

Raywood, Simon

From: Helen Mitchell [REDACTED] >
Sent: 20 October 2023 14:52
To: Cottam Solar Project
Subject: Flooding in Thorpe le Fallows

My unique ref number 20037012

Dear Inspector

I made a submission before the deadline earlier this week, but I have some further information for you and I hope you will accept and take into consideration these images taken this morning during the rainfall.

The area shown around Thorpe Lane, Fleets Road and the River Till has been prone to flooding for as long as I have lived here (since [REDACTED]). I have attached two maps (1 x jpeg and 1 x pdf) showing where these photos have been taken. These photos were taken this morning just after 9am and some again just before 12pm. I became aware of the rain starting in the early hours around 12.40am, so the amount of water collecting in the River Till, surrounding dykes and fields has only happened over a period of 8-9 hours and is continuing to worsen.

The storm drain in photo ref 2 was installed to help reduce the flooding on the Fleets Road/ Thorpe Lane junction. Many times the bench would almost completely go underwater. As you can see from the photos the drain is overwhelmed with the amount of water and the water level has risen above the drainage hole in just 3 hours. You can see water accumulating in the field behind the bench in photo ref 1.

The photos taken on Thorpe Lane bend, photo ref 3, show the dyke overflowing onto the road at 09.10am, and by 11.58am the road is no longer visible and is on the way to becoming impassible.

I would've liked to have taken some more photos of the river at 12pm to see what the level was after 3 more hours, but I was unsure about making my way through the water blocking Thorpe Lane bend in photo ref 3. I would not be surprised if the river and adjacent dykes overflow into the fields in the coming hours and days.

The installation of acres of solar panels and industrialisation and disruption of this landscape is only sure to worsen the risk of flooding.

I would also like to point out there are no hedgerows along the north side of Thorpe Lane either side of the river. Any solar panels would be 100% visible from this road and any hedgerows planted would take decades to become tall and dense enough to disguise them.

Please see attached photos (x23) and pdf (x1) available to download from the link below.

[REDACTED]

If you need any further clarification of information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards
Helen Mitchell

Raywood, Simon

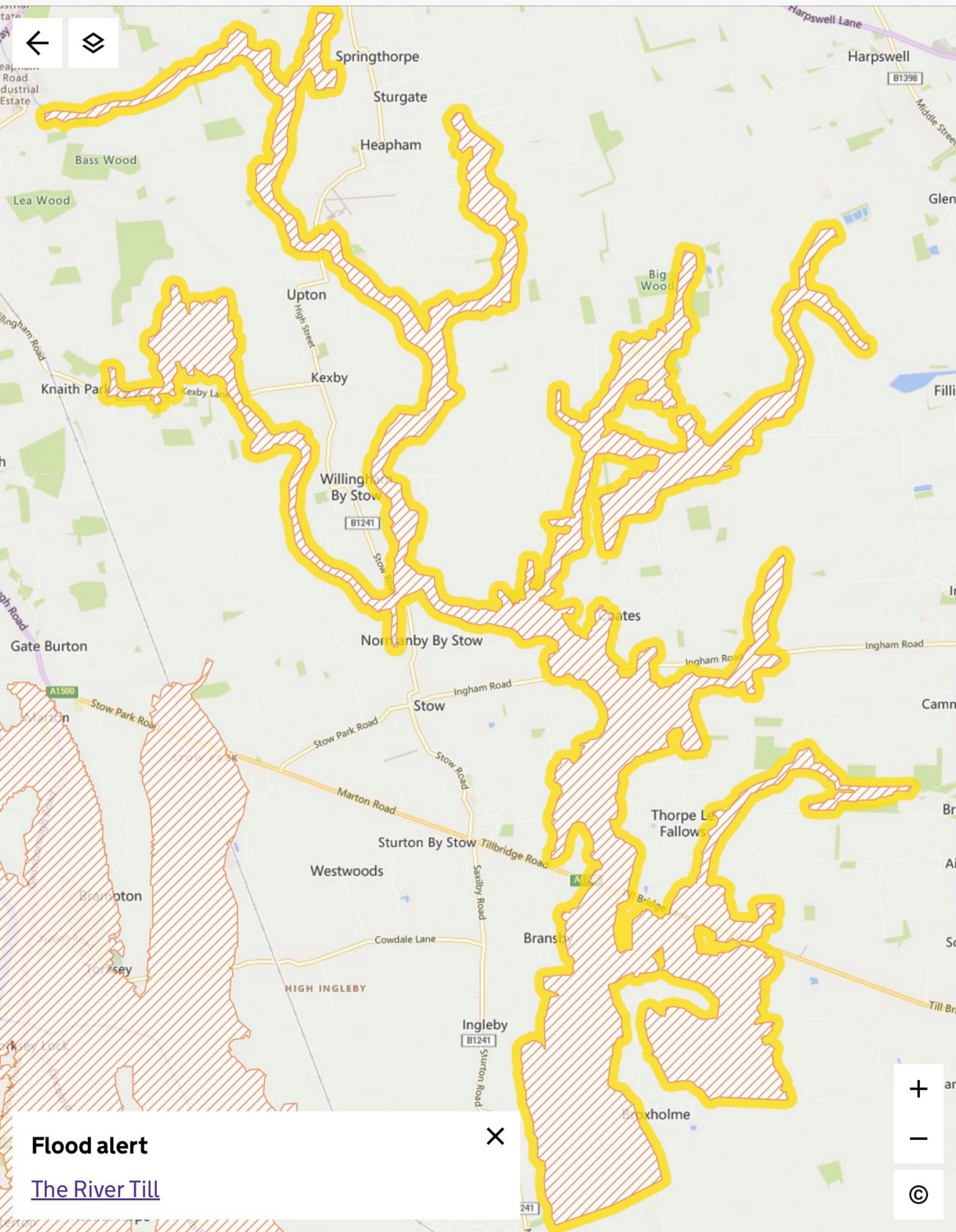
From: Helen Mitchell [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 October 2023 15:59
To: Cottam Solar Project
Subject: Flooding in Thorpe le Fallows part 2

My unique reference number 20037012

Dear Inspector

Further to my previous email regarding the flooding currently happening around Thorpe Lane/ Thorpe le Fallows near the River Till, please see attached screenshot of a map found on the government website showing the flood alert for the River Till.

I have now heard via social media that the River Till has come over the banks on Ingham Road, which can be seen in the central area of the map, and is another location proposed for solar panels.



Flood alert

[The River Till](#)



20/10/23 Photo ref 5a dyke NW view,
taken at 09.01am



20/10/23 Photo ref 5b dyke NE view,
taken at 09.01am



20/10/23 Photo ref 6 looking North, River
Till, 09.02am



20/10/23 Photo ref 6 looking NW from River
Till/ Thorpe bridge, 09.02am



20/10/23 Photo ref 6 looking NE from
River Till/Thorpe bridge 09.03am



20/10/23 Photo ref 2 storm drain,
taken at 09.06am.



20/10/23 Photo ref 2 storm drain,
photo taken at 09.06am



20/10/23 Photo ref 1 bench
09.09am



20/10/23 Photo ref 1 bench 09.10am



20/10/23 Photo ref 3 Thorpe Lane
bend, taken at 09.10am



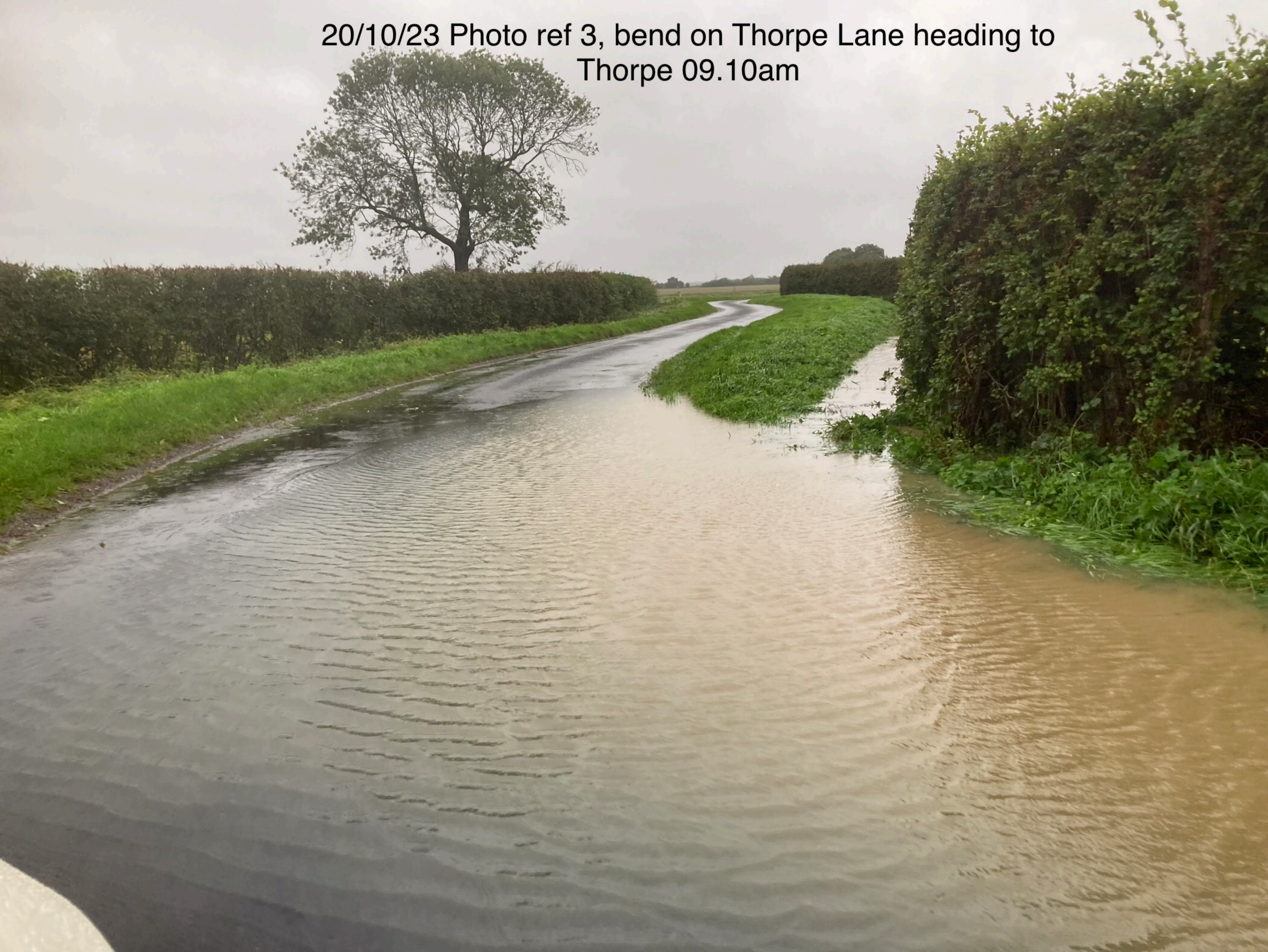
20/10/23 Photo ref 3, bend on Thorpe Lane
heading to Thorpe 09.10am



20/10/23 Photo ref 3, bend on Thorpe Lane heading to
Thorpe 09.10am



20/10/23 Photo ref 3, bend on Thorpe Lane heading to
Thorpe 09.10am



20/10/23 Photo ref 3, bend on Thorpe Lane heading to Thorpe, water pouring from dyke 09.10am



20/10/23 Photo ref 3, bend on Thorpe Lane, heading away from Thorpe. Public Footpath sign on bend 09.12am



20/10/23 Photo ref 3, bend on Thorpe Lane heading away from
Thorpe 09.12am



20/10/23 Photo ref 3, bend on Thorpe Lane, public
footpath viewpoint 8, 09.12am



20/10/23 Photo ref 1 bench, raised water in dyke
09.13am



20/10/23 Photo ref 1, water building up in field
behind hedge 09.13am





Photos taken within this area

20/10/23 Photo ref 2, photo taken at 11.57am, water level has risen since photo at 09.06am.



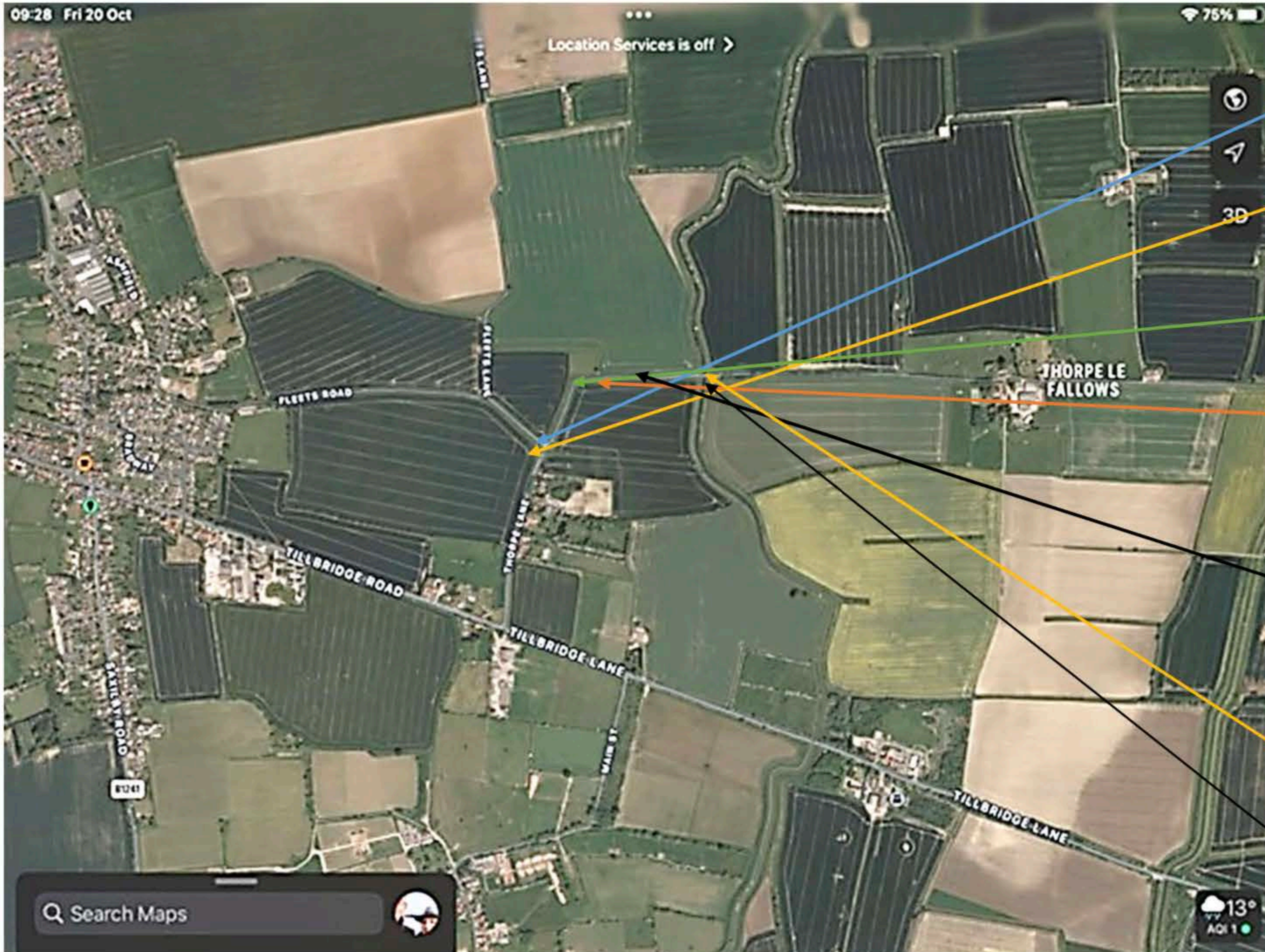
20/10/23 Photo ref 2, photo
taken at 11.57am, water level
has risen since photo at
09.06am.



20/10/23 Photo ref 3,
bend on Thorpe Lane,
taken at 11.58am,
water level has risen
since photos at
09.10am.



ID20037012 – COTTAM SOLAR - OVERHEAD MAP BELOW PLEASE SEE REFERENCE NUMBERS 1 THROUGH TO 7 WHICH ARE BETWEEN VIEWING POINTS 7 AND 8 CONTAINED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT APPENDIX 8.1.5: PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHOTOMONTAGE METHODOLOGY PART 1 OF 5 JANUARY 2023.



- Ref Numbers:-
- 1 – Bench at junction of Fleets Road and Thorpe Lane
 - 2 – Storm drain in dyke at junction of Fleets Road and Thorpe Lane, opposite side of the road to the bench
 - 3 – Bend on Thorpe Lane between Viewpoint 8 and Viewpoint 7,.
 - 4 – Dyke on south side of Thorpe Lane (right hand side of the road if travelling to Thorpe) between Viewpoints 7 & 8 and the River Till Bridge/Thorpe Bridge.
 - 5a & 5b – Dyke on north side of Thorpe Lane (left hand side of the road if travelling to Thorpe) between Viewpoint 7 & 8 and River Till/ Thorpe Bridge. 5a. Looking NW. 5b. Looking NE.
 - 6 – Looking North (and NW and NE) on River Till/ Thorpe Bridge
 - 7 - Looking South on River Till/Thorpe Bridge