

Comments from prev. Independent Cllr. Mrs Helen N J Powell, [REDACTED]

Prev, Driving chair for Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan., Previous Mayor. Prev SKDC planning committee member 8 years,, prev. LCC Highways and Planning vice chair. Prev. Deputy Chair, on The Local Government Association for Children and Young People Board.

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20th Jan 2026.

Dear Mr Graeme and Mrs Atkinson,

It was a privilege to meet you earlier this month in the Assembly rooms in our lovely Bailgate area of Lincoln, the Judicial Review for the following.....

Please find my comments typed up for you... Apols I was not totally prepared on the day.

Fosse Green Application for Solar farm on precious Arable food growing land, in Lincolnshire the TOP performing county in the uk with the richest fertile soil. Lincs grows 50% of the 50% the whole uk produces. So, this land is PRICELESS. We need to feed 68 million ppl here at the mo in the uk. The very best land , is Lincolnshire land, and we can only feed 17.5 million ppl. Of the 68million population.

The Great British Food Chain Industry based on East Anglia's rich flat lands, who's tentacles reach out to ,employ, support, provide and deliver to every corner of the UK, they are all connected vital links and cannot be broken without serious circumstances following.

1. First of all, those acres are not 'Brownfield' in the Legislative sense. It is not 'Waste land' and it is not land waiting to be developed in plastic, iron and concrete. This land is already in use growing fresh food and crops to feed livestock farmers elsewhere.

This land, is already supporting thousands of UK jobs and businesses , farmer, clients and suppliers, from the tip of Scotland to the West of west Wales. Where climates do not allow Grain food stuffs or Straw bedding to be grown.

Therefore farmers rearing cows for meat, milk or cheese need Lincs., farmers. Farmers rearing Pigs, Goats, Chickens for meat, milk, cheese or eggs still all need Lincolnshire crops and bedding to survive their winters.

This incredible GB Food Chain industry built up since the end of ww2, in 1945, feeds those farmers needs also. Thousands of young men and women gave their young lives for our privileged Freedom .

That, we must Respect and Honour, for those brave young ppl. Have Gov not heard of the 40,000 ppl who starved to death in the 1960's in China due to NO Harvest. We must not, allow ourselves to be made Vulnerable by stealth.

List of policies protecting these many fertile, beautiful acres of Historic importance.

NPPF Central Gov Legislation.

Para's

86, 88 b, c., 90abc., 105, 124, 125b, 145, 188, 193a, 198ab, 207 including protection of Heritage Assets Food production land for Welfare of UK citizens.

We are now at the point where Development needs are out of balance in the uk, where houses were also built on precious food growing land, reducing our food self sufficiency percentage greatly. We need the future to be correct, for sustaining our childrens childrens children. So it is up to us, we must make sure we are heading in the right direction for future generations.

We must not let this loss of arable land continue, this trend of thousands of acres already lost , out of a very finely balanced, National Food Chain Industry, of which LINCOLNSHIRE is at the HEART of and the UKs top performing county in Food Production. We had a croft in Scotland for a couple of years, when our children were small. Our neighbouring farmers would have given their EYE teeth for just a few acres of that envious , precious land.

Lincolnshire's determined farmers and helpful new technology in the 70's, enabled more food to be grown. In 1984 we reached 78/80% of Food Self Sufficiency, where crops support farms, shops and businesses, supermarkets, etc etc., the whole length and breadth of the uk. It was also very disturbing to see thousands of rich flat fertile arable acres in Cambridgeshire as I travelled home on the train recently, covered entirely with Solar panels. I understand, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk and many more counties are experiencing this same Blight on the beautiful landscapes too and also' up in arms' about it.

My concerns are about the PRINCIPLES of the Losses within this application, even being considered, as I believe it is being looked at, and decided upon , Out of Context, in Isolation, NOT as part of a National Chain involving thousands of jobs and other businesses. Both as thousands of Clients, suppliers and transport, nationwide.

- A. Agricultural jobs lost in Lincolnshire equal 2.5 for every acre lost.
- B. Tourism in Lincolnshire , with £3 billion income supports at the moment, 28,000 jobs.

I feel these other Gov departments have not been included maybe in the initial debate of Gov allowing these massive Environmental and Character changes in the UK. I can find no evidence of their comments, concerns or approval anywhere on the Gov websites.

1.

Energy Security and Net Zero dept. over riding Planning laws , Legislation and the NPPframework?

Is it right to take away arable land and prevent our future children's children from being able to grow their own fresh wholesome food ever again? That land will never recover.

2.

DEFRA. The dept for Food, Fisheries and Rural Affairs. All encompassing including our precious Wildlife and Natural habitat. Scavenging in the crop fields before and after Harvests. An eco system of its own.

Wildlife Food Chain.

Crop and food production.

Remembering 1960 also when the dreaded DDT was sprayed everywhere on crops, taking out the insects, at the very bottom of the wildlife food chain and taking out with it, almost the whole Wildlife Food chain attached to that for years. Insects, Bees, birds, Voles, mice, Bats, Foxes Birds of Prey, , Badgers, Deer, etc etc with one foul swoop. I remember that vividly too. I could not believe the short sightedness of those ppl in power. I also read Rachel Carsons book "Silent Spring", have we learned nothing???? Taking out those tiny little Insects perged the whole Wildlife chain to close extinction, with one feeding on the next in the food chain.

Rural affairs.

Self respect and Dignity, would disappear and public unrest, if The GB food industry, processors, shops, factories, lorries, vans, thousands of rural jobs involved were lost forever. With these jobs would go, Pride, and community spirit is vital in communities, enjoying the joy of life in the open countryside.Totally OUT OF Character. Food and Fisheries will always be needed but I hear on the radio the north sea will be void of all fish in 10 years due to greedy Overseas fishing vessels trawling the sea bed killing everything. Not being managed sustainably as it was by our own fishermen.

3.

.....with, Tourism. Hidden in the dept., of Culture, Media and Sport???? This Needs changing.

Tourism is vital to the UK, it would be destroyed and never recover from dead, dry waste land after being covered in Plastic solar panels for 60 years. Fertile land stays fertile when it keeps growing crops only as nutrients and fibres and left in the soils to enrich them.

Tourists visit the most beautiful open countryside areas of our country, to stay, to visit and to tour. In 4 counties alone (Lincs., Cambs., Norfolk and Suffolk) Visitors: 16 million. Spending: £14 Billion, creating 300,000 jobs, in Tourism alone. Where would all these people that work in this industry find rural work?

Hotels, Restaurants, Cottages B&Bs , in pretty leafy lanes amongst, open green acres of peace and calm, full of wildlife.

Has this dept., been consulted with....

4)

Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Gov incl I believe the NPPF. To assist in all planning matters being determined Correctly, for the good of the UK as a whole.

Planning is a department that has its own Local Planning Authorities, who have their own Planning Committees, consisting of local members, they know their own areas better than anyone, which is why large or huge developments are usually 'Called-In' to these Committees for determination and not determined by a single vulnerable officer or out of touch Central Gov townies.

I worked in the Design and Garment technology departments for M&S for a few years and loved it, but I was always referred to as a [REDACTED] along side my London colleagues. But it was me, who landed the job with [REDACTED] when he introduced their younger ppl range Per Una. (For One.) Im half Sicilian.

One of my colleagues came thru Lincs on her way up North for fittings, we both had to attend. She fell in love with where I live and said 'You 'are the ones that have a great life her in the countryside. I smiled and nodded.

5)

Dept., of Education, Childrens Welfare and Vulnerable Families.

Human Rights Act. Article 6. Fair decision making must take place within all Gov depts..??

Human Rights Act 8. Everyone is entitled to a life. (a home, Food, Water, Work, fuel and energy included. Servicing their needs.)??

The main Govs objective in power is The Welfare of its Citizens, including making sure other countries investments would not ultimately harm us. They ate paid to do this for the uk citizens welfare and benefit. Just the UK, including having good quality fresh uk home grown food.

Question.....How would all this dreadful Loss be mitigated. Food, Jobs, Lives, Dignity, Respect, Hope, Impossible.

Yours very sincerely, Thanking you for your kind attention.

Mrs Helen N J Powell.