

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 November 2025 14:21  
**To:** Botley West Solar Farm  
**Subject:** Botley West

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Dear Planning Inspectorate

I am writing to register my objection to the proposed Botley West Solar Farm. I fully understand the need to increase the green energy production in this country but it needs to be done in a structured way that does not take away productive land when there are many other opportunities and areas to focus on. The main areas of concern specific to Botley West are:-

- The impact on the local community from a visual and practical point of view. Great swathes of green belt countryside will be eradicated by being covered in Solar Panels. Many requests have been raised by the local authorities but the applicant has refused to make any meaningful restrictions. Where my mother lives at Shipton Slade I did indeed meet up with one of the Photovolt Project Directors a year or so ago. His first comment was how nice the place was and was a great setting!
- As mentioned earlier the loss of BMV farmland in the proposed project would seem to undermine local food production
- The effect of wildlife in the area will be extreme with many birds of prey (Owls / Buzzards etc) losing their hunting grounds. Also at Shipton there were 17 breeding great crested newts identified which would be under threat with the current plans.
- The very grey area of how this project is being financed. It is not totally clear and there are rumours of it being funded by Russia which I believe was identified by Private Eye. The applicant needs to provide proof of how it is being funded.
- The ExA's proposed requirements, in particular the 250m residential buffer, are very welcome but I am not sure that they address the fundamental incompatibility of the scheme in its setting.

With these points in mind I would strongly urge the Planning Inspectorate to reject this proposal which would have an irreversible effect on the community and the countryside.

Regards

James Hodson

[REDACTED]

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James Hodson

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