

As a homeowner in Saxlingham Nethergate for the last 14 years close to the war memorial we are extremely distressed and concerned about both the short term and long term impact that this proposal has on our village. Since learning of the proposal, we have experienced anxiety and distress over the potential industrialisation of our local landscape and the impact on wildlife. The thought of losing the rural character and peace that drew us to this area, and which is integral to our well-being, has impacted us emotionally.

We moved to the village due to its preserved rural nature, historic houses and community. We have carefully renovated our house in accordance with planning requirements ensuring that all we did enhanced the surroundings we live in. We made a substantial investment in our house and we now believe that the proposal will directly and adversely impact the valuation of our home and make it more difficult to sell. In particular we find it distressing how this proposed site will be constructed and the disregard for the sustainability of our countryside.

In particular we wish to object to Eastpye solar application for the following reasons:

No need for this scheme in this location- The applicant relies on a general national need for solar but has not shown why this site in this specific location is necessary. Regional transmission solar capacity targets are already met. A

Land Use, Agricultural Quality, Landscape. Food production is of increasing national importance and failure to maintain farm land is in direct conflict with this priority. Loss of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. Visibility, design, screening, and impacts on countryside character. There does not appear to be support or approval from DEFRA on the use of this site. In addition there is adverse impact on Historic pathways associated with the Boudicca Way

Route for construction: Alternative routes for construction using major roads which are close by such as the A140 and bypass have not been considered and current proposals to route the wide construction vehicles through the historic village which has a narrow road are likely to lead to highway safety issues (vehicles will be too wide for the houses on church hill, pavements will be unusable), flooding (due to how water flows down the street, under and over the road at the war memorial) and substantial impact on historic sites. Alternatives more acceptable routes should be considered and additional costs borne by the developer

Cultural Heritage & Local Community

The planned route to support the construction works will be through the centre of this historic village impacting several of the listed buildings including the War memorial that has been cared for by the local parish – which is at the end of our drive. It appears that the widening of the existing road will lead to these buildings being put at risk.

This area is of national importance for its quantity and quality of pre-1750 rural architecture – over 300 Listed Buildings are in the zone of influence. Site 7 is so large that the settings of multiple Grade II* and Grade II Listed Buildings and conservation areas are impacted.

Safety - The construction traffic and the abnormal loads will create significant congestion through a small village. We have a small primary school in the village, and a lot of elderly residents and I believe that the plans represent significant highway safety concerns. In addition there are narrow pavements and access will be difficult if these are removed during construction.

Flooding – Current flooding risks in the centre of the village where the construction traffic is planned is managed with water running under the road near the war memorial and down the ditches in the street. There is ongoing consultation by the parish council as to how this existing risk can be managed to protect houses in the street. At times of flooding the road is not safe to use by cars. The proposed construction road will be through this existing flood risk area. It is unclear if there has been a full survey to understand the flood impact associated with the proposed route for construction. The creation of the construction route may lead to increased flooding impacting local houses, and the route may not even be suitable due to current flooding conditions.

Biodiversity & Ecology – There will be significant impact on wildlife, habitats, and ecological networks. The area is recognised as highly important for Barbastelle bats, a highly protected species with critical breeding populations associated with ancient woodland, meadows, rivers, and streams. Their presence is acknowledged within the developer's DCO.

I object because the applicant has not shown that this harmful scheme and its proposed construction route is necessary, fairly consulted on, or environmentally acceptable in this location.