

A great deal of personal time, effort and money has gone into our fight to oppose the Mallard Pass Solar Farm application. As a resident and as chairman of Essendine Village Hall, I personally have sacrificed many hours of my life to help with the campaign to oppose this application. The applicants have been able to throw huge sums of money to back up their application, with a team of legal experts. Mallard Pass Action Group have had to raise money to fund any experts we have used and had to learn so much about this application to be able to put up the arguments against it. This has not been a level playing field. Throughout the process, the applicants have been economical with the truth, have not always answered promptly our request for information and have buried bad news such as their quest for Compulsory Acquisition, deep in extensive documentation. At hearings of which I have attended a number, the applicant was given much more a airtime than the Action Group and and I did not feel as a villager and Village Hall Chairman I was not given the opportunity to speak fully as I should have been. At times I felt belittled and inferior by the planning Inspectorate. Additionally the submission of all oral representation, has been quite difficult and confusing to submit.