works?

SHDC declared a Climate & Biodiversity Emergency and has set targets to reduce carbon emissions by 12% per annum. Parish and Town Councils in TQ7 have also declared a Climate Emergency.

Without the unambiguous support of SHDC for sensitively sited, community-based projects such as the Rolliers Fan Club - we have very few opportunities to make any meaningful impact on our district and parish carbon footprints. The full support of SHDC for this planning application is essential.

Extract from: **South Devon AONB Position Statement on Renewable Energy 2011**

We all value the beauty of the landscape that we live in. But, there is nothing at all 'beautiful' about climate change. Our generation owes it to the next generations to be pragmatic, be intelligent and support investment in renewable energy in our rural parishes. The Rolliers Fan Club is sensitively sited, not 'industrial' in scale, provides very significant financial benefits to the local community, has no extra transmission infrastructure associated with it and reduces our district carbon footprint. We have a unique opportunity to make a choice. Let's choose wisely.

The AONB Management Plan 2009-2014 includes policy Plan/P6:

"The development of sensitively sited, small scale or innovative renewable energy installations will be supported, having regard to their appropriateness in an AONB location, sites designated for their nature conservation importance and the AONB Partnership's position statement on renewable energy."

The AONB Partnership Committee recognises that some renewable energy developments can bring valuable benefits to the economy, communities, employment and land management of the area".

"The AONB Partnership Committee **advocates:**

- the development of small sensitively sited renewable energy installations where the impacts are **local in scale**, provide a demonstrable **net environmental gain** and where the **energy is used close to the site of the generating** installations. These will operate at an individual farm, household or **community scale**, have **minimal** transport or **transmission impacts** and be **unobtrusive** in the landscape;
- the development of community-owned renewable energy schemes;
- that particular attention is paid to the cumulative impact of schemes to avoid obtrusive impacts associated with small scale but widespread development;"

"In respect of **large scale energy production**, the AONB Partnership Committee considers:

- that renewable energy installations operating at an **industrial scale**, and which will have an intrusive impact on undeveloped and tranquil landscape by virtue of their size, transmission infrastructure, traffic generation, noise or other characteristic, are likely to be incompatible with the purposes of AONB designation;
- that such developments should follow a sequential test by being located outside the AONB and that a choice of site within the AONB should be rigorously justified;
- that particular care should be taken in maintaining the setting and skylines of the AONB and the views into and out of the AONB, including proposals located outside the AONB boundary but which impact on the AONB itself;
- that any planning permissions for renewable energy developments should include a requirement that infrastructure and plant should be decommissioned and removed from site when energy generation ceases".



Note

AONB - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty now known as
SDNL - South Devon National Landscapes