

From: Penny Franklin [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 November 2025 18:34
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: R.R from NSIP No [REDACTED] . Penny Franklin.
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FINAL COMMENTS. Deadline 7

1. Bats.

There is very little research on the effect of solar farms on bats. Habitat within the Zone of Influence is considered to at least be of national importance for bats. The bats must be given the protection they deserve . The fencing panels would cause woodland fragmentation for the bats moving between woodlands. Natural England had key concerns about the inefficient bat survey produced by the applicant amongst other issues. Has mitigation been secured ? Is the buffering appropriate? What provision is there for post consent management and monitoring?

2. Flooding. Field 2.61 Multiple Plans for this field ?

Field 2.61 (original field number) situated between the Lower Road and Pinsley Wood in the central area of the project . This field floods every winter . I told the applicant about this at the first public consultation .The reason it floods is that an important land drain from Pinsley Wood to the River Evenlode lies beneath the field . It has been damaged for a very long time and never repaired.
In addition to being included in the Solar Farm proposal, this field has also been submitted for housing development in the WODC draft Local Plan 2043.
The field is also included in the Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Network Plan about to be launched this month. It is situated in an area mapped as being important for nature conservation and biodiversity.

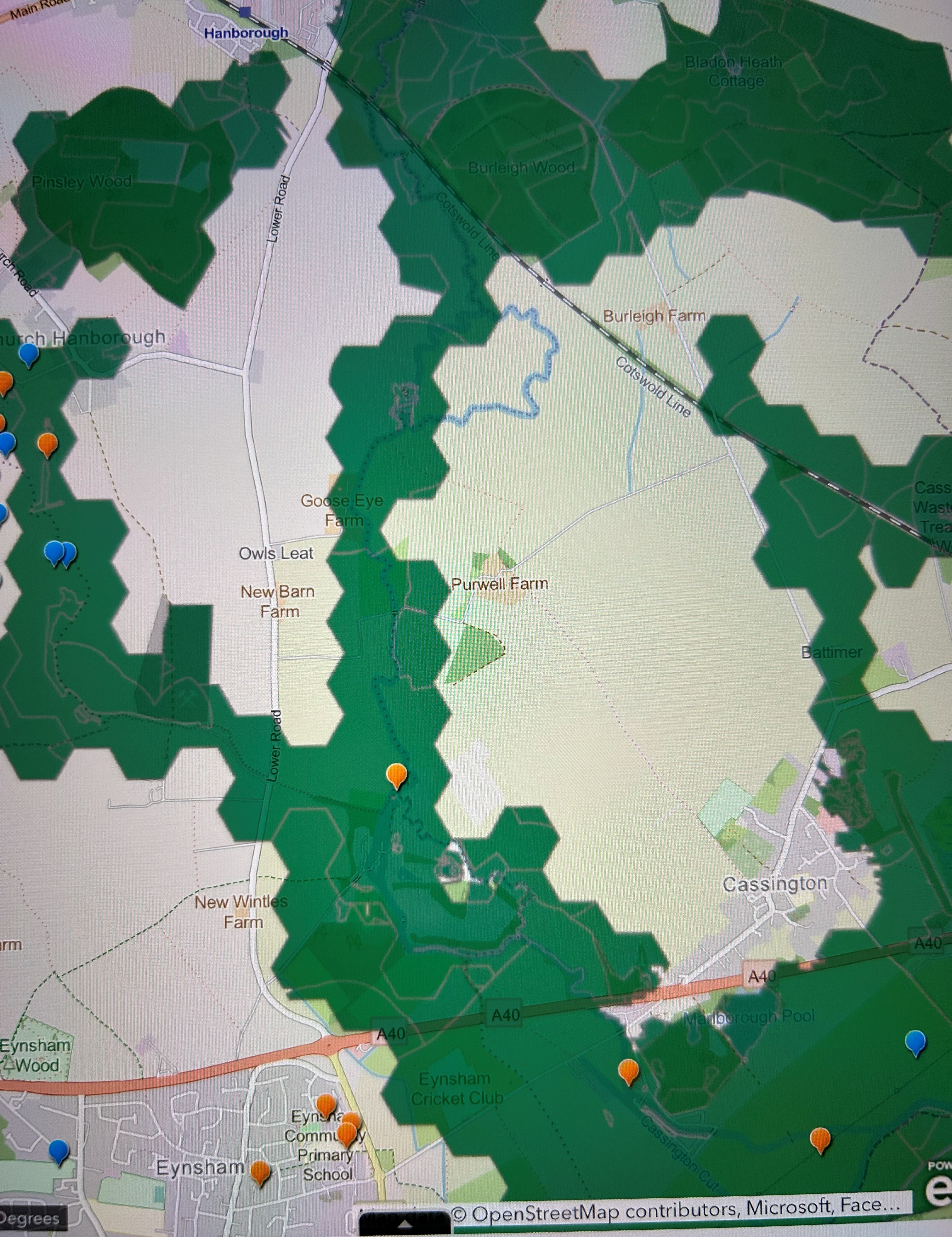
3. Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Network Plan. 2025

This plan is part of the government's national plan for nature conservation and recovery. This identifies networks between areas map opportunities for nature across the country. It is also backed by Defra and other important organisations.
The map shows the proposed solar farm would overlap much of these carefully selected areas in West Oxfordshire.
For the Secretary of State to allow huge solar industrialisation of an area selected for its importance for nature conservation by the very same government makes a mockery of their own Nature Recovery Plan.
Planting trees and conserving our biodiversity would be beneficial for Net Zero and our landscape. The natural world would benefit. All the people that live in the area would benefit. It would be wonderful.

Thank you for your attention

Field 2.61 in Winter

Central Area of Botley West proposal
Part of the map on Oxfordshire's Nature Recovery Plan .



Degrees

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