

Southwell Town Council considered application 20/01242/FULM Land North Of Halloughton and agreed by majority to object to this application for the following reasons:

- Overall size, The proposed site is too large at 260 acres. They prefer to see a much smaller site with less impact on Halloughton and local footpaths.

- Loss of over 100 hectares of Grade 3 agricultural land in a rolling landscape, (Govt policy to prefer flat landscapes for Solar Farms). The land is designated Grade 3 by DEFRA and yields reported by local farmers support this.

- Lack of an adequate archaeological report, a full report is required as this area is of archaeological interest as advised to the agents by the local Archeological group.

- Intrusive nature of the fencing and CCTV cameras, there are 138 three metre high CCTV poles around the fencing, could this height be reduced and could it be confirmed that these are intra red cameras to reduce any risk of light pollution ?

- There will be loss of amenity to well used public footpaths around and through the site also the loss of views and 'hedging-in' of footpaths. There are wonderful views of Southwell Minster and all the way to the Lincoln ridge from the footpath to the west of the site and this will be completely screened by the 3m high panels. See photo below



- Loss of amenity to the people of Halloughton from both the panels and the siting of the access road within the conservation area. Many of the shielding features of Woodland and hedges are on other people's land and the removal of any of these would have a dramatic visual impact on the area and is out of the developer's control. When Conservation Area status was accorded to Halloughton in 1972 the entrance to the village was specifically cited; "From the Southwell Road, the funnelled entrance, defined by wide verges, high hedges and trees is most attractive to the eye looking into the village, the view terminating on a high stone wall and trees". If the access is allowed as proposed, the character of the entrance to the village will be much diminished. The introduction of a dropped kerb and tactile paving proposed by the developer (Construction Traffic Management Plan, para. 3.2) would not be in keeping. The impact on the village entrance was one of the reasons the planning inspector turned down the appeal for the two wind turbines on NTU Brackenhurst Land and the committee felt the impact of the site entrance would be even greater.

- Inadequate flood mitigation measures especially in the Halloughton catchment. The Flood risk report underestimates the potential risk to Southwell of increased run off. There seems to

be no account taken of the probable silting of the attenuation ponds which would reduce their capacity.

- Height of the panel arrays at 3m.

The Ecological Assessment seriously underplays the amount of wildlife in the area. Local residents report hares, raptors owls and roe deer in the area. 20cm openings in the fencing will not accommodate the larger mammals.

There will be a loss of important wild life corridors in contravention of Southwell Neighbourhood Plan policies E4 and E5 particularly in relation to the need for wildlife corridors and buffer margins.

Southwell Neighbourhood Plan policy E6 states: development should not 'impact negatively on the local landscape character'. Neither will it conform to the NSDC aims for mid-Nottinghamshire farmlands. This areas is identified in the Landscape Character Assessment as "conserve the local vernacular and reinforce in new development.