



# Longfield Solar Farm

Written Summary of Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited's Oral Submissions at the Open Floor Hearing on 30 September 2022

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Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)  
Planning Act 2008  
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)  
Regulations 2009

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 An Open Floor Hearing was held at 10:00am on 30 September 2022 using the virtual platform of Microsoft Teams.
- 1.1.2 Oral submissions were made by Mr Swash on behalf of Boreham Conservation Society, and Councillor Reed on behalf of Boreham Parish Council. Mr Pateman (Director at Pershing Consultants – the Applicant's project managers for the Application) provided a response to the matters raised and it is his oral submissions that are summarised in this document.

## 1.2 Overview of Oral Submissions by the Applicant

- 1.2.1 Mr Pateman responded to Mr Swash's concern in relation to the undergrounding of cables and the associated disruption, where instead he seeks a connection to be made to the overhead cables. Mr Pateman stated that three options were consulted on during the pre-application stage. Feedback to those options consulted on were analysed and responded to, as detailed in the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1(A)]** and associated **appendices A1 to A4 [EN010118/APP/5.2]**. It is recognised that different stakeholders provided different views on the options at an early consultation stage. However, it is worth noting there was support for the Bulls Lodge option ultimately being progressed in this Application, from Boreham Parish Council and the Local Access Forum.
- 1.2.2 The **Environmental Statement Alternatives and Design Evolution chapter [EN010118/APP/6.1]** considered the relative merits of the cable route to determine the most suitable route for inclusion in the Application. The **Environmental Statement Scheme chapter [EN010118/APP/6.1(A)]** and associated assessment chapters then consider the environmental effects of the proposed routing. For the reasons set out in the application documents (as signposted above) the proposed route is the most appropriate from an environmental perspective.
- 1.2.3 In the CA hearing the applicant agreed to share the a plan, on the cable route options which were reviewed to connect to Bulls Lodge Substation. As part of this note, a section of text has been included on the merits of Bulls Lodge substation.
- 1.2.4 Mr Pateman also responded to Councillor Reed's comments regarding routing of construction vehicles through Boreham, noise impacts to adjoining properties and timing of highway works. In terms of routing construction vehicles, Mr Pateman signposted to the routing commitments within the **Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010118/APP/6.2(B) submitted at Deadline 3]**, whereby no construction vehicles will be routed through Boreham village.
- 1.2.5 The applicant has also clarified commitments in the CTMP at deadline 3, to ensure that staff vehicles/cars are not travelling on the network at peak times (i.e. the staff will be arriving at site before 8am, or leaving site after 6pm)

1.2.6 In terms of noise matters, the Applicant has reflected on the concerns raised and added a further commitment within the **Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010118/APP/7.10(B) submitted at Deadline 3]** to restrict noisy activities in close proximity to properties to certain hours, which we consider addresses the specific concern raised. In terms of the timing of the road widening works, the Applicant confirmed a Requirement is imposed on the Development Consent Order (Requirement 21) **[EN010118/APP/3.1(C) submitted at Deadline 3]** as follows to ensure the necessary accesses, visibility splays and widening of the public highway prior to the solar farm works and grid connection works starting:

**Highway improvements**

21. Save in respect of the works identified in this requirement, no phase of the solar farm works and grid connection works may commence until the necessary accesses, visibility splays and works to widen the public highway to facilitate access to the solar farm works (part of Work Number 9) have been carried out and completed.