

Comment for planning application 22/01682/F

Application Number	22/01682/F
Location	Land North Of Manor Farm Noke
Proposal	Development of a ground mounted solar farm incorporating the installation of solar PV panels, associated infrastructure and access, as well as landscape planting and designated ecological enhancement areas.
Case Officer	James Kirkham
Organisation Name	Islip Parish Council
Address	Farm Cottage, North Street, Islip, Kidlington, OX5 2SQ
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>Comments on behalf of Islip Parish Council</p> <p>Islip Parish Council strongly object to the planning application for a solar farm. We have set out the main concerns below.</p> <p>The development is in the Green Belt and would constitute industrialisation of the Green Belt.</p> <p>The Otmoor is a unique and beautiful area within Oxfordshire and has been protected by Green Belt status. The Oxfordshire Way also runs across the Otmoor. A solar farm or more accurately a Photovoltaic Power Station will have a huge visual impact. It will undermine the open, natural character of the area.</p> <p>It is adjacent to a well know RSPB reserve. Many bird species are in decline and it is well accepted that habitat loss is one of the leading causes. Solar power sites play a part in bird displacement and sites should be carefully chosen taking birds and their habitats into consideration.</p> <p>The Otmoor is a natural resource not only for Oxford and the immediate area, but also for a wider community in England.</p> <p>New access roads are proposed which will potentially open up the area for more development and change the nature of the Otmoor.</p> <p>Although it is within Noke Parish, it will be clearly visible for many miles and will impact Islip, Oddington, Fencott, Murcott and Charlton-On- Otmoor.</p> <p>Impact on rain infiltration in the area. Flooding is already a major issue for Islip.</p> <p>More suitable sites must be available in the district, near to major sub-stations. Indeed smaller farms could be placed nearer to smaller sub-stations. Oxford City refused a similar application adjacent to Headington sub-station and the new Barton development on the grounds of Industrialisation of the Green Belt.</p> <p>Loss of useful, productive farm land.</p>
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Attachments	