

Dear Sir / Madam,

We write on behalf of our clients, Cullum Agric Ltd and T A Cullum Contracting the owners of agricultural land affected by the proposed National Grid overhead line route and associated construction works. This is a combined representation, as although the land is held under separate ownership structures, it is farmed and operated as a single unit, and therefore the impacts of the scheme and the matters of concern are shared across both businesses.

The land comprises productive arable farmland, consisting of nine fields with a combined length of approximately 2,150 metres.

These representations are submitted in continuation of earlier correspondence and raise ongoing concerns regarding route justification, engagement failures, procedural clarity, and unresolved technical matters.

1. Lack of Engagement

Our client's principal concern relates to the installation of multiple pylons, the construction of haul roads, utility diversions, and the introduction of attenuation ponds and construction compounds, some of which appear to fall outside the stated working corridor.

From the outset, our client has engaged constructively with National Grid and fully recognises that infrastructure projects of this nature are required. He does not seek to impede progress and has consistently proposed solutions aimed at reducing harm to the farming business.

At an early stage, our client expressed a clear preference for underground cabling, consistent with the approach adopted by other developers in the region. This was considered the most proportionate means of mitigating long term impacts on agricultural productivity and landscape character.

When undergrounding was discounted, our client proposed an alternative alignment across the holding to minimise pylon siting impacts and to preserve operational efficiency in the representation submitted 26th July 2024 to Fisher German. See attached plan. This route appears not to have been afforded meaningful consideration.

In 2025, National Grid introduced a revised red line boundary, significantly expanding the area affected (see attached image). This amendment was issued without explanation, justification, or corresponding engagement. A request for clarification, submitted on 18th July 2025 to Fisher German, has received no response.

More recently, our client has been directed to public website documents. Given the scale of disruption, matters of this nature require direct dialogue with affected landowners and not general references to extensive, complex documentation.

Our client is increasingly despondent about National Grid's approach and feels that his reasonable and constructive representations have been disregarded.

2. Impact of the Current Proposed Route

The latest iteration of the scheme affects our client's landholding through the installation of seven pylons, many of which are positioned in fields where they will cause severe and lasting disruption to agricultural operations. Impacts include:

Fragmentation of fields and reduced efficiency of machinery

Loss of productive land

Interference with cropping rotation

Restrictions on access for large equipment

Increased operational time and costs

Disruption from haul roads, compounds and utility diversions

Longterm risks to drainage and soil structure

Permanent constraints on land management

3. Negotiations of Heads of Terms

Heads of Terms were issued to our client by Fisher German on 31 October 2025. An initial meeting took place on 23 January 2026 to commence negotiations and address practical issues arising from the proposed scheme.

Despite this meeting, no feedback, clarification, or substantive response has been received. As a result, no progress has been made, and several fundamental uncertainties remain unresolved.

This continued absence of engagement is now causing significant concern. Timely, meaningful communication is essential for negotiations to progress, and we therefore request an urgent update addressing the outstanding matters in full.

4. Ongoing Lack of Information and Failure to Address Practical Matters

A meeting was held with Fisher German on 24 February 2026, attended by myself and in part by Mr Cullum (Director of Cullum Agri Ltd), at which limited additional detail on the project was provided. However, as this was the first meaningful contact, our client has not had a reasonable or fair opportunity to consider the proposals or to respond in an informed manner.

During the meeting, we discussed several elements of the scheme.

To properly understand the implications of the scheme and its long term impact on the agricultural holding, our client requires detailed and specific technical information. This includes, but is not limited to:

Soil Storage, Handling, Reinstatement and Aftercare

Field Drainage Strategy and Reinstatement

Location, Design and Restoration of Haul Roads

Access arrangements agreed with the landowner

Attenuation Ponds and Water Infrastructure

Flood Risk and Water Management

Water mitigation measures

Dust, Noise and Crop Quality

Noise management

Measures to protect crop quality and farm operations

Access routes to Order Limits

Restrictive Rights and Operational Constraints

Full clarity on permanent rights and easements

Assurance that they do not impose unnecessary constraints on cultivation depth, drainage, future cropping or land use

Furthermore our client needs to understand the mitigation measures:

To reduce loss of productive land

To manage operational inefficiencies

For both short and long term disruption

5. Conclusion

Our client does not oppose the principle of the project. However, the current route and associated works are unnecessarily damaging, insufficiently justified, and inadequately explained.

We therefore respectfully request that the Examining Authority seek the following deficiencies before the scheme progresses further:

Detailed responses to all outstanding technical queries

Proper justification for the 2025 red line boundary changes

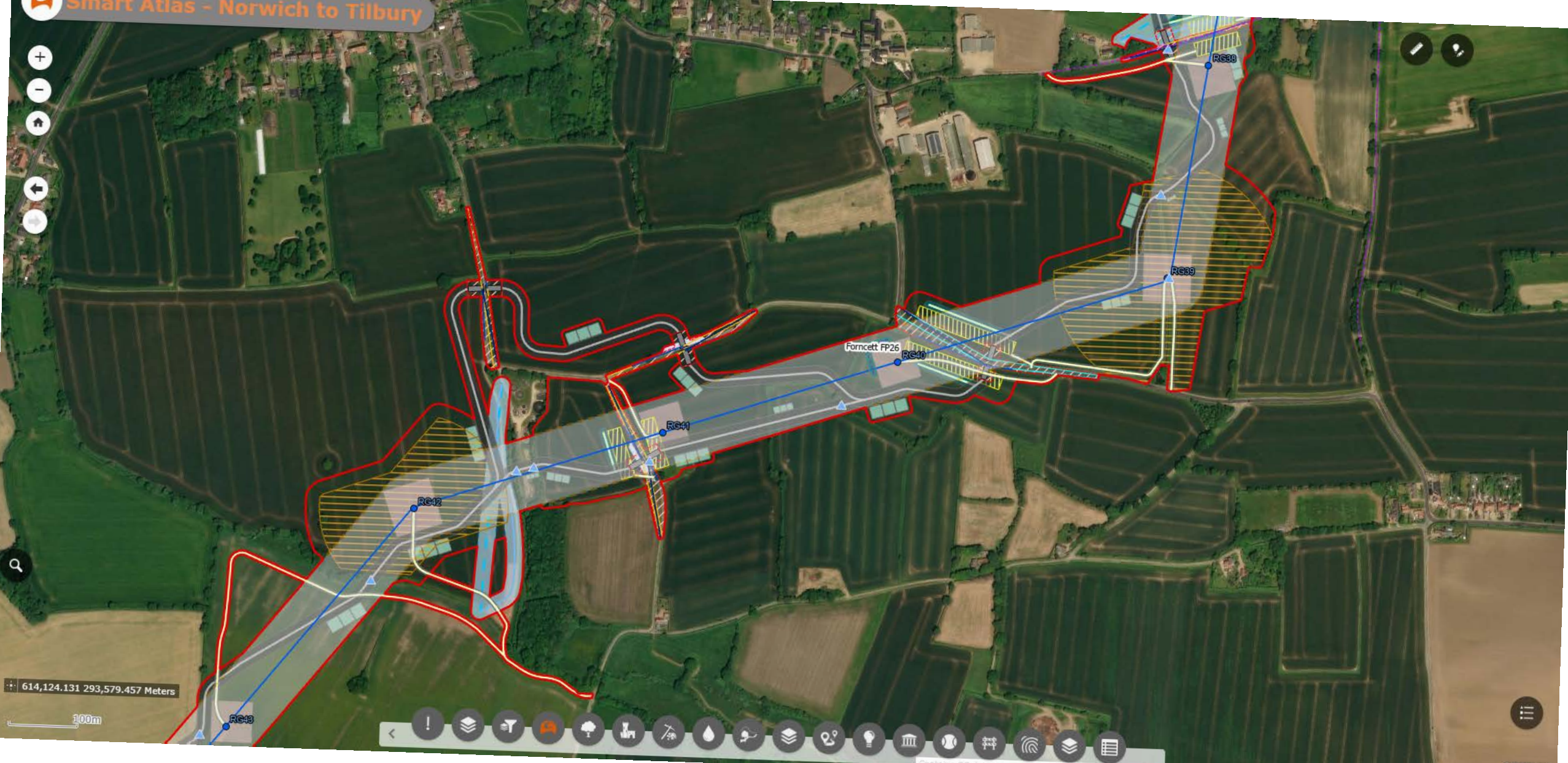
Consideration of the alternative alignments previously submitted

Meaningful engagement on all matters including agreeing a voluntary agreement and matters affecting the farming business

In light of ongoing concerns and inadequate engagement, our client formally requests the opportunity to make oral representations at the relevant Examination hearings. He remains willing to engage constructively and seeks only to protect the viability and long term sustainability of his farming business.

Your sincerely

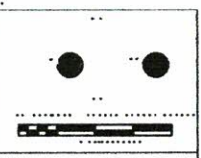
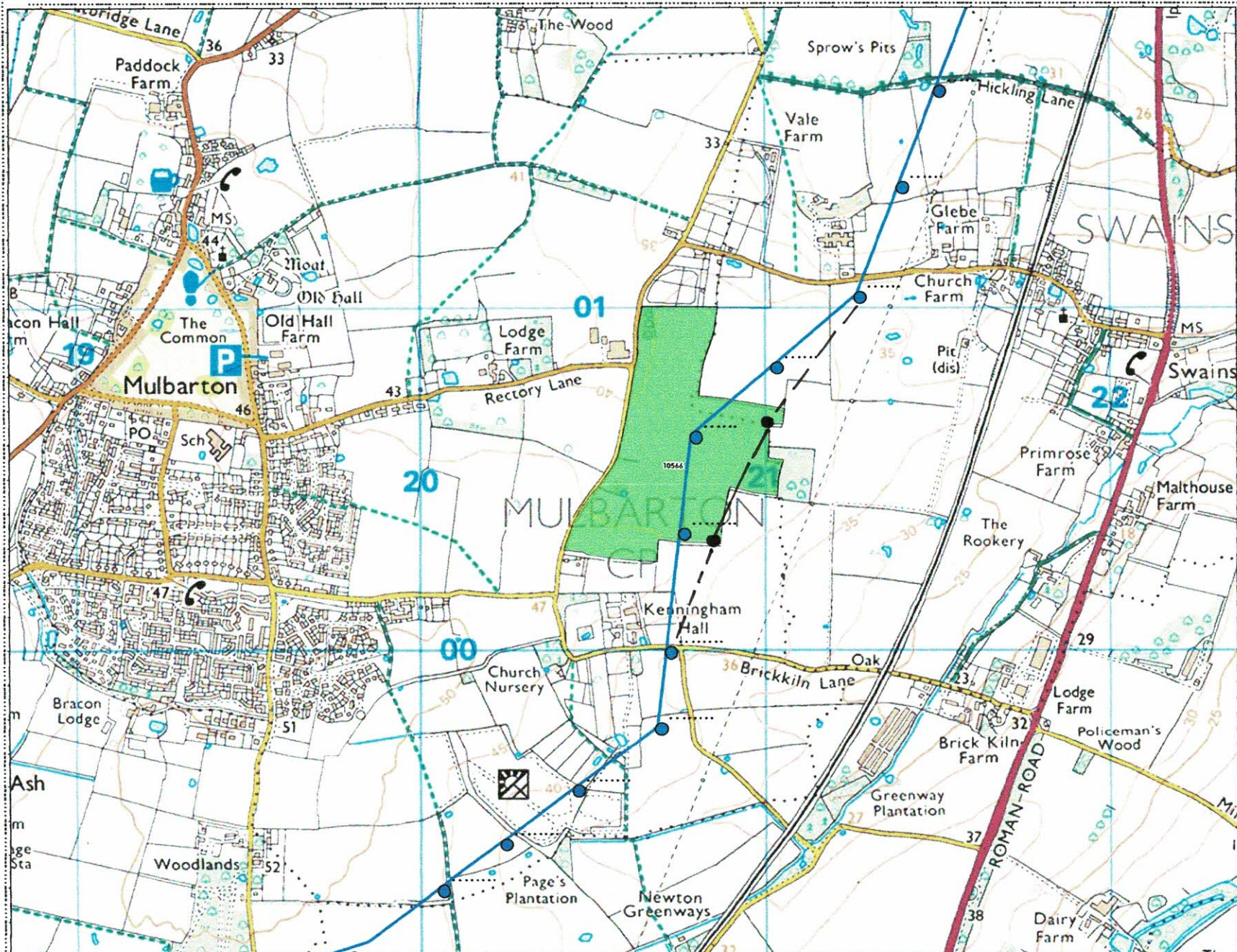
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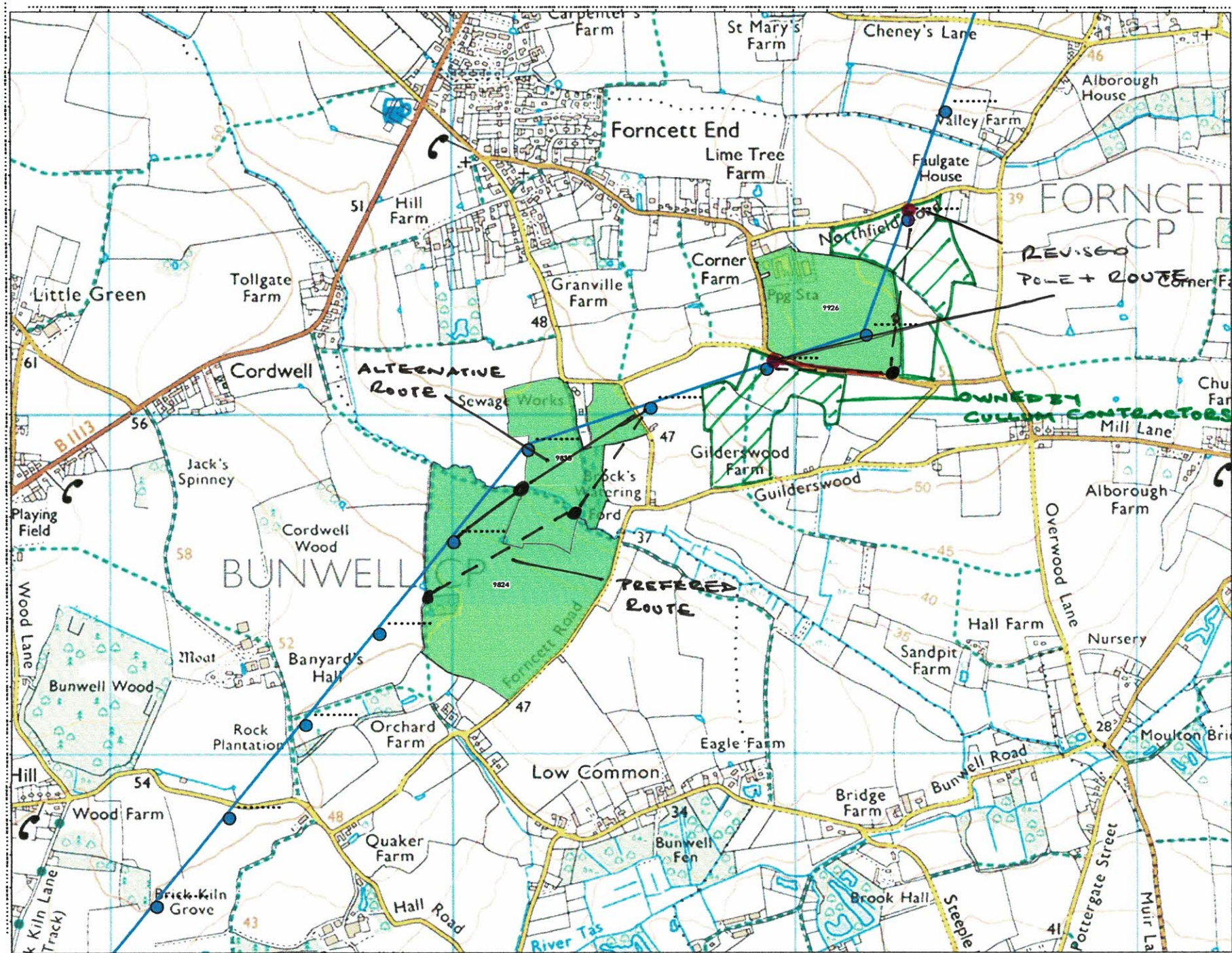
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