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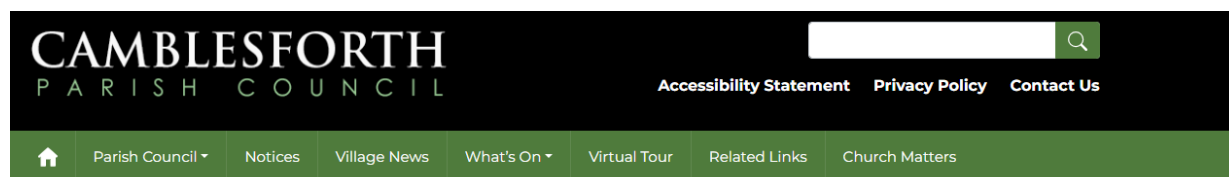
**Pursuant to:**  
APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

**Consultation Report:  
Appendix 8.9 - Parish council social  
media engagement**

June 2024



## Appendix 8.9 – Parish Council Social Media Update



### News

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#### Helios Solar Farm – Condition of Land identified as site for the Solar Farm

Published on **September 4, 2022**

Further to ongoing matters relating to the proposed solar farm just outside of Camblesforth, noting the various comments on social media about the proposed site being prime agricultural land, the Parish Council has asked Helios if this was the case. Their response can be found below:

Many thanks for the email, we're more than happy to provide a bit of background and additional information to help clarify this point.

As I'm sure you will understand, due to the size of the site, there are a range of agricultural land types and quality. This does include areas of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Land, alongside other areas of lower quality land. Alongside other extensive environmental and technical surveys, understanding the agricultural land resource, together with the soil resource and function, are important assessments for us to undertake as we progress the scheme design and carry out an environmental impact assessment of its effects. This assessment work is in progress and once complete will provide an overview of the site's agricultural land quality. We submitted a Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in June this year which set out our

proposed approach to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). PINS provided its response in July 2022 which confirmed the scope of our EIA. The Scoping Report and PINS' Scoping Opinion can be accessed here: [Helios Renewable Energy Project | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#). An initial report on the agricultural land classification at the site is included in Appendix 14.1 to our Scoping Report. This identifies the proportion of land within each agricultural land grade at the site. This is only the initial stage of assessment for the site, however, as we will also be looking at the current use of the site and its agricultural yield as part of our assessment work. In its Scoping Opinion, PINS has asked us to provide a regional assessment of the loss of BMV land and assess any significant effects where they are likely to occur – this assessment is currently in progress.

We are at an early stage in the development of the proposals and our assessment work. The preliminary findings of our EIA, including those relating to agricultural land resource and soils, will be made publicly available at the next stage of consultation, when we will be publishing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The PEIR will provide an account of the EIA findings at that point in time and it is our intention that this will be in the form of a draft Environmental Statement (ES). Following consultation, we are required to have regard to all consultation feedback before we finalise our proposals and the accompanying ES for submission to PINS.

We have noted points from our recent consultation regarding the preference to use brownfield sites nearby. Further information on our site selection process will be included within the PEIR and our final submission.

We will ensure to share further details with you as we proceed towards the next phase of consultation.

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## News

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### Helios Solar Farm Consultation

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Published on **October 18, 2023**

We have been asked to publish a poster from Helios with regard to the proposed solar farm. You can see this by clicking here. [Helios\\_S47Poster](#)

Categories: **Uncategorized**