

In addition to my previously submitted comments, I would like to summarise my concerns based on further information provided by Evolution Power, the developer, regarding the battery containers and storage:

1. The visual impact of this industrial-scale solar and battery development on the Aldington Ridge will irreparably damage our rural environment, fundamentally altering the character of our community.
2. The development will create significant traffic disruption in the village and increase the likelihood of serious accidents at the Smeeth Crossroads.
3. The scheme will lead to the loss of habitat for protected species, such as skylarks and other local breeds.
4. The installation of 116 battery containers in the fields surrounding our villages represents an unnecessary industrialisation of the countryside.
5. Historic footpaths, some of which have been in use for centuries, will be closed or rerouted.
6. The developer has not addressed the fire and contamination risks posed by the batteries. While legislation exists to protect schools and care homes from such risks, it does not extend to residential properties. This oversight presents a serious and unacceptable threat to residents and their homes.