

Simon Raywood

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 October 2026 23:59
To: Botley West Solar Farm
Subject: Botley West Solar farm

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Dear Secretary of State

Botley West Solar Farm: EN010147

I am disappointed that the Applicant's late submissions have been accepted causing further delay in the decision for Botley West and requesting yet another response from Interested Parties.

I am a supporter of the Stop Botley West campaign and fully endorse the comprehensive SBW submission of 16 July [\[C2-161\]](#). I am concerned that despite these new proposals the Application is still irretrievably flawed. Too many questions remain unanswered and the Applicant seeks to defer too many important decisions until after any development consent is granted when they will be beyond public scrutiny and challenge.

I have lived in Old Woodstock since 1990, I have attended all the various meetings:- Council, Community First, Blenheim Palace, PhotoVolt etc. for years and years it seems. The constant shemes/applications pushed by Blenheim estates has affected my mental health along with many other people I would suggest. I feel that residents have been used as unpaid consultants, I have given up hours on Saturday mornings putting coloured dots on maps and comments on post it notes. The main concerns from residents: Inadequate Doctors surgery, Heavy traffic along narrow roads with narrow pavements, My daughter got knocked off her bike and left for dead by the Black Prince going to collect the papers to do her paper round. Upgrading infastructure such as water treatment. Oh and parking..Ofcourse nothing happens in respect of these concerns. The houses get built, they would all be leasehold if the people who attended the Community First meetings hadn't put their foot down! Blenheim use this information to hone their submissions. Often at the next meeting they have re-vamped the presentation and the team presenting it!. They present various mitigations, contact details are taken from various groups and out of meeting deals appear be struck, all very opaque. I regularly get flooding from Hillrise at the rear of my property, Nobody contacted me. I had concerns for the Hedgehogs living in my garden, the Owls, the Skylarks in the field beyond Hillrise. The new Hill Rise estate, yes another Hill Rise, sure to cause confusion, is nearing completion. I not seen any hedgehogs this year, I don't hear the owls, the skylarks all gone. The 'Capability Brown' path between Old Woodstock and Wootton now a tarmac road. The ecological surveys done prior to development were of the lowest grade. The tree planting beyond the new Hill Rise estate involved heavy machinery removing several ancient hedgerows, 2 of which had remants of drag plowing equipment illustrates the generations the land in the area has been farmed productively. The trees are planted in 30 metre square clumps all the same species, and the entire area surrounded by high wire fencing. There must be more water run off compared to managed fields growing crops.

*When I spoke to the Chief Engineer at the first PhotoVolt presentation at the Woodstock Community centre he told me no other renewable energy solutions had been considered, it gets windy where I am!, apart from the largest solar farm ever constructed, covering a large portion of the Cotswold Links with 'made in China' plastic and Aluminium, it is unbelievable the scale of it!,
I recommend attending FarmEd near Burford*

I respectfully request the Secretary of State to refuse outright the grant of a DCO for this Application.

Name: ___M C Thomas_____