

**From:** Clerk Islip PC  
**Sent:** 13 July 2022 10:20  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 22/01682/F - Noke Solar Farm

Hello,  
Please see the response from Islip parish council to the above planning application.

Islip Parish Council **strongly objects** to the planning application for a solar farm. We have set out the main concerns below.

- The development is in the Green Belt and would constitute industrialisation of the Green Belt.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - The Otmoor is a natural resource not only for Oxford and the immediate area, but also for a wider community in England.
  - New access roads are proposed which will potentially open up the area for more development and change the nature of the Otmoor.
  - 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.
  - Impact on rain infiltration in the area. Flooding is already a major issue for Islip.
  - 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.
  - Loss of useful, productive farmland.

If you have any questions or if I can assist in any way please let me know

Kind regards

Emma Kearney

Clerk & RFO to Islip Parish Council