

**Application by Mallard Pass Solar Farm Limited for an  
Order Granting Development Consent for the Mallard Pass  
Solar Project – project ref. EN010127**

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**Unique ID ref. 200335950**

**Written Submission Following Accompanied Site Visit**

Although it might not have been fully evident at the Accompanied Site Visit, residents and visitors to the area have noted that landowners have not managed hedgerows by cutting them back, as in previous years.

This change in management has already impacted negatively on views across the countryside and must have affected the assessments of the landscape and the baseline used.

Examples include, but are not limited to, the following



Hedge on Manor Farm Lane showing new growth and normal cutting height.



Hedge on Pickworth had showing new growth over verge and encroaching on the road.



View from Manor Farm Lane as it has been for thirty nine years. As can be seen the wall is outside of the Order Limit.



View on the day of the Accompanied Visit showing view from the exact position as in the previous photo. The landowner has planted Sunflowers this year. Sunflowers have not been grown on the farm for the last thirty nine years. Since the Accompanied Visit the plants have grown higher.



Photo taken standing on the dry stone wall on the day of the Accompanied visit showing the church which could have been seen clearly from Manor Farm Lane. One of the houses on the lane is called "Church View!"

Sunflowers were not sown across the field, as would have been if grown as a crop. The strip was one seed drill wide. The crop beyond was Field Beans.

It is appreciated that the above photos do not give an exhaustive study of the area. However, they reflect what is believed to be an attempt by the landowners/the Applicant to "adjust" the views in order to support the Applicant's case.

Although sunflowers are annuals they have woody stems and so can retain their structure well after the flowering period.

More generally, this is a good example of how areas planted to mitigate views of the solar panels would degrade long distance views and the character of the landscape.

It is a good example of GLVIA3 para. 4.29 which notes that 'Mitigation measures can sometimes themselves have adverse effects on landscape or on visual amenity'

