

My statement to PI on 11/2/26

"I have a passionate fury for National Grid. What they plan to do to my family, my community, to the landscape and the wildlife. They are conniving and deceptive, unregulated and unaccountable. They have ruined our lives and stolen our future.

From the start they chose to impose the most harmful infrastructure, through an area that is rich in rare and endangered flora and fauna. Our great crested newts get concrete shoes, our skylarks get electrocuted, but our bats don't get no tunnel.

They even plan to fence off and floodlight the site, like a 180 kilometre 'Berlin Wall' for wildlife.

My wife, our four kids and I live in a 400 year old cottage on a flat, open plateau surrounded by fields, hedgerows, veteran trees and ancient woodland. We have stunning views of the countryside and the abundant wildlife, with clear sightline for many miles in all directions. There is no way to mitigate 50 metre high pylons in this landscape, they will be visible for miles and also enclose our forever home on three sides, coming closer than a hundred metres. Imported steel towers and humming overhead lines will dwarf and dominate our tiny cottage. The years-long construction phase will be a living nightmare. we don't even have access to the road as the red boundary lines block our driveway. we will need to ask NG gestapo for permission to leave our home and we must cross four more 'Checkpoint Charlies' in just the first mile.

Everyone familiar with our predicament has said we are 'most harmed' by this proposal and should receive compensation that reflects this, before a spade hits dirt, so we can take our home down brick by brick and move it to safety.

I urge you, panel, to come down and see just how damaging and dangerous National Grid can be: For example the Bacton high-pressure gas pipeline that supplies London is just fifty metres from our cottage, quite literally in our back yard. The pylon route crosses the gas pipeline within a potential 'blast zone' of our home. The crossing point should be further away for health and safety alone, plus X marks the spot for 'Bad Vlad' Putin.

The world has changed, under grounding is now the only safe option. If it's not war or terrorism there's hurricanes, floods, wildfires: Reducing our 1% of global emissions will not stop extreme weather events, putting the cables underground or undersea will offer greater protection for this country and my family.

Mrs Milliband just objected to a five storey building in her street because, she said, it was "too big, not in keeping with the surroundings and detrimental to the local wildlife".

Our objection is seventeen storeys high and all of the above applies.

It is one rule for them, another for us.

The Hypocrisy.

Wrong tech, wrong place.

Thank you."

In addition I would add..

Our home, [REDACTED] is a corruption of the word windmill and from the 12th Century would have ground grain for food using the prevailing wind that blows up from the Gipping Valley to the southwest. These last few years have felt very much like 'Tilting at Windmills' as I have fought the futile battle against an elusive adversary of giants. I am the [REDACTED] Don Quixote, living in a 21st Century Cervantes nightmare.

But my foe is real and wants to place a line of 50 metre giants across this most beautiful, flat, open landscape using technology designed by the Milliken Brothers in the 1920's to solve a problem of Ed Miliband's making in the 2020's.

"The Holford Rules are all broken here" said Simon Pepper as he took in the landscape he wished to corrupt with his giants, here at [REDACTED], while trying to redesign the alignment at 'Suffolk 3' on the hoof (as the farmers say) trying to move the haulage road out of our back garden and navigate a high-pressure gas pipeline (both of which were somehow missed in the woefully poor design stage). In the end Pepper put the nearest pylon, RG138, even closer than it was to our home; a home built 400 years ago when the heaviest passing vehicle was a horse and cart. Now it its expected to survive a passing motorway and building site for thousands of throbbing and polluting HGV's, cranes and diggers.

The haulage road now goes through the site of a medieval dwelling instead of my compost heap.

And what of us? My wife has permission to live here in the cottage in perpetuity but we do not own [REDACTED], it its part of a larger farm estate owned by her father and brother who still cling to the ancient rules of primogeniture. As such we will not be fairly compensated despite being the ones most harmed by National Grid's most harmful choice. We are not landed gentry, we have no financial options to move away, son we must endure and suffer this madness. Our sacrifice is one that National Grid is happy to make.

The land around [REDACTED] is a rich ecosystem with an extensive biodiversity that includes many of our most endangered native species. The hedgerows, fields and pockets of ancient woodland have been intact since the Norman conquest of 1066 but now the landscape and the wildlife face obliteration. I have written and spoken to National Grid about the wildlife at great length but they have never listened, never cared. The ecologists who came to do the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) expressed that they were under duress from National Grid and spent less than 10 minutes on site, by the road, while The Thickett, an ancient woodland that is abutted by the red boundary lines was just a few dozen yards away along a public footpath. I would urge you to look at their PEAR phase 1 survey as it was almost definitely fake. A tick box exercise to say that there are no species or habitat of note and the project can proceed. No phase 2 survey has been undertaken. No bat or great crested newt surveys, no survey of the ground nesting skylarks who proliferate the fields that National Grid wish to raise to the ground during construction. No surveys of the many flocks of swans and geese that migrate across the route of the pylons here at [REDACTED]. No wonder that we are the most nature depleted country in the world when foreign owned behemoths like the National Grid can laugh in our faces as they circumnavigate the rules band treat our precious wildlife our English heritage, liker unwanted irritants to be cast to dust.

if this project goes ahead our future as we knew it will be stolen from us. I once again urge you to come and stand in this place, to listen to the melody of the skylarks hovering up in the vast Suffolk skies, watch the hares boxing in the fields, see the badger cubs play amongst the wild garlic and bluebells of spring in ancient woodland. Come at dusk and see the bats whirr and flip up and down the Anglo-Saxon hedgerows before they are grubbed out. Experience the miles of uninterrupted views of ancient English landscape and all its creatures before it is forever ruined so as to line the pockets of [REDACTED] executives and foreign elites. National Grid chose the option that is most profitable for themselves and most harmful to our English countryside, our wildlife, our people, our heritage.

Come and feel the crushing weight of tilting at windmills.

A Landscape and General History of the Parish of Mendlesham, Suffolk



Researched and written
by

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Edited by Dr Nick Sign

oton

Edge Lane

Wumble Lane

Wumble Mill

Shinglers

Mid-Suffolk
Light Railway

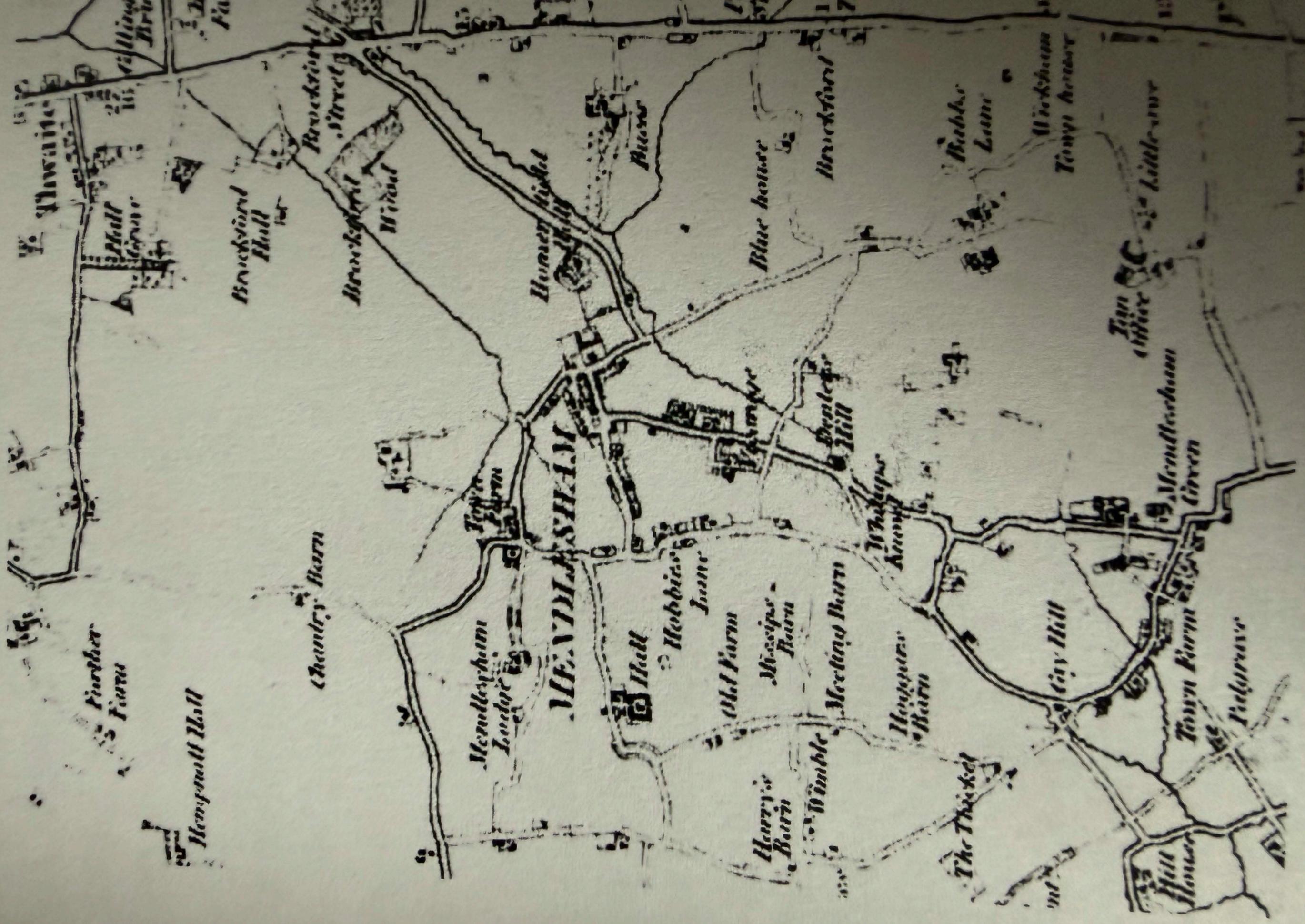
Cat's
Fields

Hoggar's
(Road to F)

Paris's
Burd's

Lambert's
Lane

Reese
House
Farm



MENNYHAM

Henry's Hall
Further Farm

Chantry Barn

Mendleyham Lodge

Hall

Hobbs's Lane

Old Farm

Message Barn

Meeting Barn

Hoggar's Barn

The Thicket

Gay Hill

Town Barn

Belgrave

Top Farm

Walk

Bentley Hill

Whips' Alley

Mendleyham Green

Jun Office

Wickham Tony's house

Babb's Lane

Blue house

Brickford

Brickford Hall

Brookfield Wood

Women's field

Flower

Brookfield Street

Cilling

White

Hall