

# Chinnor Windmill 1789-1967



Originally the Miller would have turned the whole mill on its post, to keep it pointing into wind, and continuously adjusted the cloth sails, folding them back in strong winds



By 1903 it had been upgraded with all the latest technology: a fan tail that automatically keep it pointing into the wind, and automatic 'Patent' sails which adjusted themselves to suit different wind strengths



However once the miller bought a steam engine, the mill fell into disuse and was finally abandoned in 1923



It fell into disrepair and in 1967 was eventually bulldozed to make way for the Estover Way housing estate opposite this site

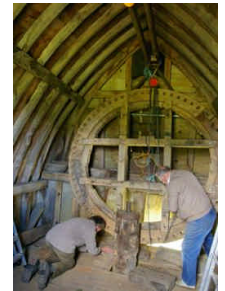


Chinnor mill is the only surviving windmill with 6 feet, a local characteristic which it shared with mills at Bledlow Ridge and Stokenchurch.

The model shows the detailed construction of the 'Buck' (from oak beams up to 12 inches square) which turns to face the wind supported on the original hexagonal oak post (18 foot by 18 inches).

Inside the mill we've already started fitting the milling machinery; at the front of the lower floor are two sets of stones and on the upper floor are the gears which transmit about 30hp of wind power down to turn them to grind the grain.

Volunteers from the Chinnor Windmill Restoration Society work on alternate Sundays on behalf of Chinnor Parish Council who own the mill. For details of other opening times, or to help, please ring 01844 292095



# Chinnor Windmill 1980- present



In 1980 the millwright Chris Wallis was looking for his next project, having just finished restoring Lacey Green smock mill, and tracked down surviving parts of Chinnor mill to Essex.



With the support of Chinnor Parish Council, the Chinnor Windmill Restoration Society was formed to rebuild the mill based on the photographic records and the remaining parts.



The 'buck' was built alongside the post to reduce the amount of working high up on scaffolding, and in 2011 the buck was finally lifted onto its post by a 70 ton crane.



Work continues to fit sails and to finish off the internal machinery so that the mill can once again grind wheat and provide flour for the village (and visitors!?).



Behind the mill we'll re-erect a 3 bay timber framed cow shed (recovered from alongside the M40) to provide a visitor centre.