

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Oaklands Farm Solar](#)
Subject: Oaklands Farm Solar Panel Issue
Date: 31 October 2024 19:41:34

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Deadline 5 NSIP

Oaklands Solar Representations as Requested by PL-INS

Sir,

The small village of Coton-in-the-Elms is located in a position such that on the map its location would appear to offer a possible means of road access from the M1/A42 in the east to the proposed site under consideration. However, this route is not suitable for HGVs in general and especially so for articulated vehicles: the narrow, winding country lanes and blind bends pose difficulty and potential danger generally to other road users, not least to cyclists who abound locally, and to pedestrians who must walk on the road.

(A friend of mine, who ran a haulage firm prior to his retirement, has commented that narrow, winding country lanes are the bane of lorry drivers: "they hate them and the inconvenience and danger they pose!")

As a resident [REDACTED] in Coton-in-the-Elms for some [REDACTED] years I have seen a significantly marked increase in vehicular traffic in the village - cars, vans, motorbikes and pedal bikes.

An original narrow village lane, Church Street itself has sections where there are no pavements on one or other of the sides, thus compelling pedestrians to walk on the road itself; obviously major concerns here relate to parents with small children in pushchairs, OAPs, and to the wheelchair-owners resident in the village.

Further, the village children's play area exits directly onto Church Street via a rough track. Children have been seen running from his exit.

The relatively narrow Church Street is also limited for vehicular traffic where terraced houses abut the pavement, obliging those residents perforce to permanently park their vehicles on the road itself, this resulting in sections of single carriageway, with consequent 'leapfrogging' of through-traffic.

The possessor of a Private Pilots Licence (PPL), I have flown over the area on a number of occasions. What is immediately and strikingly obvious from the air is the preponderance of very large warehouses and industrial estates, all with extensive roofs, lining the A38 south of Burton upon Trent and within easy reach of the proposed site. Solar panels mounted on these roofs, and others, would supply a

substantial amount of electricity and obviate the need for valuable agricultural land to be misused.

The population of this country is increasing logarithmically. Land will be required for additional housing, yet the increasing population will need to be fed as well as housed. Agricultural land should not be used for purposes which could be met by other means.

I thus strongly oppose the application to install solar panels on fields at Oaklands Farm.

Yours very sincerely,

James Cowell