Charity number: 1158820

Company number: CE003083

# The Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust
# (WeSET)
# A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

## TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

# CONTENTS

CONTENTS 2

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS 3

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 4

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WESTMILL SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRUST 9

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 10

BALANCE SHEET 11

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 12

# REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

### Trustees

Cecilia Park Olley

Chris Church

Fran Tattersall

Liam Wilson

Mike Blanch, Chair

Robert Tapsfield

Warren Hicks

Mark Foyle

Alicia Katarina de Haldevang

### Charity registered number

1158820

### Registered office

Trinity Enterprise Centre, Furness Business Park, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria, LA14 2PN

### Correspondence address

8 Maple Gardens, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4GP

### Website

https://westmillenergy.coop/about/weset/

### Independent Examiner

J.R. Mercer Associates Ltd

48 Chelworth Road. Cricklade. Wilts. SN6 6HD

### Banker

The Co-operative Bank

# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

### Introduction

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 under the Charities Act 2011, together with the unaudited financial statements for the year, and confirm that the latter comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Westmill Energy Sustainable Energy Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (number 1158820).

### 1. Objectives and activities

#### Objectives

The objectives of The Westmill Sustainable Trust are to promote the advancement of environmental protection or improvement for the benefit of the public, in particular but not exclusively, within 25 miles of Westmill Wind and Solar Farms (SN6 8TH) by promoting the deployment of sustainable energy, promoting education in the deployment of sustainable energy and making grants to such persons or organisations as the trustees see fit in order to promote and encourage the deployment of sustainable energy.

#### Education

2025 has been a landmark year for WeSET's educational outreach, marked by new resources, successful workshops and strengthened partnerships. Our work has reached schools, community groups and educators across the region with our aim to inspire practical action on sustainability.

**Curriculum & Resources**

- Developed further targeted STEM schemes of work for KS2–KS5, including a KS4/5 debating activity.
- Launched *Discovering Offshore Wind* (KS2/KS3), a lesson pack created with Offshore Wind Learning (OWL), now freely available online.
- Produced hands-on demonstration resources and "How To" sustainability lesson plans and action plans shaped by teacher feedback.
- Secured £500 from Solar Coop to curate high-quality resources for educators on our website.

**School & Community Engagement**

- Delivered workshops/tours for schools & groups including Bridlewood Primary, Uffington Primary, Stanford Beavers & Cubs, Grove Beavers, Covingham Park Squirrel Dray, Kintbury Primary School, Ralph Alen School, New College School Oxford and Coakthorpe School.
- Participated in West Berkshire's Climate and Nature Action in Education Event.
- Ran four days of activities at Coleshill NT Earth Summit, reaching a broad range of schools from across the area.

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)

- Promoted Sustainability Lead Workshops through visits to 20 other local primary schools.
- Engaged communities at major events: Festival of Tomorrow (180+ contacts made), Newbury GreenFest, Sustainable Wantage and the AGM at Earth Trust.

**Workshops & Training**

- Secured £3,500 Younity grant to deliver two full-day Sustainability Lead Workshops (Sept & Oct).
- Produced a comprehensive @sustainability Lead Handbook' full of actionable resources and ideas, available in both printed and digital formats.
- Workshops (run at Coleshill in The Timber Store) empowered teachers to create sustainability plans, with overwhelmingly positive feedback:
    - *"Inspired to take ideas back to school."*
    - *"Great informative and useful sessions. So many practical ideas."*
    - *"Excellent day, knowledgeable and inspiring presenters."*
- In response to accessibility challenges, we are now planning and taking bookings for twilight sessions, INSET days and online sessions for 2026.

**Partnerships & Collaboration**

- Strengthened ties with Offshore Wind Learning, Action for the Climate Emergency, Transition by Design, Climate Outreach and Dr Dom Davies (Comics & Community Energy).
- Informal and formal meetings with Wind & Solar Co-op directors expanded our collaborative ecosystem.
- Participated in the 'Comics & Community Energy Workshop' at City St George's, University of London.
- Co-created a storytelling video resource with Dr Dominic Davies, now available for schools and workshops.
- Joined in debate at the 'Shaping the UK Public Participation Strategy for Climate' event in London Hosted by Climate Outreach and The Young Foundation.

**Impact**

- Direct engagement with over 30 schools and community groups, reaching out to many more through our participation in events.
- New resources launched and widely shared, supporting accessible renewable energy education.
- Teachers reported increased confidence and practical inspiration to embed sustainability in their schools.

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)

**Looking Ahead**

In 2026, WeSET Education will:

- Attend the Festival of Tomorrow, Oxford Science Fair and Coleshill NT Earth Summit amongst other events.
- Expand delivery formats for Sustainability Lead training.
- Continue developing concise lesson plans and resources including our “How To” guides – responding to teacher feedback.
- Explore collaborations with Comics & Community Energy, delivering workshops in schools and for local community members and action groups.

**Conclusion**

2025 has been a year of growth and impact for WeSET Education. From new resources and successful workshops to strengthened partnerships and enthusiastic feedback, we are trying to lay strong foundations for the future. Teachers, pupils and communities alike have shown a clear appetite for sustainability education, and we are proud to support their journey.

### Visits

Westmill's tour programme in 2025 saw another year of encouraging visitor numbers, with more than 900 people attending tours. This is another significant yearly total and one of the highest annual attendance totals since WeSET began conducting tours in 2010.

We welcomed a wide variety of groups to Westmill over the last 12 months: from schools, colleges and universities, to scout groups, consultancies and government departments.

Our tours are especially appealing to the academic sector, with visits from University of Reading, Kingston University London, Coventry University, University of Portsmouth, plus regular visiting groups returning for yet another year including Cranfield University and Imperial College London. There were at least half-a-dozen other schools who made the trip to Westmill too.

Academic visits were not just restricted to entities from within the UK. Students from the University of California and a Taiwanese university also toured Westmill.

The 2025 visiting season again proved popular with local cub and scout groups: these groups visited to learn about sustainable forms of energy to contribute towards badge requirements.

A key visit took place in July when Westmill welcomed UK Energy Minister, Michael Shanks MP. Shanks met WeSET guides Nick Boulter and Neil Bilcliff, together with co-op Board Chairs Tom Parkinson and Mark Luntley, to learn about the site’s inspiring history, plans for future development and the community benefits which ripple out from the co-operatives on a local, national and global scale. “Projects like Westmill show how communities can lead the way in building a more sustainable energy future,” said Shanks. “They engage with local people, generate green energy, and keep the financial benefits circulating in the community.”

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)

Members of the public continued to flock to Westmill, with seven public tours taking place in 2025. 94% of visitors to Westmill, polled via a feedback questionnaire, said it was likely that they would recommend the tours others. *"We loved it! (The guides were) Absolutely incredible!"* said one visitor. *"I enjoyed learning about the history and the capacity of the site and also having a deeper understanding of renewable energy,"* remarked another. *"It was good that ...you were able to walk through the entire site and see the turbines and solar array up close. It was incredibly informative to see two types of renewable energy in such proximity and learn about the upsides and downsides of both and understand noise generation etc. This is something that is very rare to find around the UK and makes Westmill so unique,"* commented a third.

We look forward to welcoming our 18,000th visitor through the Westmill gates in 2026.

### 2. People matter

The Trustees would like to thank all those who volunteered time and effort to make WeSET so successful especially the guides.

### 3. We want to give

We are happy to share our documents as examples of what is needed to become a CIO – every energy scheme should have one!

### 4. You

If what you have read interests you in anyway, please get in touch and get involved. We welcome views on how we can best to promote the sustainable use of energy. please contact: Mike Blanch at michaelblanch@btinternet.com

### 5. Structure, governance and management

The Westmill Sustainable Trust is a registered charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), charity number 1158820 constituted by a constitution dated 18 June 2014. Previously it had been a registered Charity, charity number 1132379, constituted by trust deed dated 27 January 2009. The

CIO charitable structure was not available when WeSET was originally formed, and the 1132379 charity was formerly closed in January 2019.

As far as possible 65% of Trustees should be members of either Westmill Wind Farm or Westmill Solar Farm, and 65% of Trustees should reside within 25 miles of Westmill Wind Farm (SN6 8TH).

### 6. Recruitment and appointment of new trustees.

Applications to be a trustee are welcome at any time. Appointment of new trustees is subject to meeting the eligibility for trusteeship in the constitution and agreement, and a majority vote in favour by the charity trustees who must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)

### 7. MOU with Westmill Solar Co-operative Limited and Westmill Wind Farm Co-operative limited

WeSET agreed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Westmill Solar Co-operative Limited and Westmill Wind Farm Cooperative Limited formalising where we share an overall vision and a commitment to promote renewable energy and sustainable lifestyles and defining a set of shared objectives. It included:

- A three-year rolling commitment of donations from the Coops and the related business planning process to determine the donations.
- Establishing a Liaison Group, and
- Reporting

### 8. Financial Review

2025 saw a significant rise in income from the commitment from Solar Co-op to support WeSET in expanding our educational resources with a payment at the start of the year and an early payment at the end. Income will fall in 2026 because of this double receipts this year. The award of Younity Powering Communities Grant funding resulted in third party grant income increasing slightly showing the importance and appetite for the valuable work WeSET does. The late FIT payments were also gratefully received evidencing the well sited solar panels on community buildings.

As noted in the previous annual report, a payment from the Coops for their contribution to the 2023 open day, artificially lowered costs. Once accounting for this, there was very little change in costs in the year. £6,000 of grants for energy surveys was provided in 2024, whereas in 2025 no grants were awarded. This is slightly offset by WeSET's one third contribution to the new, shared Westmill website.

We remain in a strong financial position with the largest restriction on funds being for our main charitable activity of providing educational resources.

### 8.1 Policy on reserves

It is the policy of the charity to seek to maintain reserves of £10,000 to maintain contracts with contractors delivering work especially in the beginning months of the financial year before expected income is received.

### 8.2 Risk management

The fixed operating costs of the charity are primarily fees to contractors. The Trustees consider that this prudent closing cash balance policy minimises the risks to which the charity is exposed.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 25 August 2026 and signed on its behalf by



Mike Blanch, Chair

# Independent examiners report to the Trustees of The Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 10 to 16.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's Trustees. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examiner's work, for this report or for the opinions I have formed.

## Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

## Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the account requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in the report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Dated: 4th May 2026

For JR Mercer Associates Ltd

# RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

| | | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Receipts from:** | | | | | |
| Donations | 2 | **34,830** | **-** | **34,830** | 34,969 |
| Grants | 3 | **-** | **37,450** | **37,450** | 1,500 |
| Investments | 4 | **5,272** | **-** | **5,272** | - |
| **Total receipts** | | **40,101** | **37,450** | **77,551** | 36,469 |
| **Payments for:** | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 6 | **(31,127)** | **(6,843)** | **(37,969)** | (33,267) |
| Other | 7 | **(8,710)** | **-** | **(8,710)** | (6,539) |
| **Total payments** | | **(39,837)** | **(6,843)** | **(46,680)** | (39,806) |
| **Net of receipts/(payments)** | | **264** | **30,607** | **30,872** | (3,336) |
| **Cash funds this year** | | **21,912** | **32,557** | **54,470** | 23,660 |

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

# BALANCE SHEET

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Charity number: 1158820

| | Notes | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fixed assets** | | | |
| Fixed assets | 8 | **13,677** | 14,562 |
| Investments | 9 | **9,137** | 9,137 |
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | **54,532** | 23,660 |
| **Net assets** | | **77,346** | 47,359 |
| **Charity funds** | | | |
| Restricted funds | 10 | **32,557** | 1,950 |
| Unrestricted funds | 10 | **44,788** | 45,409 |
| **Total funds** | | **77,346** | 47,359 |

The Trustees consider that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with the section 476 of the Act.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on
signed on their behalf, by:



Mike Blanch, Chair

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

### 1. Accounting policies

The Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust is a charitable incorporated organisation (registered charity number 1158820). Its registered office Trinity Enterprise Centre, Furness Business Park, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria, LA14 2PN and its principal place of business is 8 Maple Gardens, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4GP.

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under payments and receipts basis.

The Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### 1.2 Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which the Trustees consider to be appropriate because of projections prepared, which together with the level of working capital and realisable investments available indicate the charity will be able to operate within the facilities currently available. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that would result from the going concern basis becoming non-applicable.

#### 1.3 Payments and receipts basis

Payments and receipts are recognised within the accounts on the date of transaction.

#### 1.4 Investments

Investments of shares within Westmill Wind Farm are stated at historic cost.

#### 1.5 Taxation

As a registered charity, The Westmill Sustainable Energy Trust is entitled to taxation exemptions on all its income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes.

#### 1.6 Depreciation of Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets owned over their anticipated useful economic life (UEL) as follows:

Solar PV Panels - 25 years straight line

#### 1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific instructions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes of the financial statements.

Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025 (continued)

## 2. Income from donations

| | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations | 34,830 | - | 34,830 | 34,969 |
| | 34,830 | - | 34,830 | 34,969 |

## 3. Grants

| | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Co-op Community Energy | - | 3,750 | 3,750 | - |
| Low Carbon Hub | - | 500 | 500 | 1,500 |
| Westmill Solar Coop | - | 33,700 | 33,700 | - |
| | - | 37,450 | 37,450 | 1,500 |

## 4. Investment income

| | Unrestricted funds 2025 £ | Restricted funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2025 £ | Total funds 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Feed In Tarriff | 4,815 | - | - | - |
| Dividend | 457 | - | - | - |
| | 5,272 | - | - | - |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025 (continued)

## 5. Charitable activities

| | **Unrestricted funds 2025** | **Restricted funds 2025** | **Total funds 2025** | Total funds 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **£** | **£** | **£** | £ |
| Education | (17,082) | (6,843) | (23,924) | (22,202) |
| Visits | (14,045) | - | (14,045) | (13,565) |
| Events | - | - | - | 8,500 |
| Grants and donations | - | - | - | (6,000) |
| | (31,127) | (6,843) | (37,969) | (33,267) |

## 6. Other costs

| | **2025** | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | **£** | £ |
| Independent Examiner's fees | (870) | (840) |
| Premises costs | (1,164) | (956) |
| Administration costs | (6,048) | (4,501) |
| Sundry costs | (628) | (242) |
| | (8,710) | (6,539) |
| Depreciation | (885) | (885) |
| | (9,595) | (7,424) |

## 7. Staff costs

During 2025, WeSET had no employees (2024: 0). The progression of WeSET's objectives was achieved by its Trustees, contractors and volunteers.

## 8. Fixed assets

| | **Solar Panels** |
|---|---|
| **Cost** | |
| As at 1 January 2025 | 22,142 |
| As at 31 December 2025 | 22,142 |
| **Depreciation** | |
| As at 1 January 2025 | 7,580 |
| Charge for the period | 885 |
| As at 31 December 2025 | 8,465 |
| **Net book value** | |
| As at 1 January 2025 | 14,562 |
| **As at 31 December 2025** | 13,667 |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025 (continued)

## 9. Investments

| | |
|---|---|
| Westmill Wind Farm Shares | 9,137 |

## 10. Statement of funds

### Statement of funds - current year

| | Balance at 1 January 2025 | Income | Expenditure | Transfer | Balance at 31 December 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 45,409 | 40,101 | (40,722) | - | 44,788 |
| **Restricted funds** | | | | | |
| People's Power Station live website enhancement | 450 | - | - | - | 450 |
| Low Carbon Hub | 1,500 | - | (152) | - | 1,348 |
| Younity Powering Communities | - | 3,750 | (1,424) | - | 2,326 |
| Additional Education Resource | - | 33,200 | (5,267) | - | 27,933 |
| Online Educator Resource | - | 500 | - | - | 500 |
| | 1,950 | 37,450 | (6,843) | - | 32,557 |
| | 47,359 | 77,551 | (47,565) | - | 77,346 |

### Restricted funds

Website enhancement was to install a live dashboard on their website showing real time energy production. With an upgrade to the router, we will now look at integrating this.

The Low Carbon Hub grant is for printing informational and promotional materials for WeSET education including banners, display items and booklets.

The Younity Powering Communities grant was for two full-day Sustainability Lead Workshops. These happened in Q4 of FY25, with costs still to come in.

In line with the demand we've experienced for our educational provisions, Westmill Solar Coop is supporting our ambitions to increase these by providing an annual grant of £16,600.

Westmill Solar Coop also provided a £500 grant for producing a standalone curated resource that signposts users to other high-quality online resources applicable across age ranges.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025 (continued)

## Statement of funds - prior year

| | Balance at 1 January 2024 | Income | Expenditure | Transfer | Balance at 31 December 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 51,130 | 34,969 | (40,691) | - | 45,409 |
| **Restricted funds** | | | | | |
| People's Power Station live website enhancement | 450 | - | - | - | 450 |
| Low Carbon Hub | - | 1,500 | - | - | 1,500 |
| | 450 | 1,500 | - | - | 1,950 |
| | 51,580 | 36,469 | (40,691) | - | 47,359 |

## 11. Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted funds 2025 | Restricted funds 2025 | Total funds 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| **Fixed assets** | 13,677 | - | 13,677 |
| **Investments** | 9,137 | - | 9,137 |
| **Current assets** | 21,974 | 32,557 | 54,532 |
| | 44,788 | 32,557 | 77,346 |