



The Planning Inspectorate Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

The Planning Act 2008

Application for Development Consent for the Cleve Hill Solar Park

Case ref: EN010085

Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection

Inspection 4: Faversham Creek

19 July 2019, 0900 to 1000

The Examining Authority undertook an unaccompanied inspection on 19 July 2019 to observe the easterly view towards the Application Site from the western bank of Faversham Creek. All inspections took place from a highway or public right of way. This note is a brief record to inform the Applicant, Interested Parties and other parties of the actions taken by the Examining Authority.

The inspection was undertaken by all three members of the Examining Authority, Mr David Rose, Ms Helen Cassini and Mr Andrew Mahon.

The weather was warm and bright, with a light cloud cover, and long-distance views across and beyond the Application Site were clearly available.

The route (see map A) started from the car park at the Shipwright's Arms at Hollowshore and followed the public footpath along the flood defence bank on the western bank of Faversham Creek from there to a point west of Nagden Cottages, which are situated on the eastern bank of Faversham Creek. At this point, the route returned to the starting point along the same path.

As well as looking at the views towards the Application Site, the scale and character of the intervening landscape and vegetation types were noted, including the influence of the dynamic, tidal character of the Creek and the distribution, scale and patterns of the associated saltmarsh vegetation. The backdrops to available views across the Application Site were noted in the context of possible future changes if the Proposed Development was to be built. The recreational and amenity value of the area was also evaluated.

Other features that were observed in the context of the available views included the isolated clusters of properties at Hollowshore and Nagden, the coastal flood defences on the eastern side of Faversham Creek, the line of electricity pylons, the existing Cleve Hill substation, the onshore and offshore wind farms to the north-west and north-east respectively and various agricultural buildings and infrastructure including areas of polytunnels.

The view towards Faversham across Ham Marshes was noted, including the spire of the Parish Church of St Mary of Charity and its setting in relation to the marshes, and the intervening farm buildings and other development.

Map A: the route taken

