

Callington Solar Park



Commissioned	January 2014
Site area	43 acres
Installed capacity (MW)	6.4MW
Annual production (MWh)	6,178MWh
Households powered per annum	1,993
CO2 emissions saved (tonnes per annum)	2,855 tonnes

Overview

This south-oriented site in east Cornwall consists of nine small fields once grazed, somewhat fitfully, by sheep. Designed around archaeological features which needed to be preserved, this first-rate PV park now connects to a 33kV line directly into the substation at the nearby town of Callington. The 43 acres of grassland is separated by tall, dense Cornish hedgerows and a number of trees, while agricultural fields lie to the east, north-east and south-west. To the north-west and the west, steeper wooded slopes descend to a stream valley, and vegetation largely screens views from the north and from Callington and Kelly Bray village.

Biodiversity

The Callington site and its environs are abundant with the flora and fauna that typify this beautiful area of Cornwall, with all species expected to flourish alongside the generation of solar power. Hedges onsite support foraging bats and provide navigational corridors, while roosting bats are attracted to the site's many mature trees. When it was surveyed, the site revealed several common bird species, and the habitats present will continue to support protected and/or notable breeding birds. Although no birds of conservation concern have been recorded, several species are identified within 2km, with the site promising good habitats for bullfinch, house sparrow, linnets and redwing. Other species likely to flourish here are terrestrial invertebrates, badger and dormouse. With the solar park in operation, sheep are being successfully farmed around the solar arrays. Beekeeping is also undertaken on site with several hives already in situ.