



## **Parish Council**

**Re: EXQ2 Question 2.5.5 and Applicant's Response**

**Re: Land retention at Church Hanborough and Long Hanborough for "community food growing" by PVDP or associates.**

**Hanborough Parish Council ("HPC")** has discussed the above matter at their recent meeting held on 09 September 2025.

Following extensive discussion, it was agreed that HPC strongly objects, for the reasons cited below, to the land noted in the ExA Question (fields 2.116 and part of 2.115) being used for the purposes proposed by the Applicant.

1. HPC has not yet been consulted on this specific matter by the developer, PVDP. Neither have the residents of Church Hanborough, which is part of the Hanborough Parish.
2. The residents of Church Hanborough (CH) have objected almost unanimously to the field being used for the said purpose following a local survey on the matter. All but one person answered that they had heard nothing about these plans at the time of the Statutory consultation.
3. The field is within the Church Hanborough Conservation Area and such use would be detrimental to this status. There would be a huge negative impact on the conservation area of CH and the setting of heritage assets within it (especially St Peter & St Paul Church) which would arise from filling the conservation field with storage sheds, polytunnels, machinery and other paraphernalia associated with food growing - especially on a commercial scale on more than 12 hectares.
4. There is no gain for the residents of Church Hanborough or the parish of Hanborough as a whole from this proposal.

*Please address responses to :- Jon Gammage, Clerk to Hanborough Parish Council  
Email:- clerk@hanborough-pc.gov.uk*

5. West Oxfordshire District Council have already raised concerns about the use of the land for such use to the Examiners.
6. PVDP have already been in contact with *OxFarmtoFork initiative* who sell their produce directly to the Oxford Colleges. They evidently consider these growers a better bet because they will operate on a larger scale than Cherwell Collective and Chris Goodall who they also mention.
7. HPC additionally objects to an area of land within the red-line boundary being retained for a proposed similar purpose in Long Hanborough (field 2.34). This is sited on the corner of Lower Rd at the junction with A4095. This field is unsuitable because it floods regularly and has a dangerous access point on Lower Rd.

#### **To conclude and in summary:**

Hanborough Parish Council objects to the land to the southeast of Church Hanborough, Field 2.116 and the northern section of Field 2.115 (according to the landscape, ecology and amenity plan [AS-022]) being made available for community food growing. This area cannot be used for panels (being part of the conservation area) and is unsuitable for community food growing. There is no reason for it to be included in the DCO application and these fields should be retained for agricultural use and be removed from the red-line boundary. Objection is also made in respect of Field 2.34.

**Hanborough Parish Council**

**11 September 2025**