

[REDACTED]

From: Sarah Harper [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 July 2026 08:41
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: No Allotments or Commercial enterprize - this is further pressure on our community.

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]



Dear Sir,

I am writing to strongly object to the proposal to use

Area 4. Size 13.3ha Church Hanborough. Conservation Field 2.116 + part of 2.115.

as a community allotment or commercial vegetable field.

The above photo of this field is taken from MY garden.

Your solar factory will already threaten the abundant wild life we see each day as we live here. Fox, deer, rabbits, hare, hedgehogs and badgers just to name a few species, **Please leave this area as either for wild life or for regenerative agriculture**

It is unclear to the justification for this? It is in no way giving back to the community already ravaged by the solar factory you are proposing.

At 13.28 ha this area is equivalent to 531 allotments, far in excess of the number which could be used by the residents of Church Hanborough (population 150). **This is not an asset for our village** and in a recent survey - sent to you - 54 of the 55 who answered the survey (from 63 houses) said NO to allotments or commercial development. Is our voice being further ignored?

Parking

The access to this land is from opposite the small farm at the east end of Church Road.

If allotments then a large number of cars/vans will need to be accommodated.

Where is the parking for these?

A dedicated car park in the lower field?

Or do you envisage them parked along the verge leading up into the village from Lower Road?

Commercial will mean constant trucks needing hard standing.

The field becomes very soggy in winter so a dedicated hard car park will be essential.

Traffic

This will entail even more traffic going back and forth through the village of Church Hanborough,

Wildlife

Your solar factory will already threaten the abundant wild life we see each day as we live here. Fox, deer, rabbits, hare, hedgehogs and badgers just to name a few species.

Conservation

It is in a conservation area within the setting of the Grade 1 listed church of St Peter and Saint Paul a Heritage Asset of national importance. A commercial development or abundant allotments will further degrade the heritage of this national asset.

Regenerative agriculture

The land is currently well farmed producing average or better crops thus contributing to the UK's food security. Growing crops of wheat, oil seed rape, and other crops in rotation, the responsible tenant uses regenerative agriculture.

The land is not suitable for the permanent use for a single root crop.

A commercial enterprise has no place on a solar factory. It cannot be counted as a Community benefit in the planning balance.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Harper

Professor Sarah Harper CBE FMedSci FRAI

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