

## Raywood, Simon

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**From:** Parker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 June 2025 22:52  
**To:** Botley West Solar Farm  
**Cc:** SBW Comms  
**Subject:** Request for Inspector visit  
**Attachments:** 4B446ECF-FAEA-42CB-8760-5B80D2B09525\_1\_105\_c.jpeg; IMG\_9528.jpeg; IMG\_7834.HEIC

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]

Dear Inspectors

We would like to request an Accompanied Site Inspection to our property which is adjacent to the proposed Botley West Solar farm.

Our property is at [REDACTED]

We can be contacted by phone on [REDACTED] or by email [REDACTED]

When we purchased our property in 2010, we sacrificed living on the main A4095 road for the visual amenities we have looking over open fields at the back of our property. The proposed solar farm will dramatically alter that visual amenity. The nearest panels will be 25 metres (the minimum buffer zone which has been proposed) from the boundary at the bottom of our garden. The panels will stretch as far as the eye can see from the bottom of our garden.

We have a beech hedge at the bottom boundary of the garden which is now approximately 1.5 metres high. We have, since the Solar Farm was first proposed in 2022, allowed the hedge to grow high in anticipation of the possible change to our view at ground level. In the summer the foliage will help to mitigate the view of the solar panels but not in the winter. However from our main bedroom at first floor level, we currently have views of open fields. Our changed view if the solar farm is built, will be looking at a sea of solar panels instead of open fields. They will dominate the outlook and will therefore be impossible to ignore.

There is a public right of way very close to our boundary. We do not have direct access to it, as Blenheim Estates have recently refused to allow it from our property despite it being easily accessible around the edge of the field. However we can gain access to the public footpaths a short distance from our property. We regularly walk on the public footpaths through the fields and enjoy the openness, the wildlife and the general beauty of the countryside. Walking along those footpaths with solar panels and high fencing on each side, will be like walking through an open air tunnel with views of solar panels and fencing and not the beautiful countryside. This will have a huge detrimental effect to our mental wellbeing.

The field directly adjacent to our property where the solar panels are proposed, has been farmed every year since we bought the house. Rotated crops have included maize, turnips, rape seed, barley and wheat. Some years we have had sheep grazing. This year the fields are filled with wheat. The solar panels will take that arable farmland out of the food production chain.

Directly beyond our property approximately 180 meters away, is an ancient quarry which is the natural habitat for wild deer who breed annually. We often see deer in the field at the bottom of our garden feeding on the crops. The tall trees of the quarry are the homes of many nesting birds including crows, jackdaw and red kites. We are very concerned that the noise and disruption in the fields during construction will drive the deer and the nesting birds from their natural habitat and they will be unable to return once the construction is complete as there will be fencing etc and no crops for them to feed on.

We live very close to the Oxford airport. We are not on the direct flight path for scheduled planes, but often have helicopters and training planes fly over our property and the adjacent fields which will contain the solar panels. We are very concerned about the effect of glint and glare from the panels and therefore the safety of the flights over our property. There would be nowhere for the helicopters and small planes to land in the event of an emergency.

My neighbours [REDACTED] will be impacted in similar ways and many of the residents in the properties [REDACTED] have signed a petition pressing the developer of the proposed solar farm to consider an increased buffer zone from our properties rear boundaries to the public footpath. A photo IMG 7834 is attached.


Finally our property is directly opposite the vehicle exit from Blenheim Palace and in that respect is unique. We often experience difficulty exiting our property by car and have experienced many 'near misses' with cars exiting Blenheim. It is very much worse when Blenheim has large events like Countryfile, Game Fair, Nocturne concerts etc. We have taken this up with Oxfordshire County Council and Blenheim Estates in the past. We are extremely concerned about the increase in traffic during the construction of the solar farm and the particular impact on our property and most of all, our safety.

I enclose photos and short videos for your information.


Yours sincerely

Roger and Dianne Parker


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 IMG\_7815.mov

 IMG\_7816.jpeg

 IMG\_7817.jpeg

 IMG\_7818.mov

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