Application by Steeple Solar Farm Limited for an order granting development consent for the Steeple Renewables Project

Case reference: EN010163

Examining Authority's note of unaccompanied site inspection (USI) on 14 and 15 October 2025.

Examining Inspectors Max Wiltshire and Andrew Robinson, the panel appointed as the Examining Authority for the application detailed above, undertook the inspection on 14 and 15 October 2025.

The inspection was undertaken by car and on foot on public roads, bridleways and footpaths.

A route was planned having regard to issues raised in relevant representations, enabling the panel to obtain views of the locations for the proposed solar photovoltaic arrays and other proposed infrastructure (such as BESS and substation). Views were particularly observed from viewpoints (VPs), as identified in Figure 6.6c SZTV and VP Locations (2km radius) [APP-155]. We also took note of the proposed access points identified for construction and subsequent operation as identified in the Environment Statement.

The tables below provide a summary of the visit and are accompanied by maps of the route. Footpaths (FPs), bridleways (BWs) and restricted byways (RBs) referenced below are taken from Figure 3.3 Public Rights of Way Plan [APP-145] and a 1:10,000 Ordnance Survey map of the area.

Weather conditions on both days was cloudy with moderate visibility. Long distance views over and beyond the site was clearly discernible. Temperature was approximately 14 degrees centigrade.

	Location	Points of Interest			
Tuesday 14 October – Walk west to east through proposed development					
1.	Drive from Littleborough to Sturton High House,	Littleborough Road			
	Whinley's Road				

2.	Start walk near Sturton High House, Whinleys Road	
3.	Walk Northeast to pick up 'Blue Stocking Lane'	VP 21
	(BW2) and east onto Muspitt Lane (BW1)	
4.	South along FP6, FP27 and then east onto BW26	
5.	Continue on BW26 (Valley Way/High House Road)	VP 20, including views towards North Leverton Windmill
6.	Continue on Springs Lane	VP 18
7.	Arrive at Sturton le Steeple	VPs 1 and 3 Church of St Peter and St Paul
8.	South on Leverton Road	VP 14
9.	Walk along Three Keys Lane and through Fenton	VP 13
		Manor Farmhouse
10.	Continue east on BW5 (Fenton Lane/Trent Valley Way)	VPs 10-12
	Thornhill Lane to Littleborough Road	
11.	Arrive at Littleborough and end visit	St Nicholas' Church in Littleborough
		Scheduled Monument of 'Segelocum Roman Town'

	Location	Points of Interest			
Wednes	Wednesday 15 October				
1.	 Drive construction route: A1(M) J34 A614 then A638 towards Bawtry A631 towards Gainsborough A620 Gainsborough Road towards Sturton le Steeple 	VP 5 West Burton Power Station			
2.	Drive along Station Road and Wheatley Road to South Wheatley and back to Sturton le Steeple	Crow Tree Farm			
3.	Continue along North Street and Common Lane and walk FP39, BW13, Cowpasture Lane and RB32	VPs 6, 7 and 8 Medieval Settlement and Open Field System Immediately South East of Low Farm Scheduled Monument			

4.	North Leverton with Habblesthorpe	VPs 15 and 16
		Listed buildings along Main Street North Leverton including
		Church of St Martin
5.	North Leverton Windmill and end visit	VP 19

Map of walking route Tuesday 14 October



Map of driving and walking route Wednesday 15 October

