

Recently I was among the group of residents who accompanied the applicants and inspectors on the site visits of Morgan and Morecambe's planned cable route and substations. Whilst being appalled at the complete route I will concentrate my objections to the areas of Lower Lane, Eke Lane, Quaker's wood and the dairy farm belonging to [REDACTED]. Lower Lane is an essential route for people trying to travel between Freckleton and Kirkham, avoiding the very busy main route ie Kirkham Rd. At school times Kirkham road is persistently blocked by parked cars and local traffic as Strike Lane School parents drop off and collect their children. Simultaneously buses and cars are transporting the high school pupils to and from Carr Hill.

Lower Lane is a winding country lane, with sharp, blind bends. It floods regularly and suffers from persistent and deep pot holes. At the best of times it is a dangerous road and both exiting roads are the victims of numerous accidents. Only yesterday there was an accident involving a car on the A584 end of the lane. The consideration that Lower Lane could be used for HGV traffic is very ill conceived.

This is the feeder lane to Eke Lane which goes to the dairy farm which will house the substations. It is narrow and unsuitable for most traffic, let alone industrial vehicles. The entrance to and from Lower Lane is dangerously situated and holds the prospect of many accidents waiting to happen.

Whilst still on Lower Lane, I come to the subject of Quaker's wood. In my nearly [REDACTED] years of living in Freckleton I have passed that wood many, many times, and not once have I passed it without acknowledging, in my mind, its presence. The applicants dismiss its importance because it is not consecrated ground, but to the people of Freckleton it is Sacred ground. Each tree in that small wood represents the soul of the person lying beneath it. It is part of Freckleton's rich history, and to disturb that place would be deeply hurtful and offensive.

Finally I wish to express my deepest distress at the size and siting of the proposed substations.

Many times, by myself and various residents, Morgan & Morecambe have been asked to supply scale models of these sites, I now understand why they have not been forthcoming. If people had been allowed to actually see the magnitude of these structures ALL the villagers would have been in uproar. They have only been given complex diagrams which cannot possibly relay the size of the substations to Joe Public. If my technological expertise allows, I will add the small video I took whilst walking the length/depth of the structures .. I was horrified at the reality. I posted this on social media and people had had absolutely no concept of the size of them. They are totally inappropriate for a village, especially when they could so easily be sited elsewhere on industrial land NOT, our precious greenbelt. My heart goes out to [REDACTED], who's livelihoods are being destroyed; and for [REDACTED] who's plans for an idyllic retirement are being turned into a horrific nightmare; and also [REDACTED], who's peace will be shattered by the traffic travelling down Eke Lane, and their peaceful country view obliterated by the monstrous substations; and for all the people affected so adversely by these ill thought out, unnecessary plans.

Please, please don't allow this project to go ahead. Our countryside and our farmlands are precious, please save them.