

**Bladon Village Sir Winston Churchill Memorial Hall  
(known as Bladon Village Hall and Recreation BVHRC)**

**Reg. Charity no. 304269**

**The Old Malt House,  
Park Lane,  
Bladon,  
Woodstock  
OX20 1RL**

29 June 2025

BotleyWestSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Inspectors,

I would like to request an Accompanied Site inspection to the Bladon Recreation Ground which is owned by our charity (above) and is adjacent to the proposed Botley West Solar Farm in Bladon.

The recreation ground is used extensively by children from the nearby primary school, and by Bladon villagers of all ages to enjoy the MUGA, football playing field, boules court and the flora and insect life of the wildflower meadow. Should the proposed solar farm go ahead, the outlook from the Recreation ground will be a continuous array of panels and fencing as far as the eye can see to Begbroke. The children will no longer be able to benefit from seeing the way the fields are used to produce our food, and to see the wildlife of our local area - hares, deer, foxes and many different birds. We have planted a hedge but this will take another 5 or 6 years to provide any screening, and would prevent the open views across these Oxfordshire fields.

There is a permissive footpath running along the edge of the Recreation ground. This was opened up by Blenheim Estate to enable children to walk to school along the fields rather than along the busy main road. The loss of this path would be a blow not only to the children, but to the scores of dog walkers who use it daily to exercise their dogs off the lead. It is also part of a favourite circular walk from Bladon to Begbroke, and makes an important contribution to the health and well-being of many people in the area, including visitors to Winston Churchill's grave in Bladon Church.

I hope it may be possible for you to arrange an Accompanied visit. My phone number is

[REDACTED].

Yours sincerely ,

[REDACTED]  
**Chair. BVHRC**

