

Wildlife and natural environment: despite the applicant's denial of detrimental impact upon wildlife and the natural environment, it is clear that large security fenced areas of former farmland remove available grazing, foraging and hunting opportunities for numerous mammals, namely deer, badgers, foxes, wild boar, hare and rabbits. Small burrowing animals that can enter these sites, are trapped or poisoned due to the potential damage they can do to underground installations and cables. Birds can bypass security fencing, but are deterred from using such areas because structural erections and the inevitable paucity of feeding opportunities in 'solar farms' - grass is kept short, bushes and shrubs cut down to enable maintenance. Indeed, in some 'solar farm' sights, corvids are actively discouraged by a variety of means to stop them damaging insulation and fixings.

The Developer has [REDACTED] failed to include the complete flood assessment for Lavendon Village. This area already faces regular and increasingly severe flooding, as acknowledged by Milton Keynes Council over many years, although little remediation has been undertaken (the Winter's floods 2024/25 are a case in point). The run-off from the solar site will follow gravity and the beck, straight down Castle Road into the Village centre, causing damage to property and impacting the flow of traffic along the A428 Bedford to Northampton road.

Property prices in the district have already been affected by the Green Hill Solar project. Such industrialisation of countryside, the size of the Heathrow Airport site, at this juncture of rural Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and adjacent to Bedfordshire, will change the very nature and character of the local area. There is no tangible benefit at all for local residents, not only do we face considerable disruption during the proposed building period, but a depleted and impoverished landscape on completion.

The Three Shires Way, an important national footpath, will be closed during construction, and when re-opened will hardly be a sought after route through which to walk as it travels along the Eastern edge of the proposed solar wasteland.