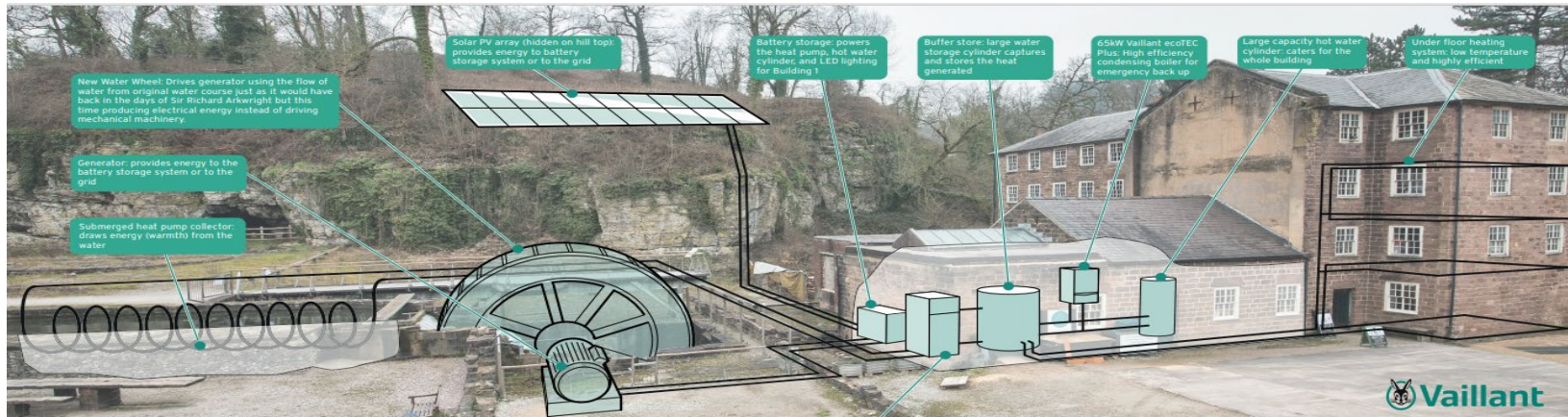


Cromford Mills- The Arkwright Society

RCEF Stage: 2



Key Facts

Hydro	Site deemed to be feasible in initial study.
Community benefits	Parish Council does not have resources to maintain existing historic waterways. The Hydro scheme will enable this to be funded annually. The Wheel will attract more tourism.

Key Figures

Project size:	40 kW
Tech type	
Energy Generation	Hydro
CO2 savings	25 tonnes per year
RCEF grant	£70,000 Stage 1 and stage 2.

The Story

Cromford Mills is a Grade 1 Listed building, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the birthplace of the modern factory system. The project aims to reinstate a waterwheel (first installed by Sir Richard Arkwright in 1776) to provide hydroelectric power at Cromford Mill (potential capacity 20 kW), get the existing hydro turbine at Cromford Corn Mill back in service (capacity 12 kW, last working in 2012), and install a water source heat pump at Cromford Mill to replace electric heating. The Mill is now a thriving local attraction and centre of learning. The Arkwright experience is a first-class holographic audio-visual experience that explains the history of the Mill. The Mill has over 200k visitors per year.

Challenges & Risks

Fortunately the grid connection is sufficient on site. The whole community is behind the project and look forward to seeing the water wheel reinstated.

Lessons Learned

Securing funding for the capital costs has been the most challenging aspect of the project and is still not guaranteed.

Further Notes

LEP area: D2N2

Link for further info: [Cromford Mills | The Birthplace of The Modern Factory System](#)