

Submission ID: S48641817

I attach a copy of my request for an OFH

Written Submission – Thorpe on the Hill Parish Council Fosse Green Energy – Preliminary Meeting 6th January 2026

Interested Party Reference: [REDACTED]

Summary

I am writing as the Chair of Thorpe on the Hill Parish Council and in summary I would like to formalise the request for an Open Floor Hearing. The following sections of this document contains the material that I used verbally at the Preliminary Meeting.

Please be aware that I intend to submit a further separate note relating to items that were raised at the Issue Specific Hearings 1 and 2.

Preliminary Meeting

Thorpe on the Hill is a small rural parish comprising 265 residential properties and the most recent electoral register records 521 adult residents.

Given the **scale of the proposed Fosse Green Energy development** and its potentially profound impact on our parish, the Parish Council considered it essential to establish residents' views before responding formally. If the scheme were to proceed as proposed a very high proportion of land within our parish boundary would be consumed, alongside associated access routes, construction activity and infrastructure.

Community Mandate

The Parish Council conducted a **face-to-face survey**, visiting households directly. We were able to speak to residents at **138 of the 265 properties** in the village. Of those:

- **105 households (76%)** expressed opposition to the proposed solar farm
- **33 households (24%)** were either unaware of the proposal or expressed no strong view

This represents a **clear and robust mandate**. Among residents who had engaged with the proposal and formed an opinion, the overwhelming majority opposed the scheme.

On the basis of this evidence, the Parish Council formally resolved to oppose the development. I therefore speak today with a clear democratic mandate to represent that opposition.

Relationship to the Neighbourhood Plan

I wish to focus on issues arising from conflicts with the **Neighbourhood Plan** for Thorpe on the Hill, which was democratically endorsed in 2018. The LIR written by NKDC refers to these issues on page 21 section 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, and 9.4 and I want to

point out in particular that this development conflicts with the following pillars of that plan:

- Policy 4 – Green Space and Green Infrastructure
 - Policy 5 – Landscape and Views
 - Policy 6 – Design and Character of Development
- Parish priorities relating to:
 - Community wellbeing, leisure and recreation
 - The local economy and promotion of tourism

With regard to Annex D the Draft Examination timetable item 11, I would like to request that an Open Floor Hearing (OFH) be held. This is currently shown only as "if required", during week commencing 9th March 2026.

Ideally the OFH would take place in a location close to or within the area impacted by the proposed scheme so that attendance is maximised. However, it is appreciated that this may not be practical as the hearings may form part of a series of such hearings held over several days.

N Lyons
Chair Thorpe on the Hill Parish Council
11/01/26