

## Raywood, Simon

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**From:** kathrynmthomson (null) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 June 2025 10:22  
**To:** Botley West Solar Farm  
**Cc:** Stop Botley West  
**Subject:** Request for Accompanied Site Inspection  
**Attachments:** Video.MOV

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at [REDACTED]

We are a multi generational family of 10 living [REDACTED] who all enjoy our grounds which provide a great amenity for all ages. This land abuts a field owned by Blenheim which forms part of the current proposal by Botley West to cover it in solar panels and as such we are amongst those who would be most adversely impacted by it.

I was told at a consultation that “You won’t see them” when referring to the panels which is both counterintuitive and disingenuous since the land behind us rises 140 feet so panels would clearly be seen from our property and blight our aspect, markedly spoiling the amenity. Any hedge would need to be many metres high.

We have public rights of way regularly enjoyed by many villagers who, if the panels were to be approved, would have their walks eventually hemmed in by nine feet high chain link fences resembling a prison exercise yard and be exposed to an industrial landscape on currently green belt land. Looking down from Purwell Farm would no longer be an enjoyable vista of Oxfordshire countryside with a village nestling below.

Cassington is a village which already regularly suffers flooding so armouring the surrounding fields with metal and glass would necessarily increase the water run off towards the village on land some of which has already been denuded of a gravel layer which went into the building of the A40. How can a commercial proposal to increase flooding be justified?

We have been told that the land proposed for the panels is largely low agricultural standard and not good for growing crops. I think perhaps the crops currently growing healthily next to us call the lie to that at a time when imported food supply is threatened and home grown food even more important.

When we first came to Cassington, it was a quiet village with little traffic. Since the advent of the Cassington traffic lights and satnav, we have become a rat run for cars, vans and lorries, the latter paying no attention to the 7.5 ton weight limit. How much worse would this be if construction started and many more huge lorries would be driving through the village all day and every day? The noise and disruption would be intolerable, not to mention the havoc caused to the road surfaces. We don’t have a pedestrian crossing near the village school of St Peter’s and our children’s safety would therefore be further jeopardised.

It appeared from some of the diagrams provided by BW that even the name of Cassington did not feature on them since the area was so covered with proposed panels. We are a vibrant community which does not deserve the commercial blight proposed by BW where other green energy sources are far better at providing energy than solar panels in an often cloudy England. Cassington deserves better than to be airbrushed off the map.

Kathryn Thomson  
[REDACTED]



Sent from my iPad