

Raywood, Simon

From: mike gorick [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 May 2025 13:08
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Re: Meeting tomorrow

Dear Simon,

Thank you for your email of 14th May 2025.

In responding I am concentrating on an area which it seems has not been covered by very much comment.

From my management experience in various industries including banking and the legal profession, the approach to due diligence in the first instance when considering a new project should include evidence of financial viability and integrity.

The above means that when a project is proposed there would be no further progress if these two key issues were not satisfied.

In my view the Botley West proposal fails in this regard.

Re. the financial statements. In respect of this, there is one aspect of financing that, if presented to any competent management and board of directors, would mean that the project is turned down instantly without further consideration. This is whether or not there is a legal requirement to submit a funding statement with the actual figures in the accounts they should not be blanked out as is the case here. The accounts statement is dated y/e 2022, I would expect to see a later report. But the point is nondisclosure immediately draws attention so that the reports have no value. It is impossible to see why the application should be accepted or allowed to proceed on this basis alone.

Smoke and Mirrors. This is a well known strategy which disguises the reality with complex structures. Pinpointing one aspect of this; clearly Solar 5 looks to be a small company to front the application creating a UK identity but with only two directors and one or two staff. A look at the details at Companies House company number **12602740** will reveal this together with the persons who have significant control, their shareholdings, and their links. You can draw your own conclusions. I am sure that you may have done this already because comment has been made about it in the media as well as the noted "dubious funding" comments by MP's. A similar range of questions may be desirable regarding Photovolt company number **15009444**.

The all-day debate about large-scale ground solar developments in the House last week revealed very little support and very little apparent supportive attendance by the Labour Party. Negative comment was made about funding and the wider issues of national security including defence if I heard correctly.

Funding. Who will fund and really control the project now and in the future? e.g. if there is a change in the source of funding. Where does the funding actually come from? Is the intention to obtain consent, then market the project to speculators and therefore real control to foreign fund management companies? Has a bank agreed to indemnify funding? Is there a breach of Russian Sanctions? None of this is clear and transparent. It should not be open to speculation. But for National Infrastructure changes, control and security should surely be clear and carefully guarded in the public interest, not private individuals.

What is clear is who would profit!

Notwithstanding all the above and noting the presentations made at the open meeting, the huge and harmful effect already on the communities surrounding the proposal is already well beyond reasonable doubt.

"Never was so much damage done to so many by so few".

Kind regards
Mike

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

www.stopbotleywest.com

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On Wed, 14 May 2025 at 23:50, Botley West Solar Farm
<BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Michael,

Thank you for your email and your patience in waiting for a reply to your query.

I hope your hospital appointment went well. We do not appear to have marked you off as attending either the Preliminary Meeting or Open Floor Hearing 1. However, as you were down as intending to observe rather than speaking, you may wish to view the video recordings and transcripts for both events, which have now been published on the project page of our website. You can view the recordings and transcripts for the Preliminary Meeting at <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010147/documents?date-from-day=13&date-from-month=05&date-from-year=2025&date-to-day=13&date-to-month=05&date-to-year=2025&searchTerm=preliminary%20meeting&itemsPerPage=4> and the recordings and transcripts of Open Floor Hearing 1 can be viewed at [https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010147/documents?stage-4=Open%20Floor%20Hearing%201%20\(OFH1\)%20-%2013%20May%202025&date-from-day=14&date-from-month=05&date-from-year=2025&date-to-day=14&date-to-month=05&date-to-year=2025&itemsPerPage=4](https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010147/documents?stage-4=Open%20Floor%20Hearing%201%20(OFH1)%20-%2013%20May%202025&date-from-day=14&date-from-month=05&date-from-year=2025&date-to-day=14&date-to-month=05&date-to-year=2025&itemsPerPage=4).

With respect to your query over financial due diligence you may find some relevant information in the Funding Statement submitted with the application which can be viewed at https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010147/EN010147-000330-EN010147_APP_4.2%20-

[%20Funding%20Statement.pdf](#). Alternatively, you may wish to discuss this with the applicant in terms of where relevant information to your query is within application and examination documents or whether the information you seek is outside the information forming part of the examination documentation at this time.

I hope the above helps you to find the information you are seeking.

Kind regards,

Simon



Planning
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From: mike gorick [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 May 2025 16:00
To: Botley West Solar Farm <BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Meeting tomorrow

Ref 20054729

Please note that as I have to attend hospital tomorrow morning [REDACTED] If I can see well enough I will not be able to join the meeting until later in the day.

Q. Please advise when and where information can be obtained about financial due diligence relating to the application.

Michael J Gorick

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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