

Final Submission regarding EPE NSIP

The Examination is coming to an end of its time frame and I feel that the residents, utilities and local authorities of this area have not been listened to.

The Examination started with a so called opportunity for all to have their say, which did happen, however nobody felt that they were taken seriously. This was sadly how the examination proceeded.

- The Ex A was more concerned with watching his timer and cutting speakers off. Nobody was given eye contact.
- The opportunities for submissions throughout hit Bank Holidays and the summer recess and only EPE was given an extension.
- At the second opportunity to talk in public not all that had requested to speak were heard and only had the opportunity to ask questions.
- The responses to comments made were just used to enable EPE to adjust in an unsatisfactory manner rectify the major shortfalls with their scheme. Which it has been said by so many so many times the wrong place for such an industrial development.
- The ExA has not listened to requests to actually visit the site to see the impact it will have on such an enormous area of well loved landscape and habitat.
- Access to the area at present has many well used footpaths which are safe to use and enables people to leave vehicle conflict behind. The request not to have construction and maintenance vehicles using the footpaths has been largely ignored.
- Additional permissive bridleways and footpaths do not go far enough to make the best use of the area for leisure.
- Management plans for development appear to have been deemed unnecessary prior to a decision being made yet no small planning application goes through without every detail being discussed.
- There has been a fire on the land within the red line for this site that very nearly jeopardised the property of a resident in Pertenhall. Not only did the local residents and the fire brigade have to be brought in but also the fire brigade was recalled due to the fire creeping underground and burning a hedge shared by a residential property. Nothing is in place to deal with this sort of event.
- Many major shortfalls in this flawed proposal have been ignored and not been dealt with in detail or consideration of the local people and present agricultural nature of this area. Transport, landscape, food production, habitat destruction the unknown danger of BESS which has already been experienced in other areas.
- The national planning framework has not been taken into account even though it is very relevant to this application.

All in all this has made me lose faith in the present Planning System and Inspectorate which I used to support and be part of.

It would be so good to see that all is not lost and that the Government would stop and reflect on the long term implications of all these permissions that are being given to large scale solar to organisations that are not interested in green energy and sustainability. Their

only consideration is to asset manage these sites and sell them on to make more and more money. Nobody checks on these sites when they are constructed are ensures that what is promised is fulfilled. Local Authorities have been cut to the bone and no longer have the financial ability to enforce conditions put on these sites. Very few smaller sites show that the land they are constructed on is left wild, planting is not cared for and public access routes are overgrown, there is nobody left to rectify this.

The key seems to be make money for foreign companies before considering food production, wildlife, landscape and human mental health and safety.