



*Working together*



**for a Better Future**



The Bretherton community, working through the parish council in partnership with GA Pet Food (GA), are embarking on a shared journey toward mutual net zero. One that strengthens local sustainability while unlocking long-term financial benefits for both the community and the business.

## What is proposed?

The site will feature **a single 110m-high wind turbine, 30 acres of solar panels, and battery storage** on lower-grade soils. **The Asland Walks Energy Park (AWEP) spans approximately 100 acres** of arable land on Bretherton's western edge, bordered by the River Douglas to the east and the Rufford Branch of the Leeds–Liverpool Canal to the west.

Existing access ways along the canal and river will be maintained, with additional woodland planting.

Around **60 acres will form a Habitat Bank for ground-nesting and farmland birds** (curlews, lapwings, skylarks, and yellowhammer), managed as rewilded scrubland. AWEP will also feature bird boxes, hibernaculas for wildlife winter shelter, wetland areas for amphibians and other pondlife, and appropriate earthwork landscaping to screen the electrical infrastructure.



## Who does what and who gets what?

**GA Pet Food (GA) will provide the land, funding, and maintain the generation infrastructure for 40 years**, as set out in the planning application. It will also manage access routes, landscaping, interpretation areas, and the Habitat Bank.

**GA will receive 95% of the electricity generated which will replace an estimated 70% of GA's current electricity use.** The Bretherton community, through the Bretherton Energy Co-op, **will receive the remaining 5% of the electricity at no cost** - around twice the current usage of Bretherton residents. The value of this electricity is estimated at **£129,000 per year** based on current grid prices. This will be delivered via an underground **11,000-volt cable to the village's two substations**, feeding into the low-voltage local grid and **benefiting most residents.**



## What happens to any unused element of the 5%?

If Bretherton residents do not use all the 5% of the electrical energy available, or it cannot all be used for some reason, **this 'surplus' is then sold to GA**, who will use it in their process, or sold to the grid. Income from the sale to GA and the grid is received by the Co-op and **used for community purposes.**



## Planning Application

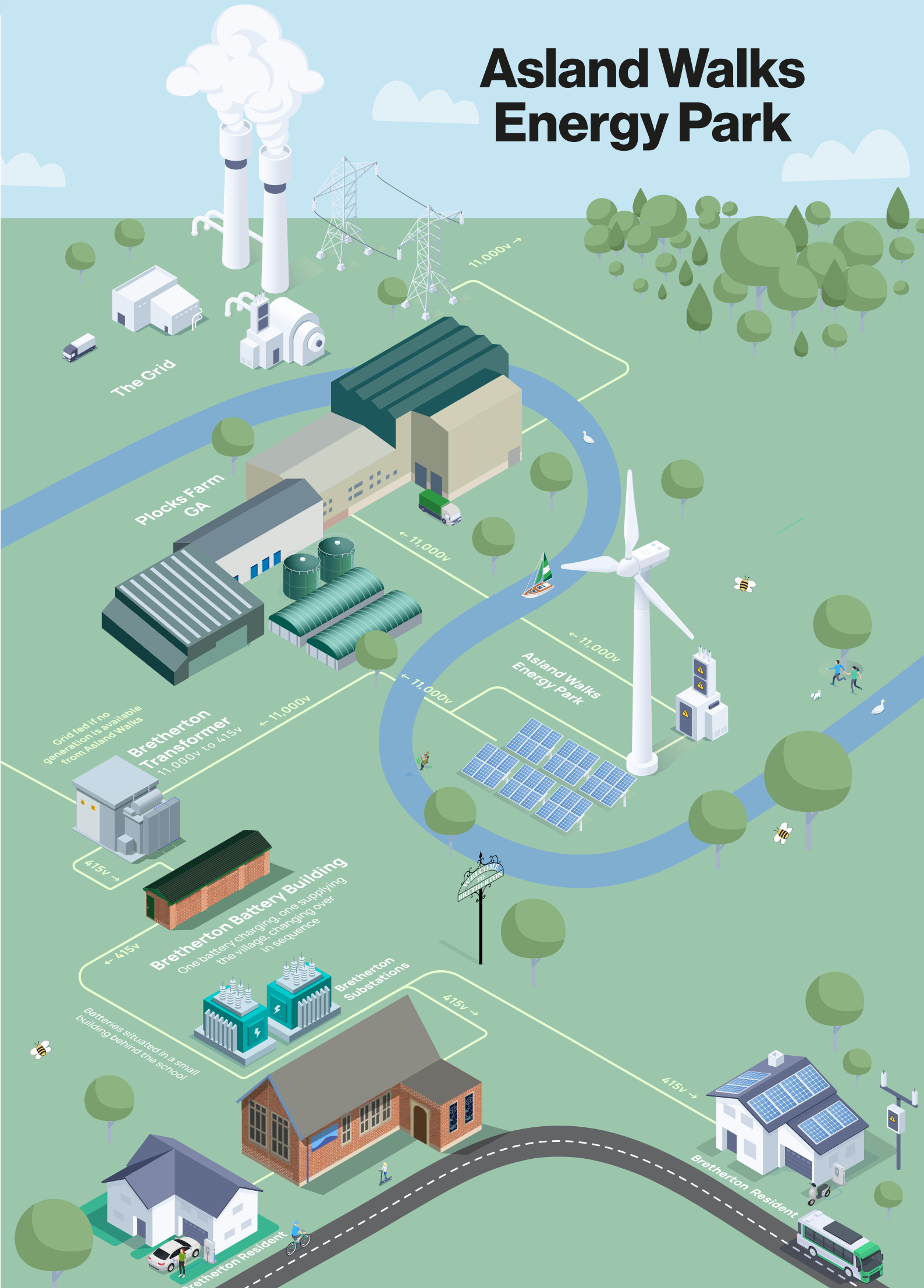
**Bretherton Energy Co-op, supported by Bretherton Parish Council, and GA Pet Food, collectively known as the Bretherton Energy Partnership submitted a joint Planning Application to Chorley Council in December 2025. The proposed scheme is now under consideration.**

A full list and access to all the assessments and documents that have been submitted to Chorley Council are available at:

**[brethertonenergy.co.uk](https://brethertonenergy.co.uk)**

**Resource Hub – Assessments and Reports**

# Asland Walks Energy Park







Existing View

View from Red Bridge (Eyes Lane) looking northwest



Artists impression after 15 years



Existing View

View from Strand Bridge (Sollom Lane) looking northeast



Artists impression after 15 years



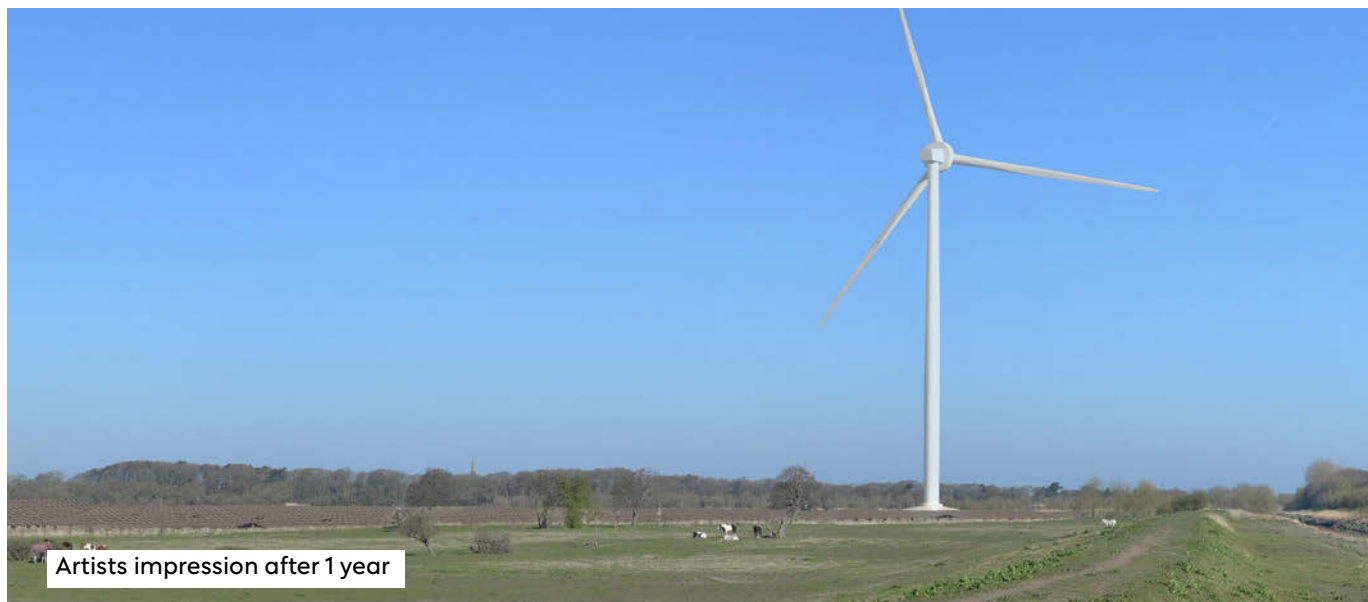
Existing View

View from Bank Bridge (A59) looking south



Artists impression after 15 years





Artists impression after 1 year

**View from Red Bridge (Eyes Lane) looking northwest**



Artists impression after 1 year

**View from Strand Bridge (Sollom Lane) looking northeast**



Artists impression after 1 year

**View from Bank Bridge (A59) looking south**

# Communication Consultation

The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) was commissioned in 2024 to undertake a comprehensive community engagement study with Bretherton residents over a two-stage process. The full study is available on the Bretherton Energy website.

The detailed 8-month study indicated that residents were supportive of the finance and governance of the proposed Bretherton Energy Co-op. There was low appetite for involvement in the decision-making structures, but 'one member one vote' was accepted as the right way forward.

The long-term management of any surplus 5% generation and where money might be spent was raised and this continues to be discussed. Plans are being developed by the community, working with Bretherton Parish Council.



The site will offset **7,000 tonnes** of carbon emissions, which is equivalent to taking **500 petrol cars off the road** for a year.



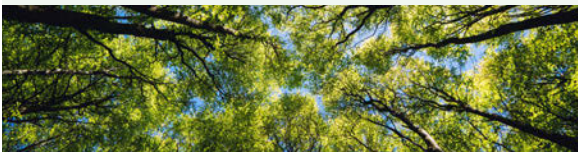
The value of the 5% electricity at current grid electricity is **estimated to be worth £129,000** if fully utilised.



**Twenty-six different studies, risk assessments and pieces of analysis** have been used and submitted within the December 2025 planning submission.



**11,575 trees and shrubs have been planted** around the periphery of the field, with a further **6,300 to be planted in the coming years.**



A visitor centre and knowledge boards with information about the **local heritage sites, history, wildlife, and live generation data from the Energy Park** is now established at Asland Walks.



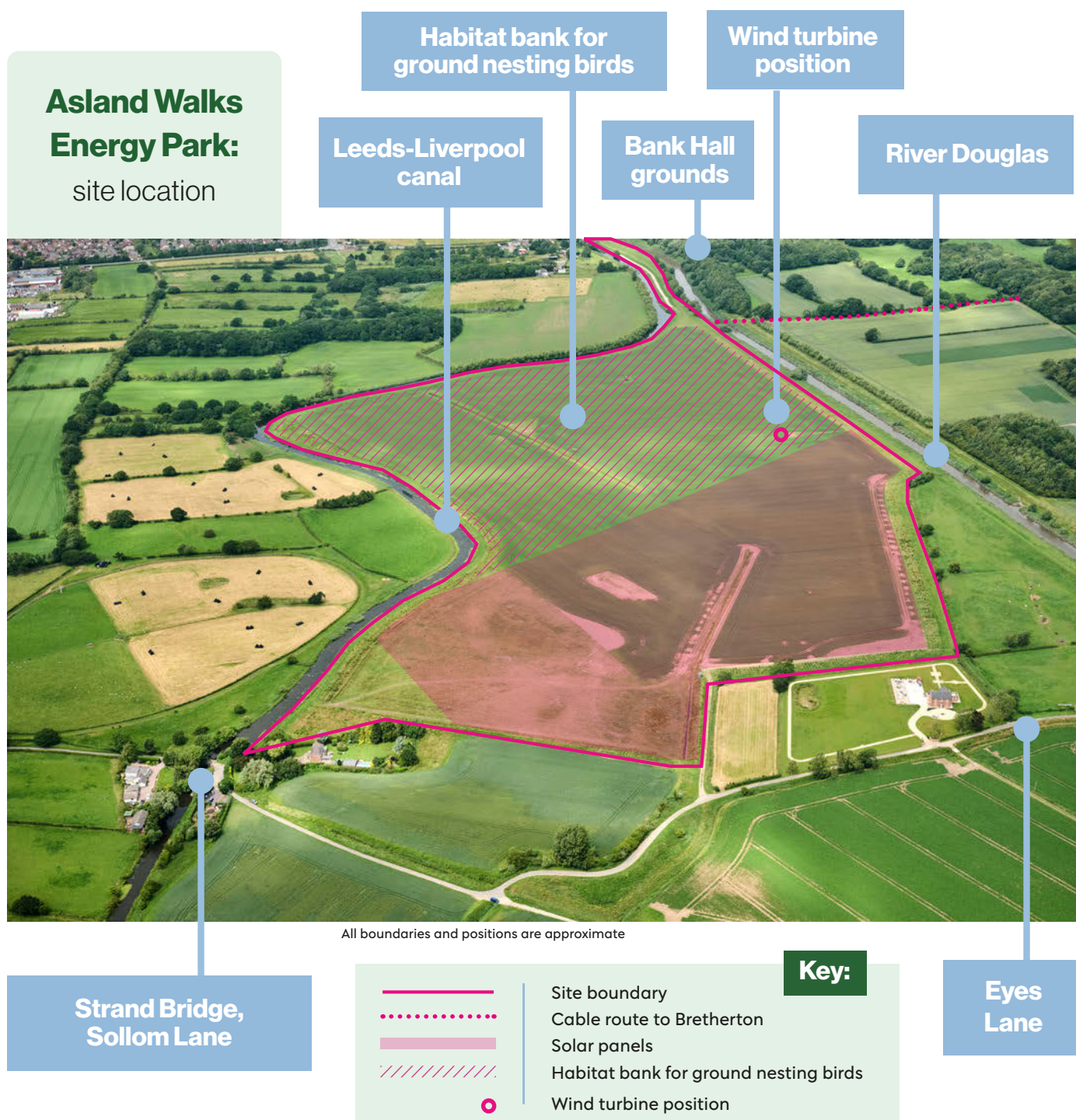
For further information please visit [brethertonenergy.co.uk](https://brethertonenergy.co.uk) or contact; [brethertonenergy@gmail.com](mailto:brethertonenergy@gmail.com)



The first step toward net zero is a collaborative development proposal to transform how we heat and power homes and businesses by shifting from expensive, volatile carbon-based fuels to locally generated, zero-carbon renewable energy from wind and solar.

In 2021, Bretherton Parish Council established a working group to investigate the opportunities, and has been working jointly with GA. The proposals have continued to develop with tree planting, the creation of access routes and the engagement with residents as to how the energy can be shared, stored, and any surplus sold.

In 2025 the Bretherton Energy Co-op was constituted as a community benefit society to manage the 5% of the generated electricity on behalf of the community.







**Benches installed at AWEP**



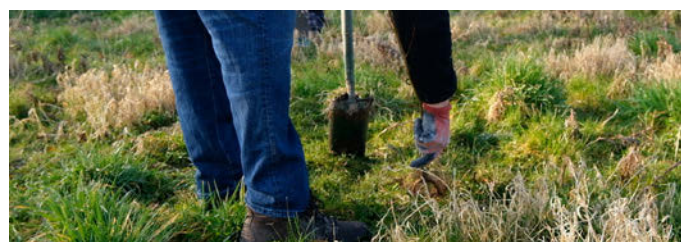
**River Douglas to the north of AWEP**



**11,575 trees and shrubs planted at AWEP**



**Wind and solar  
monitoring station**



**Tree planting at AWEP**



**Current landscape at Asland Walks**



**A space for connecting  
with nature**



**Creating a habitat for  
ground nesting birds**



**Welcoming everyone to  
enjoy the landscape**



**For further information please contact:**

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