

# Longfield Solar Farm

## **1: Solar energy generation.**

### Health & Safety issues including mental health strain of this development:

Even in these early stages of this consultation period we (Mr & Mrs Harvey) are feel very anxious with [REDACTED] the thought of imprisonment of our property knowing the “Longfield Solar Farm” will engulf our home on all four sides( see photos below).

Looking at all the documentation supplied by “Longfield” is quite clear the five main properties that will be impacted by this development [REDACTED] will be the property most seriously affected should the adjacent field be used to house solar panels, battery storage units and any other equipment that is used when farming solar. We are gravely concerned of the long term health issues that comes with this sort of project, not just the continues noise of the equipment generating power, which on its own would cause a mental strain on the most resilient person, but the actual physical health issues of living next to a solar farm.

All our lives we have worked hard for what we have, this house was to be our “forever home”, so should this project be given permission to proceed, not only would we lose the peace and tranquillity of our surroundings and decimation of the wild live in the process but we would further be penalised with our property being devalued considerable.





I take exception to the wording used in this “Longfield” document in relation to response regarding the view point in our property as “Low” in sections 1.13.1 and 1.14.4. What right does the author of this report have in determining these views points in this way, they do live in this house, they have not experienced the changing seasons bring to these view points, all they have done is taken a “snapshot” of what they have seen on a one off visit to the area.

### **1.13 Viewpoint 11a: View south-east from Little Weathers**

- 1.13.1 This view is representative of residents of Little Weathers.
- 1.13.2 This view looks south from the front of the property and is heavily filtered by an existing hedgerow. An open arable field is apparent through the deciduous hedge. Roll's Spring Wood is also visible in the middle ground with a pylon visible in the west of the view. More open views are available from upper storey windows on the front of the property.

#### ***Sensitivity***

- 1.13.3 The view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and woodland, the value of the view is assessed as low.
- 1.13.4 Residents of Little Weathers have open views from most windows across the façade of the house. The susceptibility to change is assessed as high.
- 1.13.5 Overall, given that the view is representative of principal private views, the sensitivity is high.

### **1.14 Viewpoint 11b: View north from Little Weathers**

- 1.14.1 This view is representative of residents of Little Weathers.
- 1.14.2 The view is orientated north to represent views from the rear of the property. From the road, views are filtered by field boundary vegetation. Likewise, aerial photography shows that views from the rear of the property are likely to be filtered by vegetation on the curtilage boundary.
- 1.14.3 Where gaps in the vegetation in the foreground allow, the foreground is occupied by a large open arable field which rises gently to the north. Sparrows Farm is visible between intervening vegetation that lines Terling Hall Road. Field boundary vegetation and pockets of woodland coalesce to create a wooded backdrop.

#### ***Sensitivity***

- 1.14.4 The view consists of common landscape elements, with fields and woodland, the value of the view is assessed as low.
- 1.14.5 Little Weathers has open views from most windows across the façade of the house. The susceptibility to change is assessed as high.
- 1.14.6 Overall, given that the view is representative of principal private views, the sensitivity is high.



## 2. Proposals for the battery storage element of the scheme?

As stated we have grave concerns of the long term health issues that comes with this sort of project, not just noise pollution that will be produced from the equipment generating power, but the actual physical health issues of living next to a solar farm. One of our major concern is the “electromagnetic waves” that will be generated from the solar farm and a similar pollution being omitted from the nearby “electrical pylons” what the joint damage will be?



As you can see our property would be totally engulfed by the “solar farm” and with the electrical pylons” in the adjoining field we feel that a full discloser report must be published on what the long-term damage to our health and wellbeing will be. Since the publication of the first brochure the location of battery storage units and other ancillary equipment that will be used on the proposed “solar farm” have been very vague with the exact location of this equipment. In a document sent to us from “No To Longfield Team” there is drawing showing a conductor / battery storage unit just meters from our garage and no more than 20 metre from our home, this alone is causing us both extreme anxiety and stress.

## 3. Connecting to the national electricity system.

There is no documented evidence produce by the “Longfield Development Team” that fully explains the full consequence of the omitted pollution from either the panels or pylons, the main sales pitch from Longfield is to try obscure the sighting of the panels without revelling the true damage of the toxic waves that will be submitted from both forms of the power network.

We also note that the proposed working times of the project, which will include the laying of cables and other infrastructure works, will be 07.00am to 19.00pm Monday to Friday. Do you not think the residents of Terling and the surrounding neighbourhood have enough stress and misery dealing with this proposed project blighting their lives that you now want to diminish their quality time at evenings and weekends? Alongside this extensive working week you will be adding more upset by the substantial increase in local traffic within the roads & lanes of the area being used by the Longfield employees during these times.

#### **4. Potential environmental impacts and our proposals for enhancements and mitigation during:**

##### ***a) The construction of Longfield Solar Farm?***

Some of our main concerns have been raised within the body of our previous answers so we do not believe it add any value in repeating our answers in this section. However we will reiterate that before any work is undertaken in or around Terling and the neighbouring villages / dwellings a full report of the toxic impurities and noxious chemicals that will be omitted, not only from the solar farm when fully functional but also throughout the development stage too.

##### ***The operation of Longfield Solar Farm?***

Having visited a similar size solar farm in Hampshire we found at various location around the farm there were levels of “humming type noise” being omitted from the equipment operated on this development. This alone would have a dramatic effect on a person’s mental health and wellbeing, without the toxic blot on the landscape of a sea of glinting solar panels. Aside from looking at those hideous panels, our lives will be dominated by acres of metal, glass, CCTV and generator boxes, many residents will feel like prisoners, warning signs and cameras.

##### ***b) The decommissioning of Longfield Solar Farm?***

Our understanding of the live expectancy of this solar farm will be 40 x years, we can honestly say that should this development proceed in the format that has been presented that we will spend our remaining day’s in prisoned by this solar farm, having totally devalued our property, it will be our children and grandchildren that will see the decommissioning of the “*Longfield Solar Farm*”

#### **5. The contribution that the scheme will make to the local community?**

Some local individuals may benefit from the development of the Longfield Solar Farm but the overall feeling is likely be very negative from the community. There has been no meaningful discussions with local residents to negotiate the reduction in the number of solar panels proposed, especially properties that will be swamped by this development. It’s has been predicted by experts within the housing industry that property within this area will be significantly devalued by this development and there has been no mention of compensation for the homes directly decimated by this scheme.. This development will greatly reduce the enjoyment the area brings to the community after open spaces, footpaths, bridleways will be turned in to high hedges lined lanes and paths, there will be absolute no benefit to the local community.

#### **6. Potential biodiversity enhancements set out on pages 28-29 of the Consultation Booklet?**

Although the wording used in you “glossy brochure” all seems to mention the buzz words to indicate that the wild live within the area we not be decimated after and during the construction of this massive solar farm, we find it very hard to believe that wildlife in its current form will ever return and we understand that there has been no ecological studies completed

## **7. Concerns raised by residents**

It is the general consensus from the “Local Community” is that the consultation process has been very poor and ineffective with very little actual specifics being given by the development team at Longfield.

Below are some of the concerns raised by residents:

- Information released by “Longfield” has been poor at best, documentation has changed with each new information pack released making it impossible to uncover the truth about what is being proposed.
- There has been very little answer to the question raised during webinars and exhibitions that have been held.
- Looking to reduce the size of this project due to the devastating effect this will have on the family homes of residents engulfed by this development.
- No mention of the toxic pollution that will be discharged from these solar panels and associated equipment.
- The storage of batteries and the risk to residence living near a storage plant.
- Very little mention of what we can expect on our roads & lanes with regards to lighting, CCTV, signage etc that will blot the landscape.
- The level of disruption to residence throughout the development of this project.
- The true effects of the decimation of the current wildlife in the area.
- The discussion with residents regarding compensation for the plummeting value of their property this development will force upon them.

Although there is an understanding for this type of development to be considered, the residence of Terling and the surrounding neighbourhoods would like there to be more consultation and a sizable reduction proposed, especially for the home that will be swamped by this development, before any formal plans are submitted.