

Simon Raywood

From: Diane Berry [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 July 2026 10:20
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Botley West Solar Farm - objection.

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]

Dear Sirs,

I am writing with my concerns, comments and local knowledge regarding the Botley West Solar Farm.

There are so many issues with how the Applicant has handled the consultation process it is difficult to write a concise email to cover all the points (not to mention time-consuming!) and unlike the Applicant, we are not paid to devote our time for to read and respond to this.

I cannot see how Planning Permission can be given when all the required information from the Applicant has not been supplied – in itself this is a major cause for concern and cannot be unchallenged.

I live in Bladon and most of my points refer to the area locally to me simply because I am extremely familiar with the land around Bladon. I still object to this large-scale solar in all proposed areas.

Therefore, I shall attempt to bullet point:

- Overall, the applicant has appeared to deliberately mislead, misinform, delay and totally ignore concerns from both those of us at the consultations, and the Planning Inspectorate, throughout the entire 3-year period. There has been a lack of engagement and required information has not been provided. I cannot see how this scheme could possibly be allowed to go through when so many questions remain unanswered.
- The biggest issue for me is that there has been no clarity on how, or who would be responsible, for the dismantling of the site when “temporary” comes to an end? Equally, who is responsible (and is money ring-fenced?) for replacing old technology / broken panels etc? Where exactly is the money coming from and how could we even consider leaving this as a legacy for future generations?
- The airport is so close by and their concerns are being totally ignored and dismissed. Right from the start the Airport has requested a two-mile exclusion zone and the Applicant has simply ignored any input.
- Residential Visual Amenity Assessment – we asked at the very first consultation for a mock up of the plans and was assured that they would have one available at the next rounds of consultation – this never happened, and this issue of visual concerns are consistently being ignored or brushed off (“you’ll see fleeting glimpses when going past gateways” quote [REDACTED] [REDACTED] This is still being ignored even when the Planning Inspectorate has asked for it.
- The Applicant has no local knowledge – they were told which Blenheim land they could use and they have run with it – not considering whether the land is suitable or not.
 - Some of the land is “best and most versatile” – this was denied and disregarded by the applicant

- Some of the proposed land is so close to houses, and although the Applicant has said that they will reduce and retract some of the panels there is no clarity or confirmation on percentage – instead stating that this be decided later with Local Authorities who have already said that they do not have the time or resources – surely there should not be any confusion at this point, so how can consent be given without full knowledge? This is undemocratic, unworkable and a complete farce of the planning system.

I live within 50 metres of one of the proposed panel locations, I have not been surveyed as per the Planning Inspectorate ask.

- **We have badgers, bats, tawny owls and skylarks to name just four of our endangered/ protected species all living right on the proposed panel areas – I have recent evidence of all four. There is no acknowledgement of this – we cannot allow a plan to be “made later” as the Applicant has had 3 years to do this and not managed it yet! Surely this is criminal?**
 - How can such a huge area of solar be put in without any knowledge or guarantee of the connection to the grid? The Applicant seems to be ignoring this major issue.
 - The Applicant seems to have thrown in at the last minute, and without local consultation, “Community Food Growing Plots”. This appeared to be a sweetener offered to a charity who although is in a neighbouring parish (and predominately helps those in it's own Parish), is essentially unaffected by the Solar Farm. As a Bladon villager, we have not been consulted and I do not understand how this has been added. It's just yet another underhand way of trying to sway opinions/ justifications/ outcomes as has been done all the way through the long 3 years campaign.

These are the major points that are important to me as I understand them. The process is huge and the Applicant has the funding to provide all the information that the Planning Inspectorate required. They have also had time and extended time and have still **failed**. In contrast, those who are objecting to the scheme have less resources, limited time and are still managing to read and respond. The fact that the Applicant seem to be uncaring of the process seems to be a dark omen for how the work will be carried out, and eventually dismantled. They are dismissive of procedures, and do not care for the environment. Once we lose the wildlife, it will not return.

Please do not allow this travesty to go ahead as it really will come back and haunt, not only us but future generations too.

Best wishes,

Diane Berry

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]