

The Three Shires Way: Section Adjacent to Site G

From the A428 to Beyond Three Shires Wood

The Three Shires Way is a long-distance footpath that elegantly weaves through the rural landscapes at the historic convergence of Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, and Northamptonshire. This particular section begins at the A428, a convenient gateway for walkers and riders alike.

Approaching from the village of Lavendon, the Three Shires Way is joined by four public footpaths and two bridleways, which take walkers, cyclists, and equestrians on to this ancient route. These intersecting paths make this stretch a vibrant corridor of rural activity, drawing people from nearby communities to explore the region's heritage and natural beauty.

However, the landscape along this entire section could be dramatically altered by the presence of Site G, a development that will dominate the views and ambiance of the Three Shires Way here. Site G, with its proposed solar farm, will become the predominant visual feature, overshadowing the gentle hedgerows and open countryside that have traditionally defined the area. Where once the horizon was shaped by rolling fields and scattered woodland, the solar farm may now shape the character and experience of the route, especially for those enjoying this corridor from Lavendon and beyond.

Shortly after leaving the A428, the path runs adjacent to Site G, and the sense of the site's scale is unmistakable for those passing by. The footpaths and bridleways merge directly with the Three Shires Way at points where Site G creates a continuous backdrop, ensuring it cannot be ignored by those travelling this historic route.

Continuing onwards, the route skirts the edge of Three Shires Wood, a semi-ancient woodland renowned for its biodiversity and historical significance, standing on the cusp of the Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, and Northamptonshire borders. In spring, carpets of bluebells and stands of ancient oak and ash offer a seasonal spectacle—now juxtaposed against the modern infrastructure proposed for Site G.

A noteworthy public footpath branches east from the Three Shires Way toward Northey Farm, currently winding through the very heart of what will become Site G. This route, a tranquil path through fields and hedgerows, will go directly through the proposed solar installation, fundamentally changing the walking experience for locals and visitors alike.

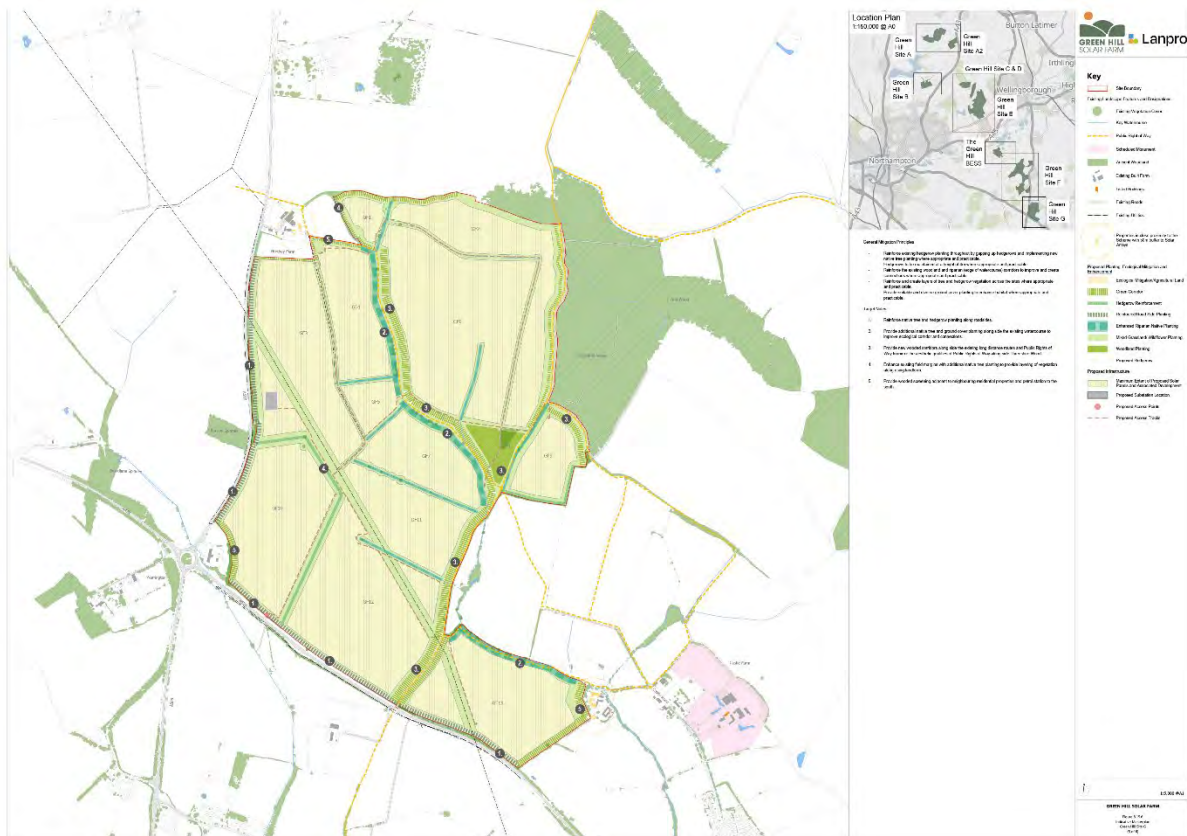
After passing the woodland, the Three Shires Way continues on, but threat of the proposed solar farm at Site G could re define the landscape, shaping the experience of all who journey along this historic trail.

Visual Impact of Site G Along the Three Shires Way

Along this section of the Three Shires Way, the impact of Site G is particularly striking. A series of viewpoints illustrates how the land to the left, bordering the A509, is visually dominated by the development. From the vantage point at Low Farm, situated at the end of Castle Road, Lavendon, and continuing along to the Three Shires Way, Site G forms a continuous presence on the landscape.

This stretch is characterised by a well-used footpath and bridleway that runs directly alongside the boundary of Site G. The route is frequented by walkers, cyclists, and riders, all of whom are now met with the prospect of a transformed view. Where open countryside once greeted passers-by, the entire landscape captured in these images is set to be replaced by rows of solar panels, fundamentally altering the visual experience for all who use this rural corridor.

Site G Map showing Three Shires Way and adjoining footpaths and bridleways.















Midway through site G, heading left, there is a footpath that crosses the proposed development towards Northey Farm, then over the A509, where it continues into Northamptonshire and connects to paths leading to Easton Maudit, Yardley Hastings, Castle Ashby, and beyond. The ground rises gradually, providing views across the entire site G and extending into Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, and Milton Keynes in the distance. This location within the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm development is notable for its extensive views.

The images show the footpath leading to Northey Farm and the A509, which will be surrounded by solar panels. This will significantly harm the distinctive views and enjoyment of the path.















