

The huge Solar installation will have the most profound impact on the village of Aldington if the project is agreed. The industrialisation of the landscape will inevitably have an effect on the well being of the community given how close it will be to village homes and gardens. Not only will Aldington rapidly become a place to avoid but the value of properties will decline rapidly ( as is evidenced now while the project is in a planning phase) and tourists will avoid the area. Many come to see the homes of Joseph Conrad and Noel Coward, writers much inspired by Aldington and Mersham.

The fact that the plan includes partly being sited on a hill at Aldington Ridge adds to the inevitable awful visual impact if the project goes ahead.

The proposed battery storage, which will be in sight of peoples homes in this project, will cause risk of fire; pollution and run off. The fire risk has not been adequately assessed in my opinion, including access for fire appliances should an incident arise during the life time of the project.

The local roads surrounding the potential project are not in any way conducive to carry the number and size of the proposed vehicles. The risk of serious accident and chaos during build phase and on going maintenance has again not been fully assessed. Put simply, the proposed project is entirely in the wrong location.

The tenor of the Pre Examination Enquiry; while endeavouring to explore these significant issues, has frequently met with the response by the developers that as an NSIP that fact alone overrides all community concerns which are very real and of huge understandable concern.

There is no question that the current biodiversity of the area will be adversely affected, beyond, repair as evidenced by other huge solar farms. Loss of habitat, light and noise pollution disturbs wildlife bringing a risk of collision risk for our Marsh bird life as they mistake glass for water,

Sadly, the next generation of children growing up in the village of Aldington and environs will never know of the beauty of the Aldington Ridge, the trees, hedgerows; far reaching views and fields if this project goes ahead.

Other sites, for example, along the sides of the motorway would be a far more suitable location for the project which the developers have failed to explore due to expediency which will wreck the community of Aldington and Mersham in the process

The submission made in relation to footpaths and byways must be fully explored as the loss of footpaths as an amenity for the village community should not be overlooked, especially giving access to St Martins Church.

The potential use of the byway off Frith Road for servicing of the panels must be fully explored as the entry on to the already busy Frith Road is likely to cause an accident given the poor visibility and is between a number of residential properties. This has not been fully risk assessed