

There has been a lack of consultation from Rampion right from the start of this process. The first we knew about this was when we received an envelope with some very confusing maps on A5 sheets which did not explain even the basics of what they were intending. I had the feeling then that they wanted to keep the whole thing under the radar to lessen the volume of objections. Rampion have been so lacking in providing detail and understanding around their proposals that it makes me feel that they will not be a responsible developer and will not make good any promises regarding restoration of land and habitat if they do indeed get approval.

There were never any details about which other sites they looked at and decided against, but when you look around the local area you can see that there are more suitable locations with better access which would cause less disruption and traffic delays and impacts on small country lanes and the people who live there. By choosing the site at Oakdene they have brought into play for local people issues such as noise, air pollution, impact on local businesses and traffic delays which are already an issue given the amount of traffic that gets backed up along the A272 passing through Cowfold every day, something that will only get worse as the years go by with the amount of house building that is delivering more and more vehicles onto our roads.

I was pleased to see that the battery storage farm application for Kent Street was refused mainly on unsuitable location and landscape, which surely also applies to the much larger Rampion substation.

To resolve some of the logistical issue Rampion are facing they are proposing digging up trees and hedges in order to widen access roads such as Kent Street which is in no way environmentally friendly.

I would like to see some figures published from a full survey on traffic usage on Kent Street which is where I live.

When I see that local councils are refusing to maintain churchyards because of a biodiversity crisis it surprises me that they are quite happy to give over swathes of biodiverse and ecologically important land to power stations, solar farms and battery farms in and around Cowfold.

There is so much animal diversity in the area many of which are red list species and these are under threat from Rampions proposals at a time when we need to be protecting our wildlife and their habitats. If these green initiatives are there to 'save the planet' then what good is the planet without our beautiful countryside and it's wildlife.