

**STANTON ST QUINTIN
PARISH COUNCIL**

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Clerk to the Council

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28th April 2026

Your ref; EN010168

Planning Inspectorate
c/o QUADIENT
69 Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4PN

Dear Sir

Application by Lime Down Solar Park Ltd for an order granting development consent for the Lime Down Solar Project

Interested Party Reference No. [REDACTED]

I refer to the Applicants response to Relevant Representation Part 1 Document Reference EXAM/9.10

The response has been considered by the Stanton St Quintin Parish Council and the Council's comments are attached below.

Ref SSQPC-001 – Landscape and Visual

“The Stanton St Quintin Parish Council has extremely strong objections to this proposal. The objections relate to the vast scale of the development in open countryside”

At 1237 hectares the Parish Council feels that this is an overlarge development for this location and the links of approximately 22 km to the Melksham Substation is far too long. How can a site of 1237 hectares in the countryside **not** have an Impact on the surrounding landscape and local villages. A development of this size is bound to affect everyone. The Parish Council feels that no mitigation could be undertaken that would alter this.

Ref SSQPC-002 – Transport and Access

“There would be an issue with increased traffic on the local narrow roads; impact on the local hospitality and tourism and impact on walkers and riders in the area

The Parish Council disputes the comment “the assessment concludes that, with appropriate mitigation in place, there would be no significant adverse impacts on the

local highway network". What would the "appropriate mitigation" be. How can passing spaces be made in the already narrow lanes and what would happen if two large HFVs meet on these roads? There are numerous blind bends and increased traffic at school times. Would these lorries clear the Kingway bridge? The Parish Council does not believe that the construction traffic can operate without causing access problems to local residents.

Local businesses and tourism

The report states "The assessment evaluates potential effects on the use, enjoyment and desirability of nearby tourist destinations. It also considers whether changes to landscape character or visual amenity could influence visitor behaviour"

The Parish Council strongly believes that local businesses and tourism will be affected. No one will be coming to visit the Solar Farm!!

Walkers and riders

The Applicant confirms that the majority of significant adverse effects can be mitigated, however understands that some significant adverse effects to users of PROWs and unsurfaced roads in Lime Down E cannot be mitigated further during construction. The Parish Council believes that the construction will take a considerable amount of time and no-one will be able to walk during this time.

The Parish Council awaits the assessment on these impacts from the Wiltshire Council's Countryside Access Team.

Ref SSQPC-003 – Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation

"The development could also have a detrimental impact on the property prices"

There is no answer to this in the report and there will obviously be an impact when people are trying to sell properties.

Ref SSQPC-004 – Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage

"The rain storm run-off from the panels would cause severe flooding"

Again there is no clear answer. There is already flooding which runs into the river as there is no adequate drainage. More information is needed on how Lime Down will deal with this

Ref SSQPC-005 – Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation

"The huge number of workers on the site would impact on all the local residents which could impact on the already overstretched doctors and other local services."

The Parish Council disagrees with the applicant's response.

Ref SSQPC-006 – Ecology and Biodiversity

"The environmental impact on the local countryside is unacceptable with potential impact on local wildlife, heritage features and the scale of the infrastructure."

There is bound to be a massive impact on the local wildlife. There will be a severe loss of farming as Lime Down are not making any more land available and this will result in loss of food production.

Heritage features

No definite answer is given

In summary, the Stanton St Quintin Parish Council feels that the mitigation is not explained fully anywhere and has no idea what this will look like. This needs to be set out in full with more in-depth information. There is continuing improvements in technology for plug in solar panels. Do we really need a 60 year commitment for a development of this immense scale? By the time this is connected it will already be out of date.

Yours faithfully

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Clerk to Stanton St Quintin Parish Council