



# Oaklands Farm Solar Consultation Report

Appendix 15.5 - Additional Informal Targeted Consultation  
Newsletter March 2023

January 2024

**Applicant:** Oaklands Farm Solar Ltd

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# Contents

1. Additional Consultation Newsletter (March 2023) .....3

# 1. Additional Consultation Newsletter (March 2023)



## Oaklands Farm Solar

Project newsletter - March 2023

Oaklands Farm Solar Limited is proposing a large-scale solar and energy storage project near to Rosliston and Walton-on-Trent in South Derbyshire.



### Latest update

Following our statutory consultation on the proposals in early summer 2022, and ongoing design developments, we have made a number of changes to the Oaklands Farm Solar proposals.

These are summarised in this leaflet, but further information is also available on the project website: [www.baywa-re.co.uk/en/solar/oaklands-solar-farm](http://www.baywa-re.co.uk/en/solar/oaklands-solar-farm)

We are undertaking additional consultation on these changes, and we'd love to hear your views.

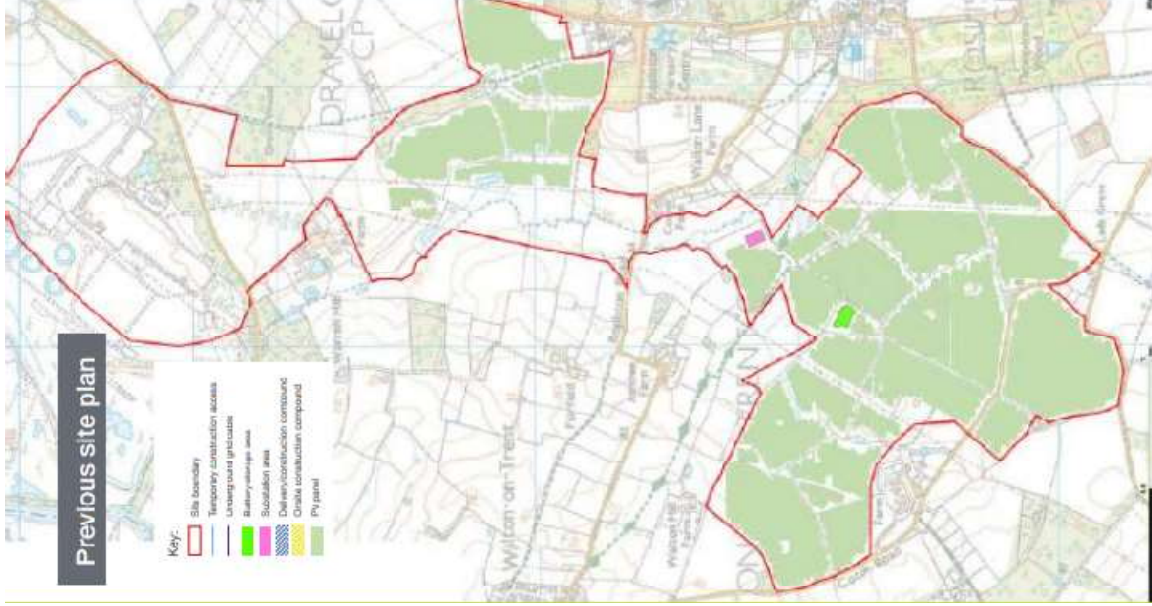
Deadline for comments: 21st April 2023



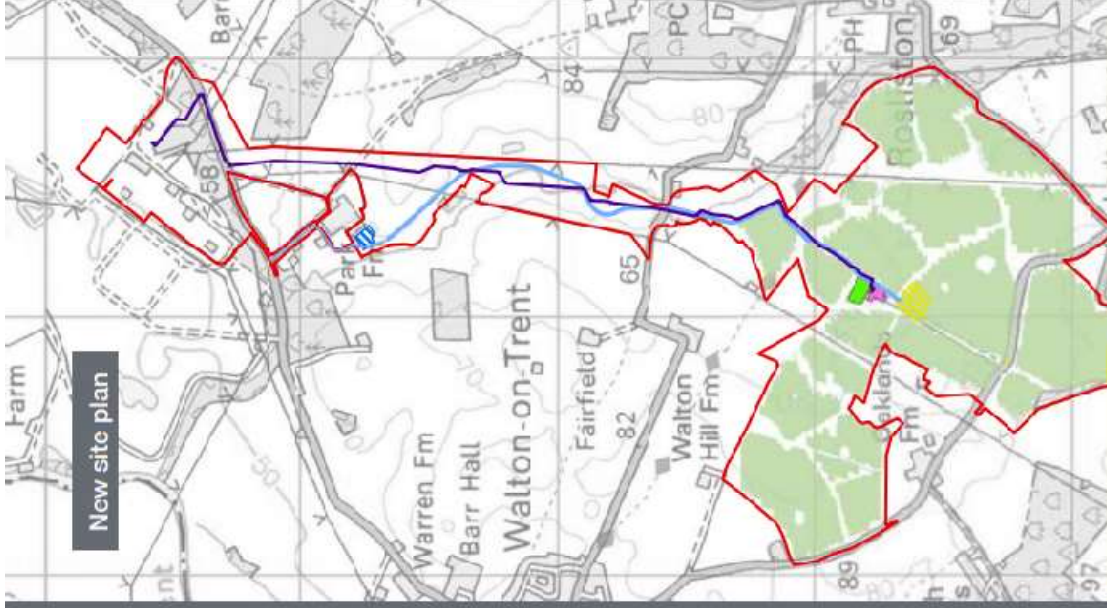
### Community Benefit Contributions confirmed

We're pleased to confirm our commitment to an annual community benefit of £55,000 for the 40 year life of the project. This will amount to over £2million of investment in local communities over the project's lifespan.

*Find out more on the back page.*



Previous site plan



New site plan

## What's changed since our consultation?

At our statutory consultation in early summer 2022, we presented proposals for a solar farm, expected to generate over 160MW of electricity, and a 37.5MW battery storage unit, alongside other associated infrastructure and access points.

Since then, a number of design changes have been made to the scheme as a result of consultation feedback and ongoing design development. The project has been reduced in scale through the removal of solar panels from a large part of the site closest to Drakelow. The plans on this page show how the proposals have changed.

## Changes made since Statutory Consultation

The Project substation has been moved to the middle of the site adjacent to the energy storage facility/batteries to increase distance from residential properties

All panels removed from the Park Farm site in the north of the site

The 132kV cable preferred route from the site substation to Drakelow has been assessed and confirmed. The cable will be undergrounded for its entire length (approximately 2km)

Access onto site during construction has been revised to include a new temporary access from Walton Road through land to the north of the site, and straight across Fosliston Road into the Oaklands Site. This is due to the change of weight limit on Chetwynd Bridge making southern construction access from Catton unsuitable for HGVs (lighter vehicles will use this route)

The previously proposed construction access off Burton Road into Park Farm has been removed. Use of Burton Road will therefore be restricted, meaning no HGVs will use this route

As a result of the traffic and access changes, additional information related to potential construction traffic routes to site has been confirmed

A permissive footpath to create a new link to the Cross Britain Way from the public right of way at Catton Lane/Lads Grave in the south-east of the solar farm has been included

The changes will result in the overall project footprint and planning boundary being reduced significantly and the panels and supporting infrastructure will now occupy approximately 165 hectares

Additional planting has been confirmed across the site to increase ecological benefits and reduce landscape and visual impacts

## Plans too small?

Visit [www.baywa-ve.co.uk/en/solar/oaklands-solar-farm](http://www.baywa-ve.co.uk/en/solar/oaklands-solar-farm) to access all the updated site plans and information.

Further detail about the updated site layout, plans and construction traffic information can be found on the project website.



## Community Benefit – we want to hear your views!

We're grateful for the feedback and suggestions received in relation to Community Benefit. We've been working on this, and we're excited to confirm our commitment to provide an annual community benefit of £55,000 for the 40 year life of the project. This will amount to over £2m over the project's lifespan.

Whilst we are yet to confirm the details, the intention is for this money to be distributed to local causes via a local community foundation.

We're keen to hear from you regarding benefits the project could bring to the local area.

In addition to the financial contribution, we've identified a number of other local benefits we hope to bring forward as a result of these proposals:

- **Clean renewable energy** which would make a significant contribution to local and national Climate Emergency goals
- **Opportunities for direct ecological benefits and Biodiversity Net Gain through:**
  - » Hedgerow planting & improved management
  - » Improving grasslands and wildflowers
  - » Decreased use of fertiliser and herbicide
  - » Improved soil condition
- **Socio-economics**
  - » Improving links between existing paths and right of ways
  - » Local contracting opportunities - fencing, civil works, testing & commissioning
  - » Knock on effects for local businesses and payment of business rates



## About BayWa r.e.

Oaklands Farm Solar Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of BayWa r.e. UK Ltd (BayWa). BayWa is a global developer of large-scale renewable energy projects.

BayWa is focused on solar projects throughout the UK & Ireland and onshore wind in Scotland and Ireland. The company has delivered 625 solar projects worldwide totalling approximately 1900MW, including 31 solar projects in the UK totalling approximately 536MW.

Find out more at: [www.baywa-re.co.uk](http://www.baywa-re.co.uk)



## Consultation

We're very keen to hear your views on changes to our proposals for Oaklands Farm Solar. You can send us your thoughts directly using the below methods, or complete a feedback form online at: [www.baywa-re.co.uk/en/solar/oaklands-solar-farm](http://www.baywa-re.co.uk/en/solar/oaklands-solar-farm)

- » Call (Freephone): 0800 6990081 and leave a message
- » Post: FREEPOST TC CONSULTATION (no further address or stamp required)
- » Email: [info.oaklands-solarfarm@baywa-re.co.uk](mailto:info.oaklands-solarfarm@baywa-re.co.uk)

Deadline for comments: 21st April 2023



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