



Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

Community Benefit Workshop – January 2023

Housekeeping

- To avoid disruption from background noise, we ask everyone to **mute themselves for the meeting**, and we can un-mute at intervals to discuss specific points.
- If you have any queries, questions or technical difficulties during the meeting, **please put a comment in the 'Chat' function**.
- Any questions we are unable to answer today, we will take away and come back to you.



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Agenda

- Introductions
- Project overview
- Community Benefits
 - Previous examples
 - Ownership opportunities
 - Community benefit fund
 - Common land enhancements
- Workshop
- Next Steps



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Introductions

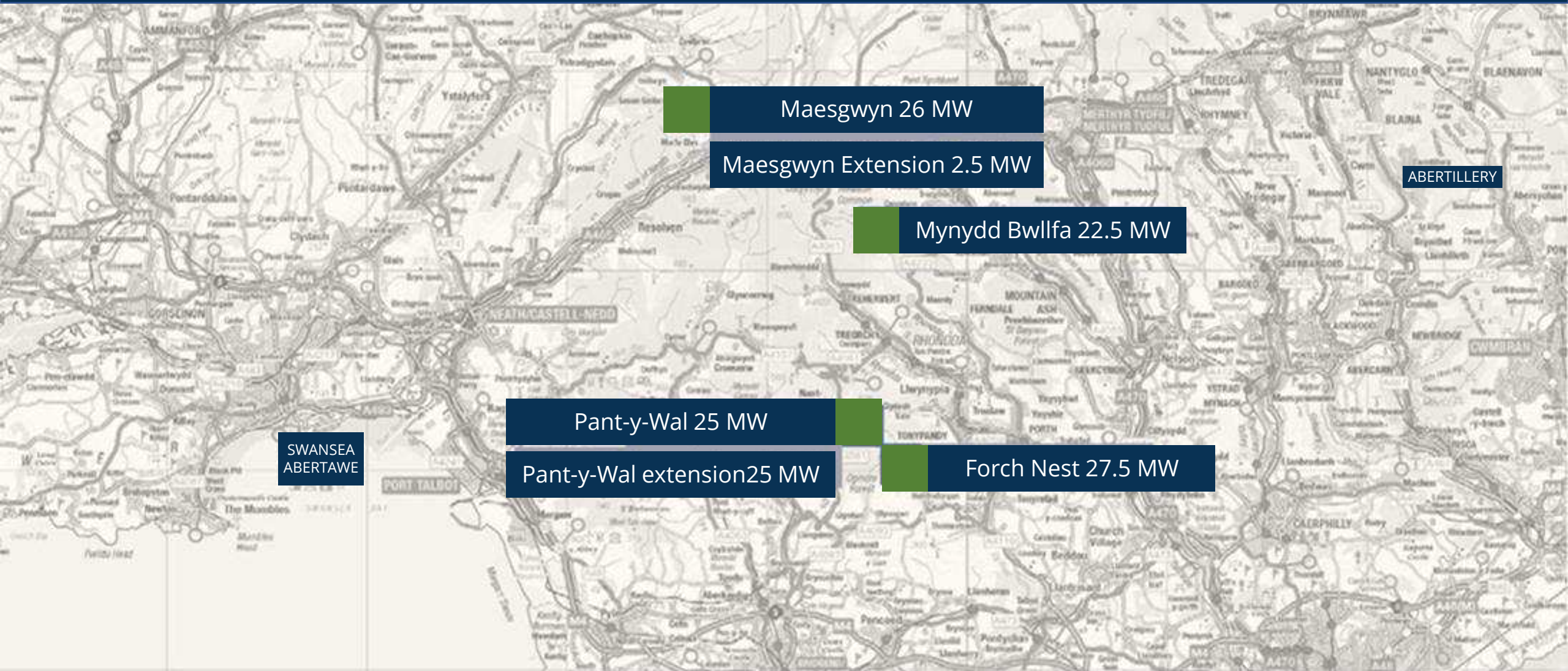
About Pennant Walters

- A local company operating nationally
- Wales' largest home-grown renewable energy developer
- Part of the Walters Group based in Hirwaun which employs around 500 people, many of which are in South Wales.
- Since 2003 Pennant Walters has developed, built, and now operates six wind farms and some solar developments in South Wales, producing a total of 127MW.
- Pennant Walters seeks to develop a long-lasting relationship with all stakeholders including surrounding communities, landowners, local authorities and regulators.
- Currently consulting on proposals for Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

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Our operational wind farms



Maesgwyn 26 MW

Maesgwyn Extension 2.5 MW

Mynydd Bwlfa 22.5 MW

Pant-y-Wal 25 MW

Pant-y-Wal extension 25 MW

Forch Nest 27.5 MW

SWANSEA
ABERTAWE

ABERTILLERY

Project overview

We have reduced the proposed number of turbines from 12 to eight with a blade height of up to 180m. The proposals are estimated to generate up to 34MW of electricity, which is equivalent to providing enough power to meet the annual electricity needs of approximately 21,500 homes.

The refined proposals include:

- Up to eight wind turbines, estimated to produce 4MW each
- Improvements to the existing access off the B4246 and internal access road
- Turbine foundations and crane pads at each turbine location
- Underground power cables
- Grid connection infrastructure, including an on-site substation and control building
- New and improved access tracks to each of the turbine locations

The wind farm will be designed with an operational life of 30 years.



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Site Area

Key



Study area

- Red-line area represents site study area
- Includes access track and grid connection corridor.

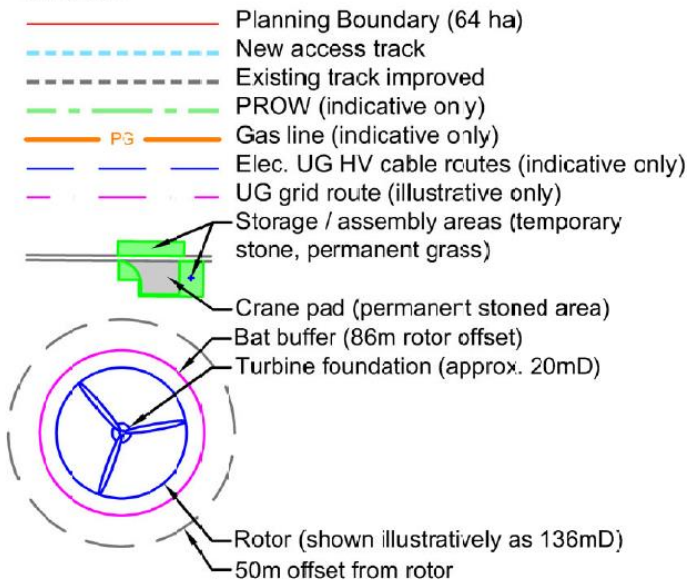
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Turbine Locations

LEGEND



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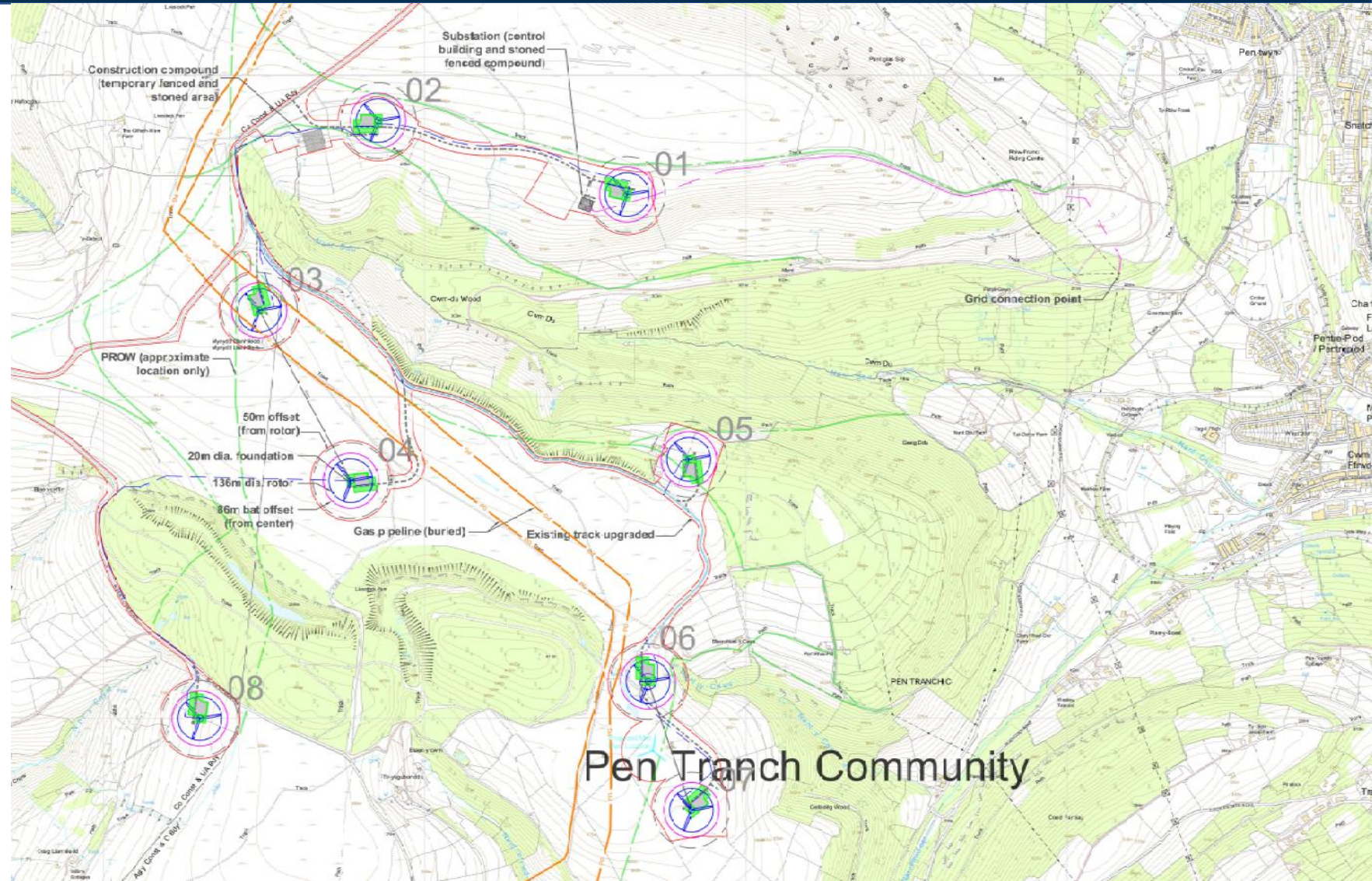


Photo Viewpoints

Photoviewpoint 3: Public footpath looking south-west towards the site



Photomontage 3: Public footpath looking south-west towards the site



Community benefits

We would like to understand local views on how we may be able to best secure community benefit locally.

- We develop long-lasting relationships with stakeholders and local communities.
- All our windfarm sites operate a community benefit fund that distributes money to surrounding communities.
- Around £4 million has been distributed to qualifying projects to date.



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Community benefit fund

Allocated each year for the lifetime of the project:

- £5,000 per MW pa
- 30MW pa = £150,000 pa
- 30yrs = £4.5m

Funds can be administered by a variety of methods including through the developer, a Community/ Town council or a Community Interest Company (CIC)



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Community benefit fund examples

Tenovus Cancer Care
Support Line



Defibrillators in the Ogmere
Valley



Ogmere Vale Youth Bowls
Club

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Community benefit fund examples

£20,000, splashpad,
Aberdare Park



£13,000, Rhondda F.C stand



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For more information go to: pennantwalters.co.uk

Previous Pennant Walters Projects



Maesgwyn (Neath Port Talbot CBC)

- £175,000 pa
- Paid directly to, and administered by NPT CBC.
- Applications made directly to NPT CBC
- Open to voluntary / community groups, local charities and not for profit organisations, schools

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Previous Pennant Walters Projects

Fforch Nest, Mynydd Bwlfa, Pant-y-Wal (Bridgend & RCT CBCs)

- £60,000 pa (per wind farm)
- Administered by Pennant Walters
- Applications made directly to PW or via a councillor
- Open to voluntary / community groups, Parish & Town Councils, LA's on behalf of a group, local charities and not for profit organisations, schools



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Previous Pennant Walters Projects



Pant-y-Wal Extension

- £100,000 pa
- Applications made to and vetted by Ogmore Vale Community Council
- Pennant Walters meet with applicants
- Bids presented to the board
- Open to local charities, voluntary and community groups based within the boundary of OV CC.

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Projects by other developers

Pen Bryn Oer Wind Farm

- £30,000 pa
- Administered by GrantScape, a charity that specialises in community benefit fund grant administration and management.
- 2 application rounds per year.
- Open to local groups within a specified area.

Maerdy wind farm (2 community funds – in Treorchy and Maerdy)

- £107,000 biennially between both funds
- Allocations are decided by public ballot
- Voting open to all aged 15 and over
- Open to individuals as well as organisations
- Profit-making enterprises are allowed
- Open to individuals and organisations, voluntary and profit-making enterprises

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Ownership opportunities

We are a local business (local ownership) looking to incorporate an element of shared ownership with the landowners, and looking into the potential for community ownership. The project could be an exemplar case study for Welsh locally owned renewable energy generation.

- **Shared ownership**

- In this case, a project is 'owned by more than one legal entity' - examples exist where the ownership of a project is shared between a developer and a community group, individuals, landowners, or a public sector organisation. With shared ownership comes shared risk and costs as well as potential long-term profit.

- **Community ownership**

- Must be 'wholly owned by a social enterprise'.

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Common Land enhancements

We would like to find out how we can deliver biodiversity protection and enhancement, improving access to the areas around the site for those that use it for recreational activities such as mountain biking and hiking, as well as how we can support local education providers.



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Workshop



Next Steps

- Statutory consultation closes on 23rd January 2023
- Review of feedback and finalise application
- Submission of application to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) in 'Spring 2023'
- Anticipated decision in 2024, followed by construction of circa 2 years

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Thank you.



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<https://mynydd-llanhilleth.co.uk/>