

You are receiving this email for information purposes only.

[View this email in your browser](#)



Welcome to your Westmill summer newsletter. In it, you can find out about the decisions at our recent Annual General Meetings, and also how your co-operatives have been performing so far in 2021.

In this newsletter you can find out about:

- [AGMs](#)
- [Westmill Solar Community Grant scheme](#)
- [Trading Dividend](#)
- [Member Survey Responses](#)
- [Power purchase prices and extended PPAs](#)
- [2021 production to date](#)

---

## AGMs

We would like to thank all our members for their support for this year's AGMs, whether it was attending online or voting on the motions ahead of the day.

---

members, so it was great to have so many of you involved.

All the resolutions proposed to the meetings were passed by large majorities. 2020 was a record generation year for Solar and Wind's second highest ever generation year and as a result there was a good surplus in each co-operative, part of which has been formally allocated to a development reserves to further the work of the co-operatives.

We have received some incredibly positive feedback about the event, particularly with regards to Charlie Luxton's presentation on the work that he and Hook Norton Community Land Trust (CLT) are doing for community-led low carbon housing. You can watch his presentation on the [Westmill Solar YouTube channel](#) and for those who want to get further involved you can subscribe to become a member of [Hook Norton CLT](#).

Other recordings, draft minutes and those questions that were unable to be answered on the day are currently being readied and we will notify you when these are available for members to read/watch.

---

## Westmill Solar Community Grant scheme

Westmill Solar's community funding aims to benefit communities through action on climate change and sustainability or addressing fuel poverty. At the AGM we saw videos, images and messages from organisations that received funding in 2020, illustrating the impact achieved. Every recipient was listed in the annual report, and you can see more details of the 2020 community grants [here](#).

Within the overall community funding programme, the community grants scheme is a way for Westmill members and community organisations to bring ideas to your Board. This year's community grants scheme has already launched, so please visit the [Westmill Solar website](#), and encourage any deserving organisation that you know to apply for a grant up to £5,000.

We are also looking for one or two Westmill members to join our Community Grant's panel to determine those applications deserving of funding. If you would like to put yourself forward for this or to make any other suggestions about community funding, please email [info@westmillsolar.coop](mailto:info@westmillsolar.coop) including "community funding" in the subject line.

---

## Trading Dividend

One of the characteristics of a co-operative is that it trades with its members. For a number of years both Wind and Solar have sold their electricity to Your Co-op Energy, making it possible for members to buy their electricity.

At the start of this year we took this a step further. Working with Your Co-op Energy, we have introduced a Trading Dividend. This means that, just like any other co-operative, Westmill members buying electricity from us can now receive a dividend based on that trade. The annual meeting agreed the Trading Dividend would be £15/household member for both co-operatives.

---

## Member Survey Responses

We also wanted to take this opportunity to thank the 1,002 members who completed our recent survey. It was great to get input on our emerging ideas for the future from such a wide range of members.

Over 98% of both Wind and Solar members agreed that we should start exploring the viability of continuing beyond the initial lives of the projects, and nearly 70% of you would like to recommit beyond the current forecast end date and continue to be a member.

Of the initial future strategy ideas put forward, the two that were most strongly supported were to develop future revenue streams and to support new renewable generation initiatives. These were followed by high levels of support for focusing on promoting sustainable lifestyles and increasing the number / diversity of members.

The survey also gave us a better understanding of why members initially joined and how their interest in both community renewable energy and co-operatives have increased over time.

Finally we found that 40% of you are on Facebook, which is useful information as we consider ways to both attract new members and communicate with existing members.

We are still working through all your detailed comments and will continue to ask for further feedback and input from you as our future strategy is developed.

## Power purchase prices and extended PPAs

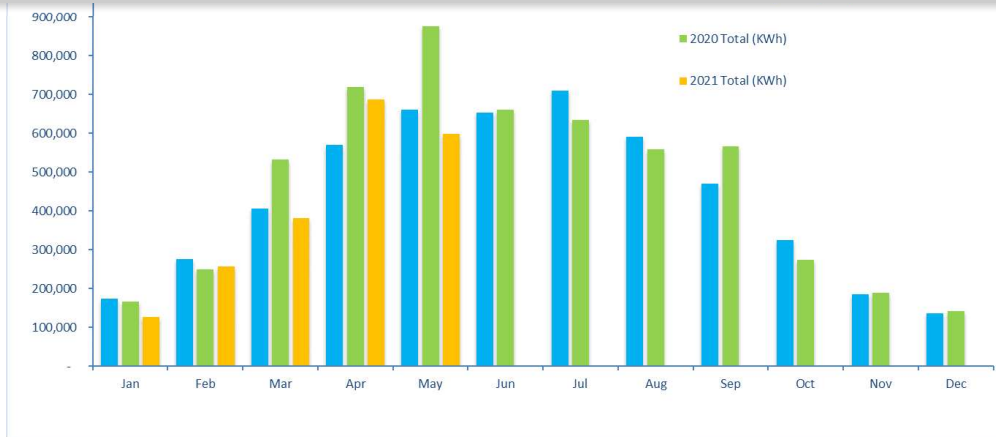
Wholesale electricity prices have varied over the last year, in April 2020 one year fixed prices were lower than £30 per MW/h for wind and solar technologies. Prices have increased since then and working with younity (Power purchase agreement provider) who facilitates the electricity for Your Co-op Energy's Community Power tariff, Westmill Wind has agreed electricity sales through to 2022 at over £60 per MW/h and Westmill Solar have agreed prices through to 2023 at over £55 per MW/h for the summer months and over £70 per MW/h for the winter months.

---

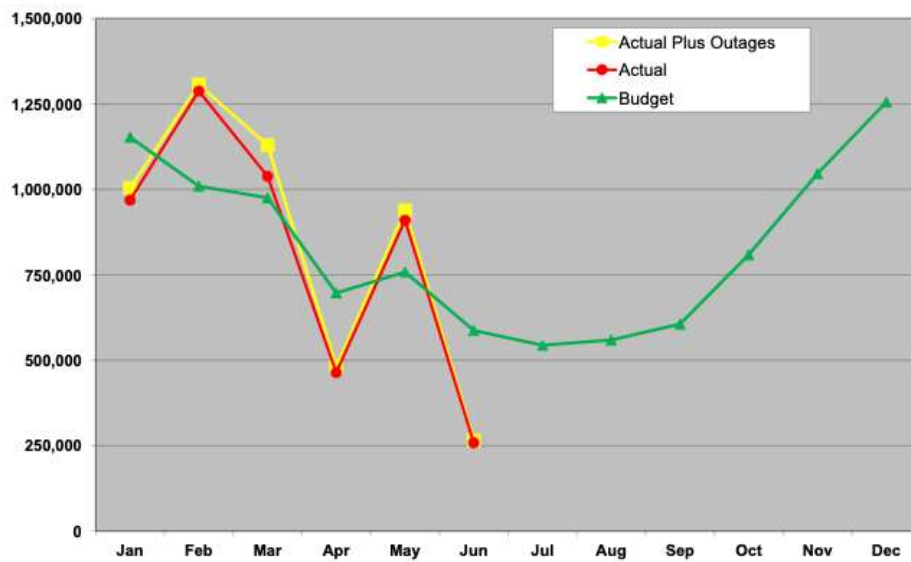
## 2021 production to date

The Westmill financial year runs January to December. Traditionally the wind blows more in the winter and less in the summer while Solar's generation is obviously much stronger in summer than winter. By the end of June Westmill Wind had generated 5.1GWh of electricity to date, benefitting from above average generation in February, March and May, although April and June production were below budget, leaving the cooperative 5% below wind generation budget at this point in the year.

During the same period, Westmill Solar generated 2.38 GWh. This was below the record generation that we saw in the same period in 2020 and 13.4% below our budget for the year.



Westmill Output - Actual to Budget From Jan 2021



If you have any questions regarding Westmill Solar then you can email us at [info@westmillsolar.coop](mailto:info@westmillsolar.coop). You can also visit our website at [www.westmillsolar.coop](http://www.westmillsolar.coop).

WeSET are once again providing on site tours of the wind and solar park! [Book yours now!](#)

If you have questions regarding your investment and contact information then please contact our registrars at Ethex at [registry@ethex.org.uk](mailto:registry@ethex.org.uk).

Please also make sure to like and follow us on our social media channels below.