

**Tillbridge Solar Project  
EN010142**

**Volume 5  
Consultation Report**  
Appendix A – Non-statutory consultation : Appendix A-1 to  
Appendix A-12  
Document Reference: EN010142/APP/5.2

**Regulation 5(2)(q)  
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and  
Procedure) Regulations 2009**

**April 2024  
Revision Number: 00**

**tillbridgesolar.com**

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## Appendix A-1: Covering emails and letters sent in initial communications to MPs – 24 June 2022

**From:** [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
**To:** [edward.leigh.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:edward.leigh.mp@parliament.uk)  
**Subject:** Confidential - Introduction to Tillbridge Solar  
**Date:** 24 June 2022 16:55:37  
**Attachments:** [20220624\\_Tillbridge Solar letter to Sir Edward Leigh MP\\_FINAL.pdf](#)

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Dear Sir Edward Leigh,

In your role as the Member of Parliament for Gainsborough I am writing to introduce Tillbridge Solar, a joint venture partnership between Tribus Clean Energy and Canadian Solar.

Tillbridge Solar is proposing a solar energy farm located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough. The electricity generated from the project would then connect to National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The project would also have an energy storage solution. We are currently in the early stages of development and would like to discuss the project with you ahead of our upcoming community engagement.

As you will be aware, the Government's recent Energy Security Strategy calls for an additional 56 gigawatts (GW) of solar electricity generation by 2035. This is an ambitious national challenge, and meeting the Government's target for affordable, home-grown renewable electricity will require projects like Tillbridge Solar to be delivered around the country.

As we develop the project, we will carefully consider the potential impact of the proposals on local people and the environment. We will consult with locally elected councillors, local businesses and community organisations, landowners, and members of the local community, and we intend to hold our first collaboration workshops in July 2022. This engagement will help us better understand the local context and receive local input from an early stage, shaping the project's design.

Prior to these workshops, we would like to extend the offer of a one-to-one Microsoft Teams meeting, to introduce the project and give you a chance to ask us any questions you may have. If you feel this would be useful, we would be happy to work with your office to find a suitable time for a meeting.

**As we have yet to circulate invitations for the collaboration workshops and release information into the public domain, we kindly ask that you keep this information confidential at this stage.**

If you have any questions about the project or our upcoming engagement with local communities, please get in touch with the project team via [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com) or 0800 046 9643. A project website will also be published in July 2022, which will contain more detailed information.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Edward Leigh MP  
MP for Gainsborough  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

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Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray  
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar

**From:** [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
**To:** [robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk)  
**Subject:** Confidential - Introduction to Tillbridge Solar  
**Date:** 24 June 2022 16:57:51  
**Attachments:** [20220624\\_Tillbridge Solar letter to Robert Jenrick MP\\_FINAL.pdf](#)

---

Dear Rt Hon Robert Jenrick,

In your role as the Member of Parliament for Newark I am writing to introduce Tillbridge Solar, a joint venture partnership between Tribus Clean Energy and Canadian Solar.

Tillbridge Solar is proposing a solar energy farm located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough. The electricity generated from the project would then connect to National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The project would also have an energy storage solution. We are currently in the early stages of development and would like to discuss the project with you ahead of our upcoming community engagement.

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Project Director, Tillbridge Solar



Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP  
MP for Newark  
29a London Road  
Newark, Nottinghamshire  
NG24 1TN

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Project Director, Tillbridge Solar



**From:** [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
**To:** [brendan.clarkesmith.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:brendan.clarkesmith.mp@parliament.uk)  
**Subject:** Confidential - Introduction to Tillbridge Solar  
**Date:** 24 June 2022 17:01:22  
**Attachments:** [20220624 Tillbridge Solar letter to Brendan Clarke Smith MP\\_FINAL.pdf](#)

---

Dear Brendan Clarke-Smith,

In your role as the Member of Parliament for Bassetlaw I am writing to introduce Tillbridge Solar, a joint venture partnership between Tribus Clean Energy and Canadian Solar.

Tillbridge Solar is proposing a solar energy farm located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough. The electricity generated from the project would then connect to National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The project would also have an energy storage solution. We are currently in the early stages of development and would like to discuss the project with you ahead of our upcoming community engagement.

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Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray  
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar



Brendan Clarke-Smith MP  
MP for Bassetlaw  
16 Bridge Place  
Worksop  
Nottinghamshire  
S80 1JS

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Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray  
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar

## Appendix A-2: Presentation slides from the meetings with planning authorities

### A-2.1: Example from slides shared with Lincolnshire County Council – 16 June 2022



#### The Tillbridge Solar team





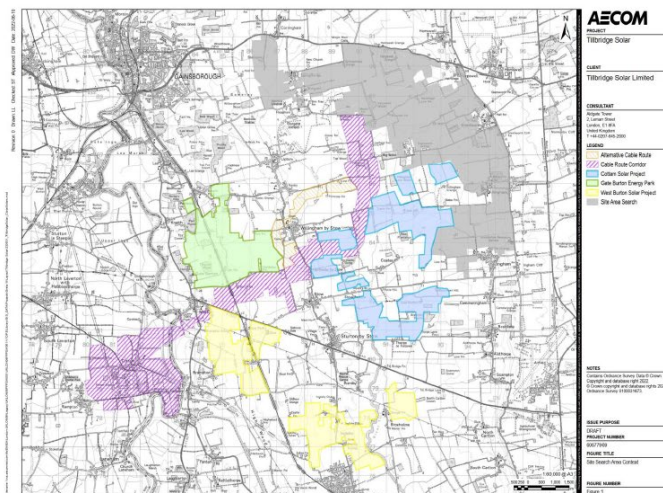


## About Tillbridge Solar Farm

The project will comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays and supporting infrastructure. The supporting infrastructure will include:

- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- Solar stations, comprising electrical equipment such as inverters and transformers
- Substations
- Access tracks for maintenance and staff car parks
- Security fencing and CCTV
- Landscape planting to screen views, most likely through infilling and planting of hedgerows and trees
- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Underground cabling connecting the solar farm with National Grid at Cottam.
- Potential for collaboration with other developers (see later slides).



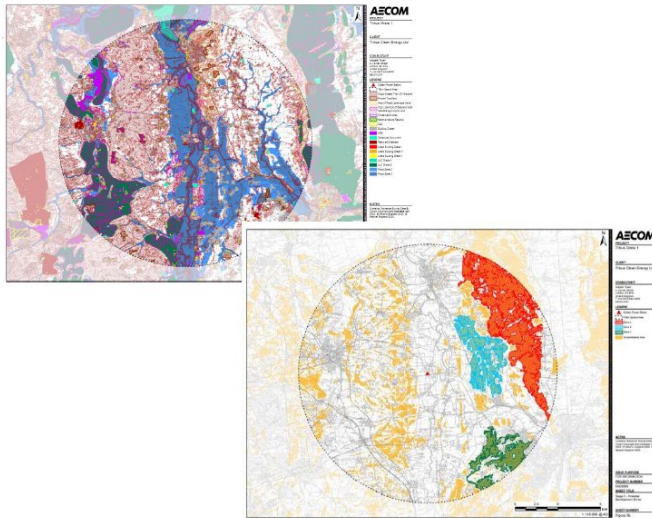


## Working collaboratively with other developers to minimise impacts and deliver additional benefits

- Large search area so scope to refine the site area to avoid the most sensitive areas
- Masterplanning process identified areas with potential significant cumulative impacts: will seek to omit those areas
- Environmental capacity study to look early at cumulative impacts and have this shape the final site
- Collaborating with other developers on:
  - Potential for sharing cable route (minimise impacts)
  - Timing workshops so they do not clash
  - Potential for sharing information
  - Collective and individual delivery of additional benefits (e.g. biodiversity).

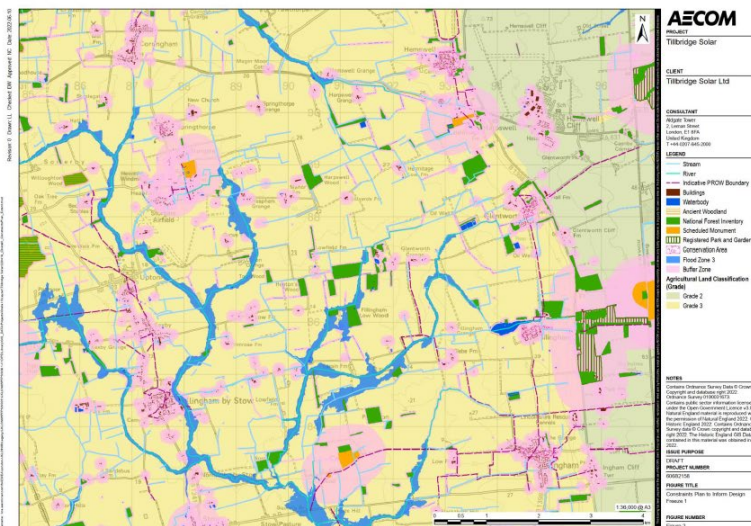


## The Project Tillbridge Solar



## Site Search Assessment – desk based 2020

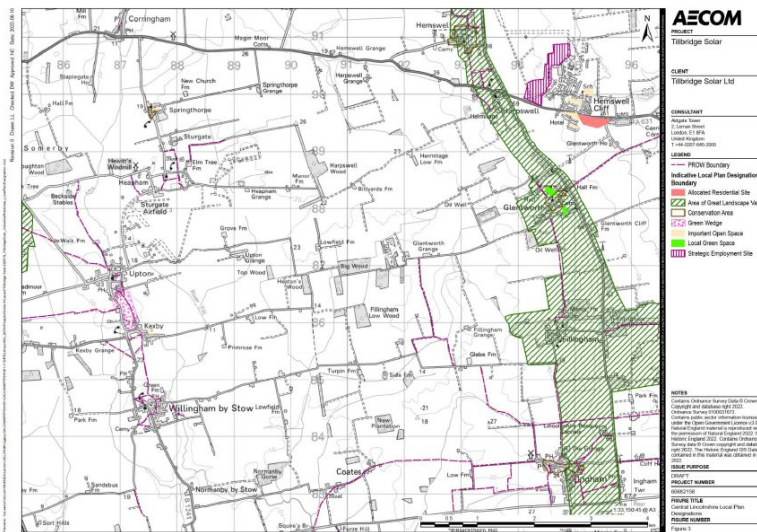
- High-level site search assessment completed to identify a location for a proposed solar energy farm to generate more than 50MW of electricity in the east of England. The east of England was selected for irradiation purposes.
- Site Search Assessment considered:
  - Operational Criteria (topography, irradiance and available grid connection).
  - Planning and Environmental Constraints.
  - Selection of Zones which were potentially appropriate for a solar energy scheme within the most unconstrained locations. This included consideration of previously-developed land and lower grade agricultural land to identify a zone for more detailed consideration.
  - This work led to the identification of land to the east and south-east of Gainsborough for further exploration and analysis with respect to site suitability.



## Environmental Capacity Study – desk based

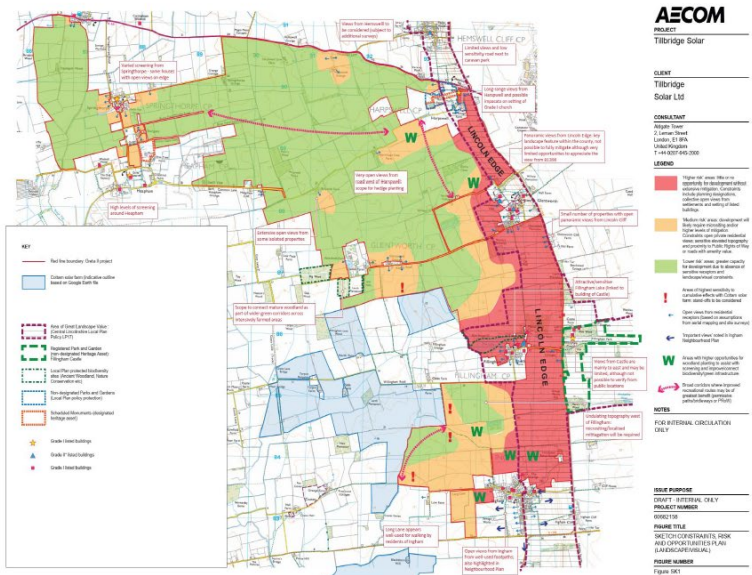
- Environmental analysis of constraints to further shape and define the area of search.
- Inclusion of buffers where development would be too sensitive.





### Consideration of planning designations – desk based

- Area of Great Landscape Value
- Conservation Area
- Green Wedge
- Public Rights of Way

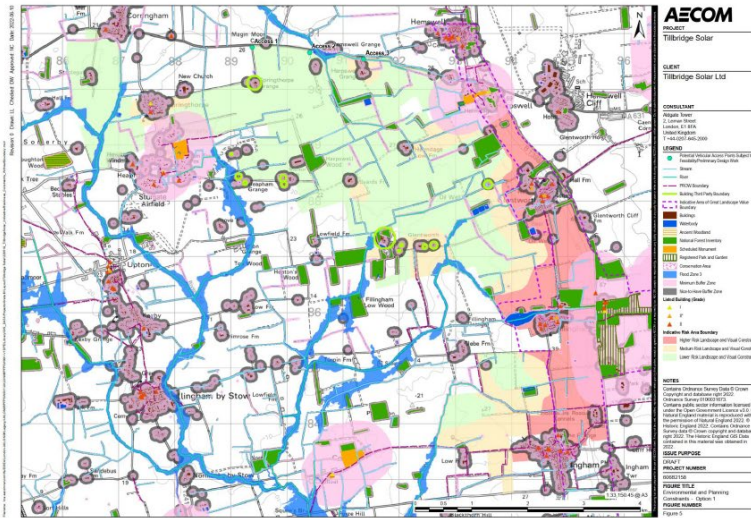


### Landscape, Visual and Planning Analysis of area of search – walk-over 2022

- Identification of key landscape and views
- Sensitive receptors
- Cumulative impacts
- Proximity to Public Rights of Way
- Topography
- Planning designations
- Heritage Assets
- Conservation Areas

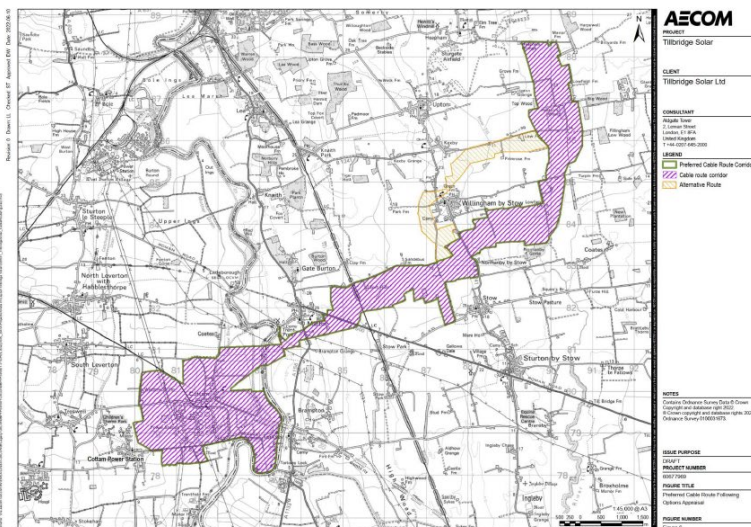






## Refinement of site search area to identify areas of lowest impact following walk-over

- Low – medium risk areas shown by green/amber shading.
- Further sensitivity testing is underway. This will feed into the non-statutory consultation workshops (see later slides).



## Preferred cable route corridor

- Series of options for cable routes were explored and assessed resulting in the preferred route as shown.
- Key objective to work collaboratively with the other projects in terms of sharing a route to reduce impact.
- The preferred route crosses a railway line, which provides services between Doncaster and Lincoln (East Midlands Railway and Network Rail) and it also crosses the River Trent.
- Where a sensitive constraint needs to be crossed (e.g. a sensitive habitat or watercourse), non-intrusive techniques will be used such as drilling underground to avoid impacts from trenching. These will be identified through the baseline surveys.





## A targeted and collaborative approach to early engagement

- Understanding local context
  - Well versed in solar and DCO process
  - Consultation fatigue
- DCO consultation process – two stage
  - Informal engagement at early stage
  - Statutory consultation
- Targeted engagement with key stakeholders and community representatives at the earliest possible opportunity.
- We want to be open and collaborative with communities and stakeholders.
- Input at this stage will contribute towards our more defined proposal at statutory consultation, the emerging preferences of our stakeholders and the key constraints from their perspective.
- Proven engagement process from master planning best practice to establish greater community collaboration.



## The opportunities for collaboration

### Collaboration workshops

- Creates a platform for active participation in the design process for a project
- Includes representatives of community and key stakeholders in the early stages of the design process to incorporate local knowledge and gain local buy-in and input for the proposals
- Presents Tillbridge Solar in the context of existing applications in the area and sets out areas for collaboration

### Direct engagement with near neighbours

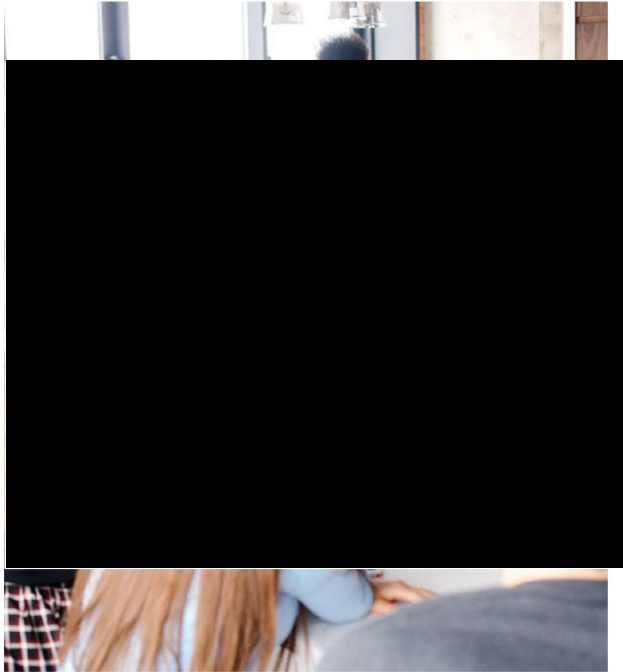
- Identified a small n properties as near neighbours
- Masterplanning at a micro-level
  - Face to face meetings with each to introduce proposals and seek input in early designs



### Technical stakeholder engagement

- Local authority offices
- Environment Agency, Natural England etc





- Our workshops will allow us to present information to key stakeholders at an early stage, including:
  - Introduction to the developer and project overview
  - How the project fits with wider developments
  - What's fixed by constraints and what's being consulted on
  - Community and wider benefits
- July dates outside of other public exhibitions in the area
- Mix of circa dozen community representatives, technical stakeholders and elected representatives
- Half day sessions in local venues close to site
- Key outcomes



### Indicative programme

Month	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023
EIA Baseline Studies						
Soft launch, non-statutory consultation and wider publication						
EIA Scoping						
Technical Design						
Statutory Consultation						
Preparation of application						
Submission						



## Discussion points

- Local Authority Liaison
- What are your thoughts on our approach to non-statutory consultation?
- Following the meeting, we will provide a list of stakeholders to be invited to workshops for input by the Local Authority
- Preferred frequency of meetings/engagement.
- Planning Performance Agreements?
- AOB





## Appendix A-3: Collaboration workshop invites and the attached PDF information

### A-3.1: Invite to workshop on 20 July 2022



SENT VIA EMAIL

Monday 11 July 2022

Dear Councillor,

**Subject: Invitation to collaboration workshop for Tillbridge Solar**

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project located in Lincolnshire, along with the infrastructure required to connect the project into the National Grid in Nottinghamshire.

Tillbridge Solar would be located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough, and to the north west of Lincoln. The electricity generated from the project would then connect to the National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The project would also have an energy storage solution.

As you will be aware, the Government's recent Energy Security Strategy calls for a target of up to 70 gigawatts (GW) of solar electricity generation by 2035. This is an ambitious national challenge, and meeting the Government's target for affordable, home-grown renewable electricity will require projects like Tillbridge Solar to be delivered around the country.

Plans for Tillbridge Solar are still at an early stage. We have carried out initial studies and assessments to identify areas of land that would potentially be suitable for a proposed solar energy farm and cable route corridor connecting to the National Grid's Cottam substation.

Given that the project would generate more than 50MW of renewable energy, Tillbridge Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means that we need to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

We will therefore be undertaking consultation in accordance with the relevant legislation (the Planning Act 2008), and are anticipating holding our statutory consultation in early 2023 before our DCO application is submitted. Before holding our statutory consultation, we are now carrying out an initial period of engagement with key stakeholders to help us understand key issues and constraints.

As part of our initial engagement on the project, we are inviting representatives of groups with an interest in the area to attend one of a series of workshops in Lincolnshire during July so we can explain more about our proposals and seek your views. These workshops will help shape the project at this early stage and allow local elected representatives and community groups, as well as independent technical experts, to discuss in detail a number of key topics and aspects of our plans.



Each workshop will last for approximately four hours with refreshments provided and will involve a series of short presentations by project team members followed by a question-and-answer session. This session will provide the opportunity for us to present and seek your views on the following areas:

- The Tillbridge Solar project, the site selection process to date, initial identification of local constraints and other local factors to consider
- Environmental considerations, such as ecology and biodiversity
- Potential environmental enhancement and mitigation measures
- Community benefits
- Future consultation and engagement planned for the project

We will use the information and feedback you provide at the workshop to help us refine our plans and identify the most suitable areas for development.

As a key representative who may have an interest in our proposals, we would like to invite you to attend a workshop on the following date:

**Wednesday 20 July 2022, 1pm to 5pm, Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF**

To note, it is important to you arrive to the venue at the start time to allow the workshop and team presentations to begin.

Following these workshops, all comments and suggestions will be considered and reflected in the project design where possible and wider information will be shared about the project, including to all workshop attendees and the local community.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your attendance to the above workshop by Tuesday 19 July 2022. You can do this by responding to this by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)), by calling 0800 046 9643, or by writing to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR.

Light refreshments will also be provided at the workshops, so please also let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

Full details of the workshops will be sent to confirmed attendees before the event. We have also provided some further background information to inform the workshops, attached to this letter.





If you have any questions about the project, the workshops or the content of this letter, please contact our community relations team using the details above. More information can also be found on the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray

Project Director  
Tillbridge Solar  
Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
Freephone : 0800 046 9643  
Website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

## A-3.2: Invite to workshop on 21 July 2022



SENT VIA EMAIL

Monday 11 July 2022

Dear Parish Council,

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- The Tillbridge Solar project, the site selection process to date, initial identification of local constraints and other local factors to consider
- Environmental considerations, such as ecology and biodiversity
- Potential environmental enhancement and mitigation measures
- Community benefits
- Future consultation and engagement planned for the project

We will use the information and feedback you provide at the workshop to help us refine our plans and identify the most suitable areas for development.

As a key representative who may have an interest in our proposals, we would like to invite you/one representative of your organisation to attend a workshop on the following date:

**Thursday 21 July 2022, 2pm to 6pm, Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ**

To note, it is important to you arrive to the venue at the start time to allow the workshop and team presentations to begin.

Following these workshops, all comments and suggestions will be considered and reflected in the project design where possible and wider information will be shared about the project, including to all workshop attendees and the local community.

I would be grateful if you could confirm the name of the representative of your parish council who will be attending to the above workshop by **Tuesday 19 July 2022**. You can do this by responding to this by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)), by calling 0800 046 9643, or by writing to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR.

Light refreshments will also be provided at the workshops, so please also let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

Full details of the workshops will be sent to confirmed attendees before the event. We have also provided some further background information to inform the workshops, attached to this letter.



If you have any questions about the project, the workshops or the content of this letter, please contact our community relations team using the details above. More information can also be found on the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray

Project Director  
Tillbridge Solar  
Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
Freephone : 0800 046 9643  
Website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

## A-3.3: Invite to workshop on 22 July 2022



### SENT VIA EMAIL

Monday 11 July 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Subject: Invitation to collaboration workshop for Tillbridge Solar**

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project located in Lincolnshire, along with the infrastructure required to connect the project into the National Grid in Nottinghamshire.

Tillbridge Solar would be located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough, and to the north west of Lincoln. The electricity generated from the project would then connect to the National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The project would also have an energy storage solution.

As you will be aware, the Government's recent Energy Security Strategy calls for a target of up to 70 gigawatts (GW) of solar electricity generation by 2035. This is an ambitious national challenge, and meeting the Government's target for affordable, home-grown renewable electricity will require projects like Tillbridge Solar to be delivered around the country.

Plans for Tillbridge Solar are still at an early stage. We have carried out initial studies and assessments to identify areas of land that would potentially be suitable for a proposed solar energy farm and cable route corridor connecting to the National Grid's Cottam substation..

Given that the project would generate more than 50MW of renewable energy, Tillbridge Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means that we need to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

We will therefore be undertaking consultation in accordance with the relevant legislation (the Planning Act 2008), and are anticipating holding our statutory consultation in early 2023 before our DCO application is submitted. Before holding our statutory consultation, we are now carrying out an initial period of engagement with key stakeholders to help us understand key issues and constraints.

As part of our initial engagement on the project, we are inviting representatives of groups with an interest in the area to attend one of a series of workshops in Lincolnshire during July so we can explain more about our proposals and seek your views. These workshops will help shape the project at this early stage and allow local elected representatives and community groups, as well as independent technical experts, to discuss in detail a number of key topics and aspects of our plans.



Each workshop will last for approximately four hours with refreshments provided and will involve a series of short presentations by project team members followed by a question-and-answer session. This session will provide the opportunity for us to present and seek your views on the following areas:

- The Tillbridge Solar project, the site selection process to date, initial identification of local constraints and other local factors to consider
- Environmental considerations, such as ecology and biodiversity
- Potential environmental enhancement and mitigation measures
- Community benefits
- Future consultation and engagement planned for the project

We will use the information and feedback you provide at the workshop to help us refine our plans and identify the most suitable areas for development.

As a key representative who may have an interest in our proposals, we would like to invite you/one representative of your organisation to attend a workshop on the following date:

**Friday 22 July 2022, 10am to 2pm, Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE**

To note, it is important to you arrive to the venue at the start time to allow the workshop and team presentations to begin.

Following these workshops, all comments and suggestions will be considered and reflected in the project design where possible and wider information will be shared about the project, including to all workshop attendees and the local community.

I would be grateful if you could confirm the name of the representative from your organisation who will be attending the above workshop by **Tuesday 19 July 2022**. You can do this by responding to this by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)), by calling 0800 046 9643, or by writing to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR.

Light refreshments will also be provided at the workshops, so please also let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

Full details of the workshops will be sent to confirmed attendees before the event. We have also provided some further background information to inform the workshops, attached to this letter.



If you have any questions about the project, the workshops or the content of this letter, please contact our community relations team using the details above. More information can also be found on the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray

Project Director  
Tillbridge Solar  
Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
Freephone : 0800 046 9643  
Website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)



## A-3.4: Additional briefing information (sent to all stakeholders)



### Background information

#### The project

Tillbridge Solar Limited is being developed by a joint venture partnership between Tribus Clean Energy and Canadian Solar, who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects. They are being supported by an experienced team of technical specialists.

Tillbridge Solar would be located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough, to the north west of Lincoln. The electricity generated from the project would then connect to the National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The project would also have an energy storage solution.

The project would make a significant contribution towards achieving the UK's ambitious climate change targets and the target of up to 70 gigawatts (GW) of solar electricity generation by 2035, whilst also helping to provide a reliable source of affordable energy.

Given that the project would generate more than 50MW of renewable energy, Tillbridge Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means that we need to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

#### Consultation and engagement

Consultation and engagement with local communities is important to us and forms a central part of the pre-application process for Tillbridge Solar.

As the project is classified as an NSIP, We will therefore be undertaking consultation in accordance with the relevant legislation (the Planning Act 2008), and are anticipating holding our statutory consultation in Q1 2023 before our DCO application is submitted.

During the early stages of the project, we are carrying out an initial period of consultation and engagement, where we will be working collaboratively with stakeholders to help understand key issues, and potential constraints, from their perspective. This early engagement includes holding a series of collaboration workshops, which will help shape the project from a technical point of view.

The ongoing development of our proposals for Tillbridge Solar will be an interactive process and will involve opportunities for the wider local community and other stakeholders to express their views and provide feedback on our proposals. This includes a formal period of consultation, expected to take place in Q1 2023.





### **Workshop format**

We are holding three collaboration workshops during the week commencing Monday 18 July 2022. These workshops have been organised to help Tillbridge Solar introduce the proposals, focus discussions on a series of topic areas and hear views from a community, environmental, and technical perspective from an early stage.

Each workshop will be chaired and facilitated by Tillbridge Solar, and will involve a series of presentations, question and answer sessions and opportunities for attendees to have their say during the session. There will also be a range of printed materials, including maps and plans to help attendees to understand our proposals. As well as hearing your views through the discussions, any further comments will be able to be provided in writing using printed comment sheets.

To help facilitate discussion over the course of the workshop, ensure everyone has an opportunity to speak and a diverse range of perspectives can be heard, we are asking each organisation limits to sending only one representative to attend the workshop.

Tillbridge Solar will use feedback and discussion points gathered from the workshops to help develop the proposals in more detail. All comments and suggestions will be considered and reflected in the project design where possible, ahead of more detailed plans being published as part of our statutory consultation, anticipated for the first quarter of 2023.

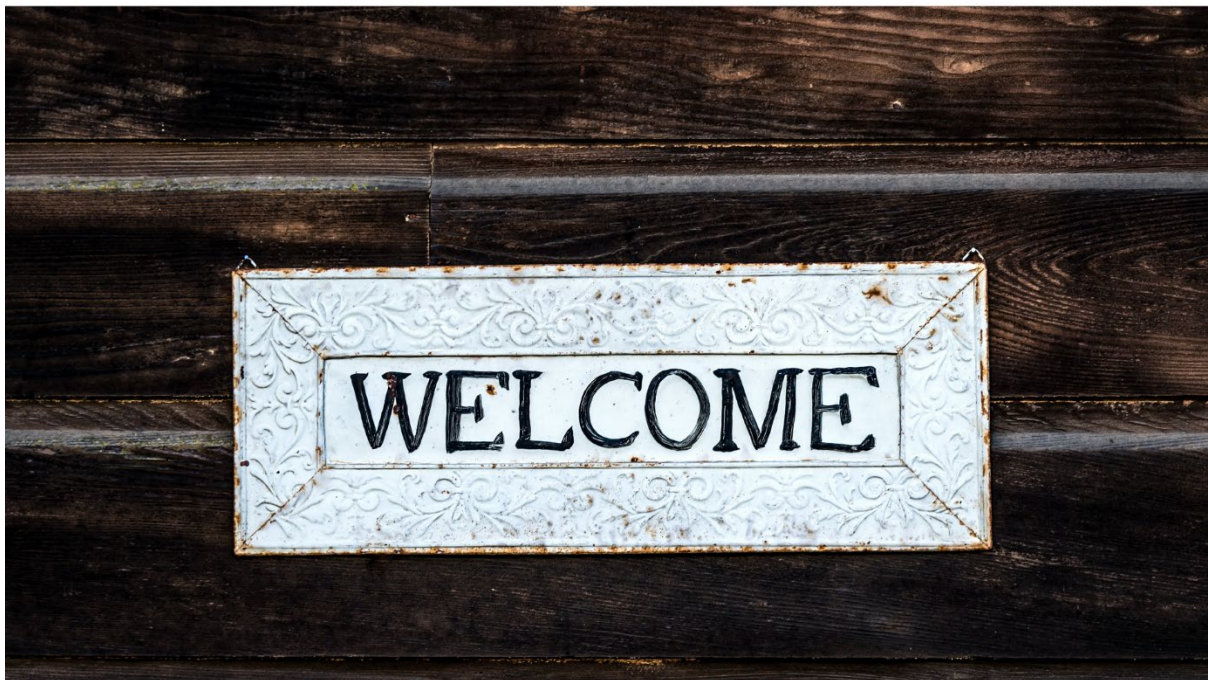
We are committed to engaging with all stakeholders as our plans for Tillbridge Solar develop. Following the collaboration workshops and further consideration of comments and suggestions, Tillbridge Solar will be sharing further information about the project with the wider local community and other stakeholders.

### **Confirming attendance**

To confirm your attendance at one of our collaboration workshops, please contact the community relations team by responding to this by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)), by calling 0800 046 9643, or by writing to FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR.

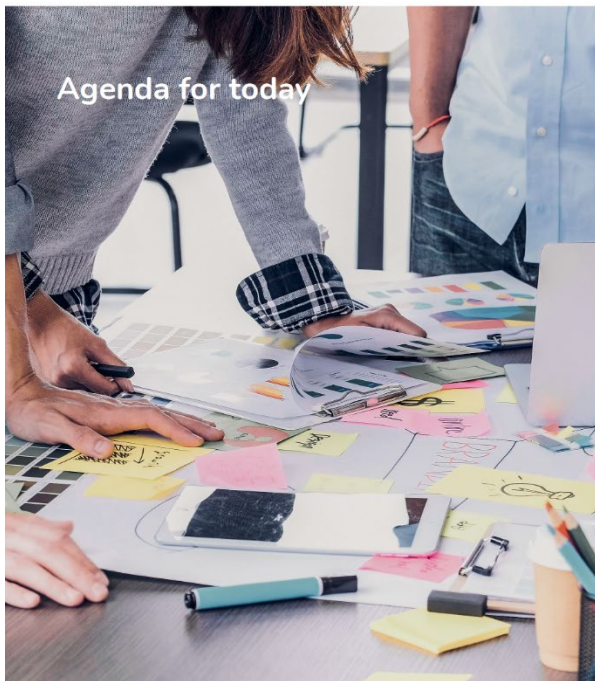
We will also be providing refreshments during the workshops, so please also let us know if there are any dietary requirements that we should be aware of.

## Appendix A-4: Collaboration workshop presentation





## The Tillbridge Solar team



### Agenda for today

Item	Timings
Welcome, introductions and logistics for today	10pm – 10:30pm
Session #1: Presentation – An introduction to Tillbridge Solar	10:30pm – 11am
Q&A session	11am – 11:20am
Refreshments break	11:20am – 11:40am
Session #2: Interactive sessions – key topic areas	11:40am – 1:15pm
Closing remarks and opportunity for final comments	1:15pm – 2pm
Workshop close	2pm





- Our plans for Tillbridge Solar are still at an early stage.
- The project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) so needs to apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO).
- Consultation will be carried out in accordance with the Planning Act 2008.
- These collaboration workshops form an important role in the formative stages of the project and non-statutory consultation.
- Your engagement today and over the coming months will be important in helping us to refine our plans and project design as this develops in more detail.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

Tillbridge  
Solar



## Key aims

- We want to understand the local context and what is important to you
- We want to create an open and collaborative forum for engagement and achieve active participation in the design process for Tillbridge Solar
- To present the project in the context of existing applications in the area and set out areas for collaboration

\*Information correct as of July 2022

Tillbridge  
Solar

## Your role

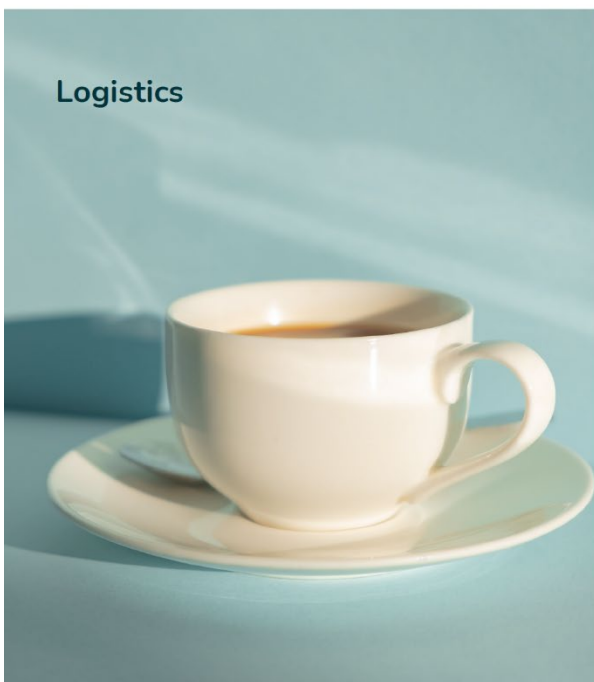


- Today is an opportunity for us to introduce:
  - The project in more detail
  - Initial constraints that we are aware of so far
  - The timeline for the project
  - How we will be engaging with you moving forwards
- There is an opportunity for you to:
  - Interact with our plans and materials
  - Let us know what key issues, constraints and sensitivities we should be aware of
  - Shape the early-stage design of the scheme
  - Provide comments at this early stage

\*Information correct as of July 2022

Tillbridge  
Solar

## Logistics



- We want this session to be as open and collaborative as possible.
- There will be opportunities for you to ask questions and engage directly with the team.
- You can provide comments today by:
  - Providing comments on post-it notes, which can be pinned on printed maps.
  - Place pins/stickers to identify notable locations and constraints in the area.
  - Writing directly onto maps.
  - Using comment sheets – there will be an opportunity to write down your final thoughts at the end of today's workshop.
- We will also be noting down actions and key discussion points throughout the day.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

Tillbridge  
Solar





**About**  
Tillbridge Solar Farm

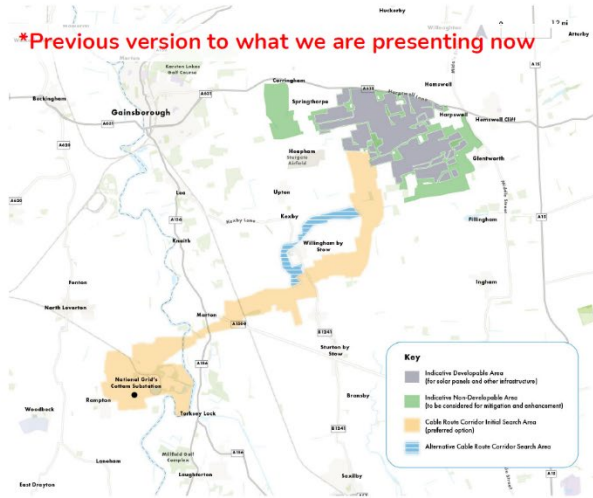
The project will comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays and supporting infrastructure. The supporting infrastructure will include:

- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- Solar stations, comprising electrical equipment such as inverters and transformers
- Substations
- Access tracks for maintenance and staff car parks
- Security fencing and CCTV
- Landscape planting to screen views, most likely through infilling and planting of hedgerows and trees
- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Underground cabling connecting the solar farm with National Grid at Cottam.
- Potential for collaboration with other developers (see later slides).

\*Information correct as of July 2022

## Location and key facts

**\*Previous version to what we are presenting now**



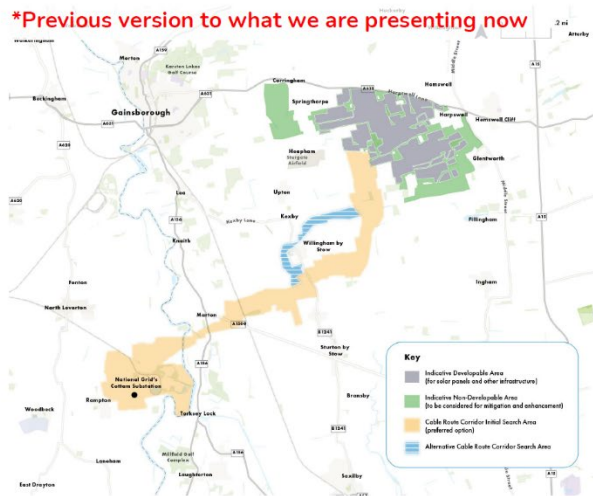
- Located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough, and to the north-west of Lincoln. The scheme would be built on agricultural land.
- Connection to the National Grid at Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire.
- We have an offer from National Grid to access up to 500MW of grid connection capacity. We are working to develop a project that provides the best and most efficient solution and allows the project to provide as much renewable electricity within these constraints.
- We have initially identified the following areas (these are subject to change following ongoing feedback and design work):
  - Total area within RLB
  - Preferred areas for development – referred to as 'developable areas' is currently approximately 1,000 hectares
  - Preferred areas to be considered for mitigation and enhancement – referred to as 'non-developable' is currently approximately 700 hectares
  - Provisional area for breeding bird mitigation is currently approximately 200 hectares
  - Preferred initial search area for underground cable route corridor is approximately 16km
- Please see the printed maps in the room.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Location and key facts

**\*Previous version to what we are presenting now**



- Tillbridge Solar would be located on agricultural land.
- We will be carrying out agricultural land classification surveys in the near future, which will define the grading.
- Agricultural land will not be lost in the development of this project – it will provide an opportunity for restoration during the lifespan of the project.
- Benefits include reduction in intensive agriculture and chemical fertilizer, revenue streams for local farmers.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

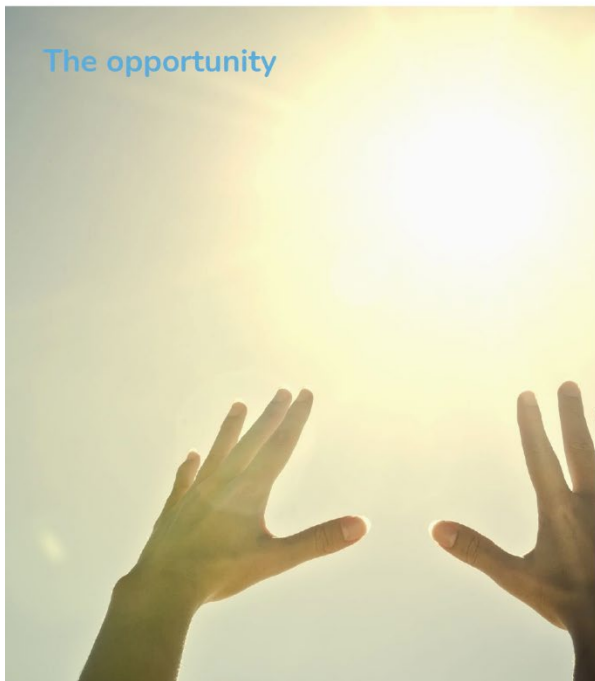






- The UK is committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This pathway requires the decarbonisation of many sectors across the UK.
- Decarbonisation requires energy generation from low carbon sources and phasing out electricity currently being generated by burning fossil fuels.
- More renewable energy is needed to accelerate this transitions and large-scale solar will play an important role in this.
- Large-scale solar will deliver a secure and affordable energy supply to those that need it most.
- The recent Energy Security Strategy sets out an increased target of around 70 gigawatts (GW) of total solar generation capacity by 2050.
- Tillbridge Solar would make a vital contribution towards achieving net zero and provide clean, green electricity during its operation (around 40 years).

\*Information correct as of July 2022

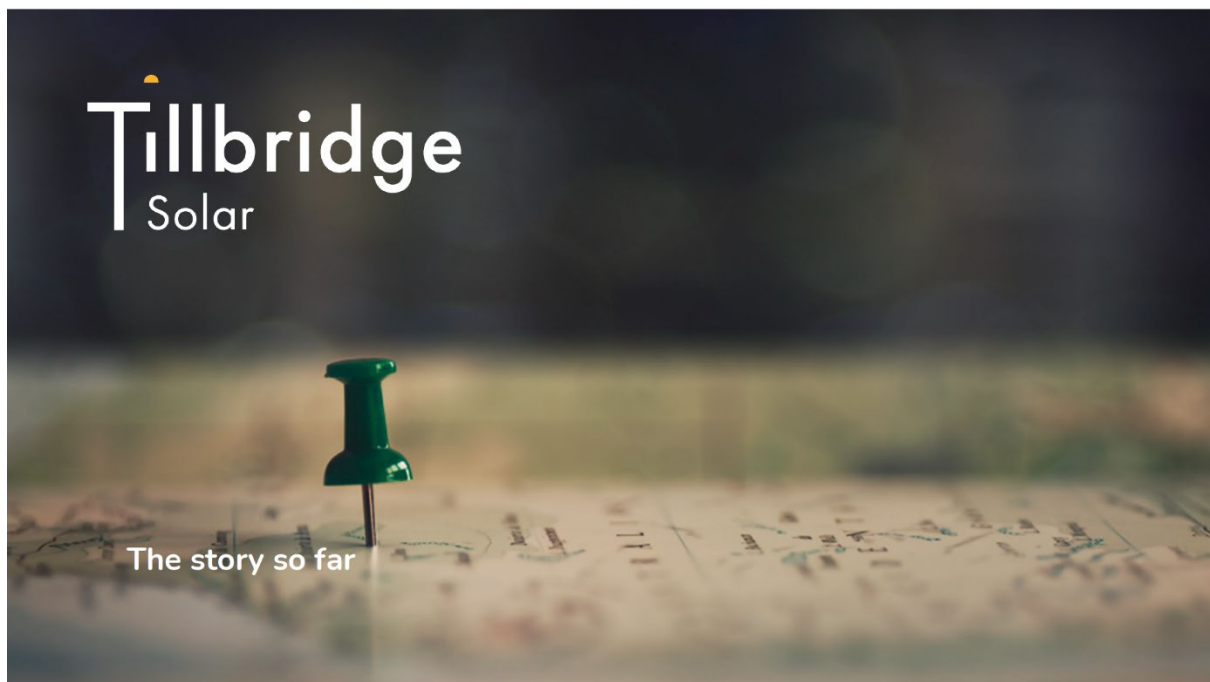


- We have the opportunity to develop a scheme:
  - In a responsible way, in collaboration with local communities and key stakeholders and from an early stage.
  - In collaboration with other developers (see later slides).
  - In-keeping with the local and regional landscape.
  - That supports Lincolnshire's transition away from electricity generation using fossil-fuels, towards a net zero economy.

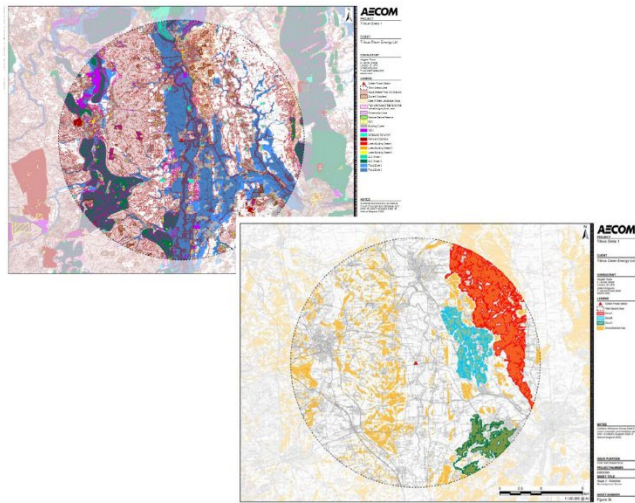
\*Information correct as of July 2022







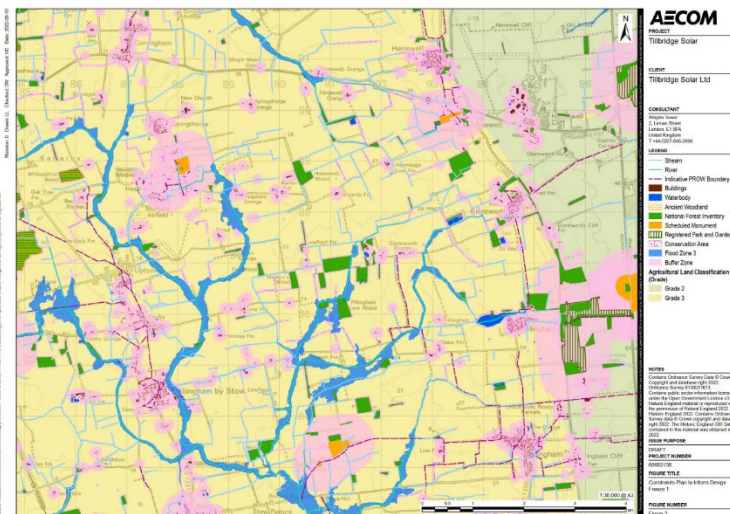
## The story so far



## Site Search Assessment – desk based 2020

- High-level site search assessment completed to identify a location for a proposed solar energy farm in the east of England.
- The east of England was selected for irradiance purposes
- Site Search Assessment considered:
  - Available grid connection.
  - Topography.
  - Planning and Environmental Constraints.
  - Selection of Zones which were potentially appropriate for a solar energy scheme within the most unconstrained locations. This included consideration of previously-developed land and lower grade agricultural land to identify a zone for more detailed consideration.
  - This work led to the identification of land to the east and south-east of Gainsborough for further exploration and analysis with respect to site suitability. Discussions also commenced with landowners.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

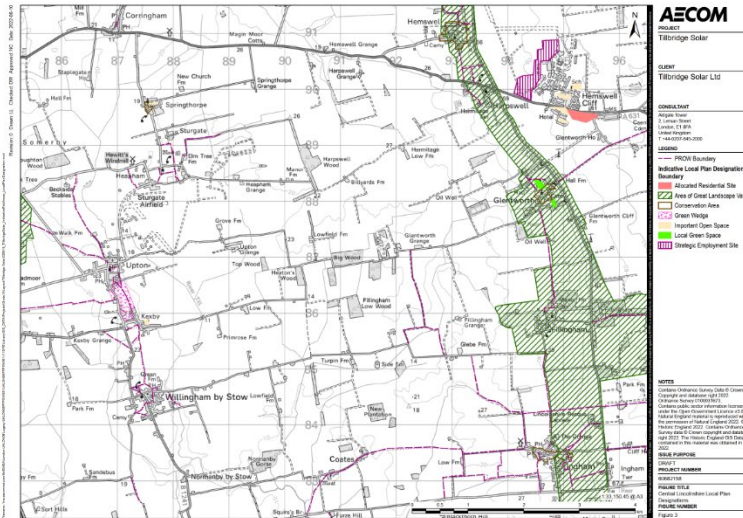


## Environmental Constraints and Opportunities – desk based

- Environmental analysis of constraints to further shape and define the area of search.
- Inclusion of buffers where development would be too sensitive.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

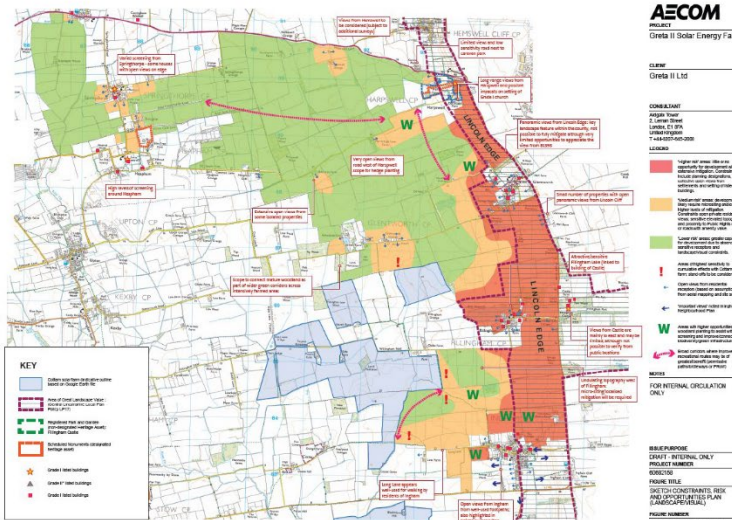




### Consideration of planning designations – desk based

- Area of Great Landscape Value
- Conservation Area
- Green Wedge
- Public Rights of Way

\*Information correct as of July 2022



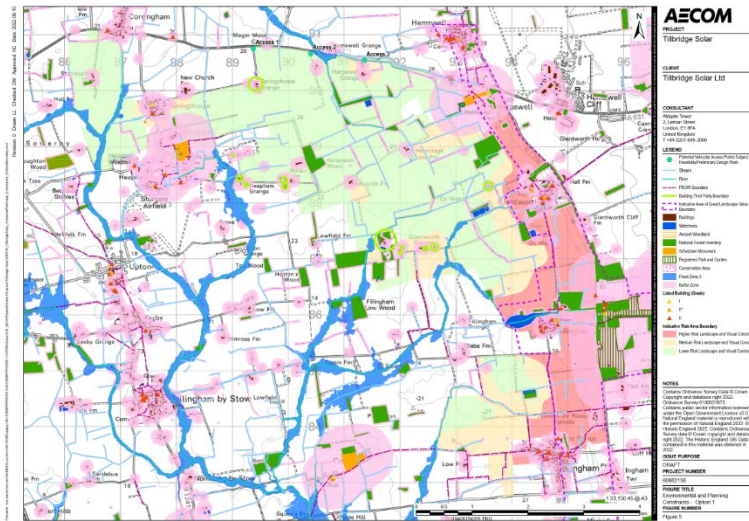
### Landscape, Visual and Planning Analysis of area of search – walk-over 2022

- Identification of key landscape and views
- Sensitised receptors
- Cumulative impacts
- Proximity to Public Rights of Way
- Topography
- Planning designations
- Heritage Assets
- Conservation Areas

\*Information correct as of July 2022



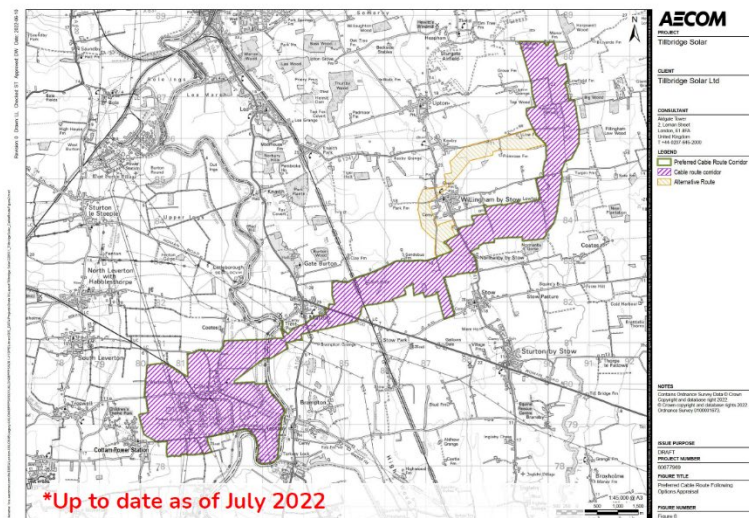




### Over-lay of landscape and environmental capacity work:

- Low – medium risk areas in relation to landscape shown by green/amber shading.
- Areas not suitable for development following environmental capacity analysis shown in pink.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



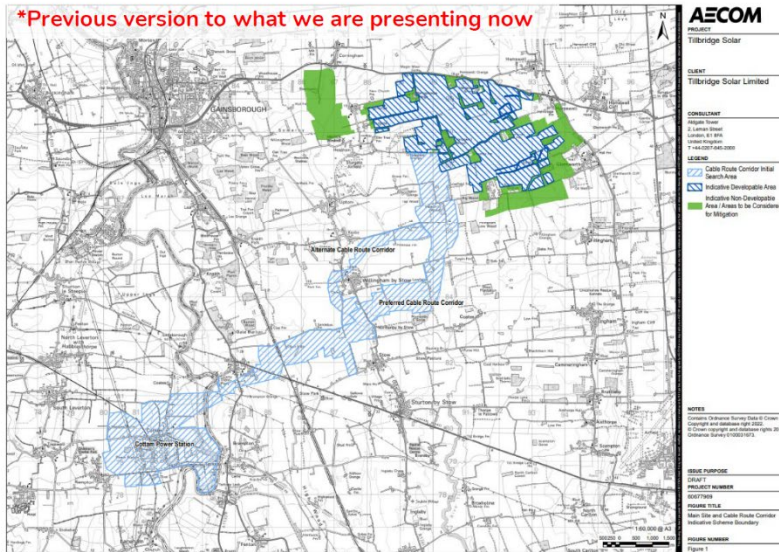
### Preferred cable route corridor

- Series of options for cable routes were explored and assessed resulting in the preferred route as shown.
- Key objective to work collaboratively with the other projects in terms of sharing a route to reduce impact.
- The preferred route crosses a railway line, which provides services between Doncaster and Lincoln (East Midlands Railway and Network Rail) and it also crosses the River Trent.
- Where a sensitive constraint needs to be crossed (e.g. a sensitive habitat or watercourse), non-intrusive techniques will be used such as drilling underground to avoid impacts from trenching. These will be identified through the baseline surveys.

\*Up to date as of July 2022

\*Information correct as of July 2022





### Extent of DCO following site selection process – July 2022

- Dark blue hatching denotes the potential **developable area** subject to the outcome of survey work.
- Solid green shaded area shows anticipated areas that will not be developed; but will provide land for ecological mitigation if required and landscape enhancement – **non-developable**.
- The light blue hatched area denotes the preferred route (and an alternative route) of the cable corridor as associated development – **developable**.

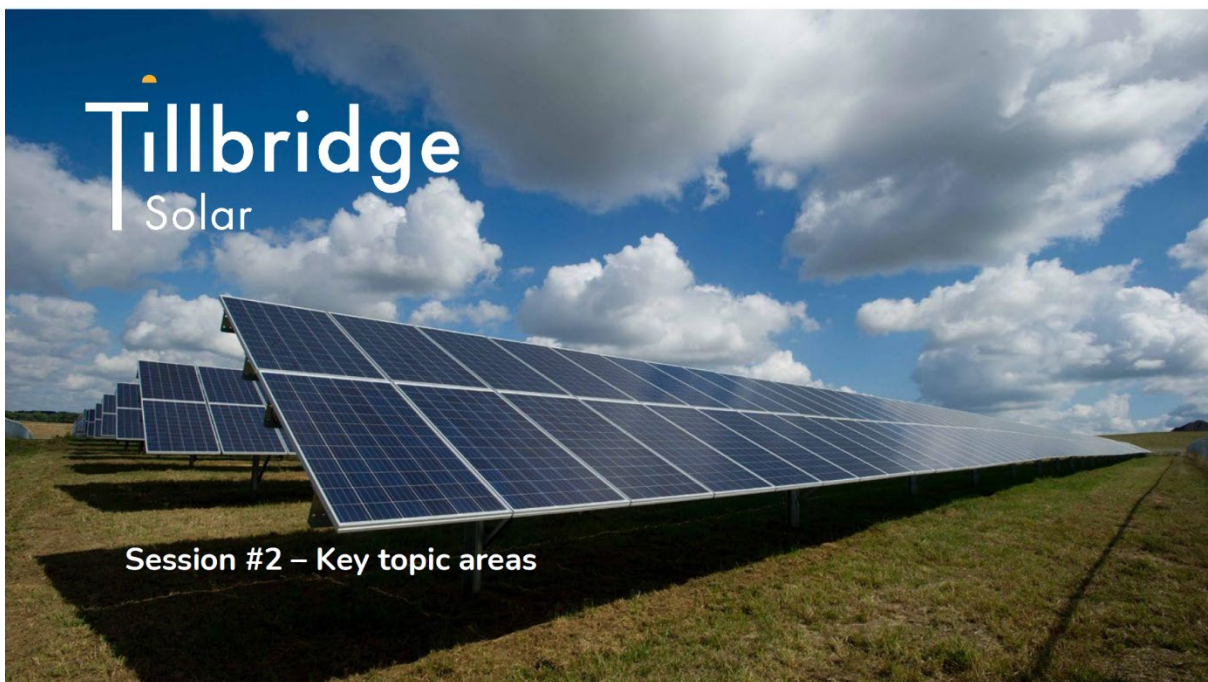
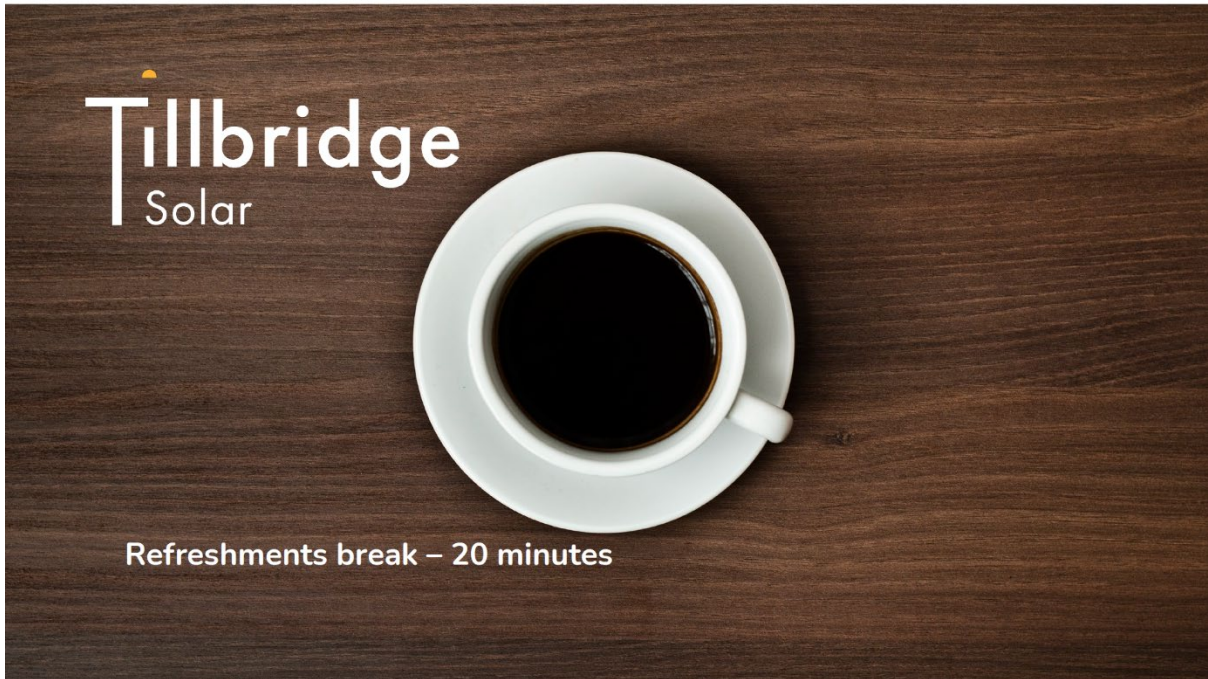
\*Information correct as of July 2022



# Tillbridge Solar

## Session #1 – Q&A







- We will now be focusing on a number of key topic areas in relation to how we design the project going forwards. The topics below are examples of environmental topics that will be addressed as part of our ongoing assessments.
  - Cumulative impact
  - Site selection and consideration of alternatives
  - Ecology and biodiversity
  - Cultural heritage
  - Landscape and visual
  - Transport and access
  - Water environment
  - Socio-economics and land use (including consideration of agricultural land)
  - Other environmental topics
- We value your input on these key issues and welcome any comments you have during this session.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Collaboration on key issues

- The following slides will provide further information on the relevant environmental topic areas. We welcome your input on these issues, particularly in relation to local constraints and features that are important to you.

COMMUNITY

DEVELOPER

Collaboration

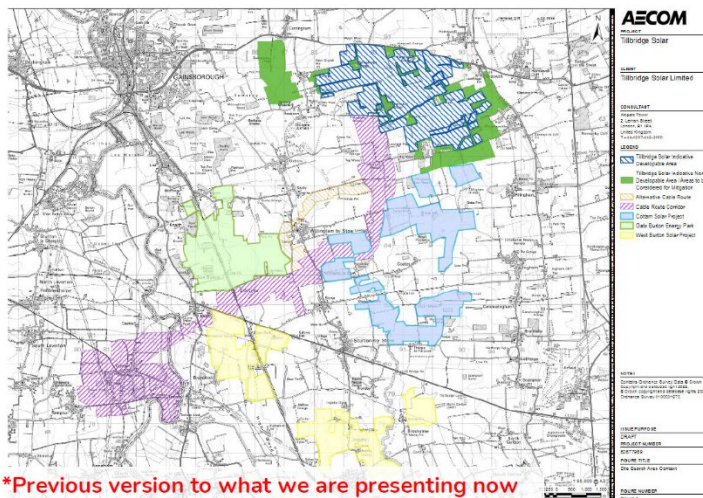
\*Information correct as of July 2022







## Cumulative impact



\*Previous version to what we are presenting now

- We are committed to working collaboratively with other developers to minimise impacts.
- Our initial search area was large, to provide scope for refinement of the site area to avoid the most sensitive sites.
- Cumulative effects to be assessed as part of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report and as part of the Environmental Statement.
- We have been and will continue to work constructively with developers of both the Cottam and West Burton Projects (Island Green Power) and the Gate Burton Energy Park (Low Carbon), to ensure that:
  - People can easily engage with each of our consultation processes and that our materials clearly signpost other consultations.
  - The combined effects of our projects together, including potential environmental impacts or disruption to communities, are fully assessed.
  - We take a commonsense approach to construction to minimise any disruption to local communities as much as we can where possible. This includes sharing sections of underground cabling to avoid the need to dig multiple trenches for each project.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Your comments – Cumulative impact

- What issues would you like us to collaborate on?
- Are there any sensitive areas that could be impacted by multiple developers?
- Are there any shared benefits that we can consider for delivery for the local communities?

\*Information correct as of July 2022





## Site selection

- Site Search Assessment – 2020 - Four stage approach to identify the potential location for a solar farm:
  - Point of Connection at Cottam (15km)
  - Environmental Constraints
  - Planning Constraints
  - Identification of three potential development zones.
  - Zone chosen including land to the east and south-east of Gainsborough for further consideration for the siting of a solar farm. Site search area sufficiently large to provide flexibility on location and design.
- Environmental Constraints and Opportunities and Planning Designations mapping (May 2022) within the south-eastern part of the chosen zone, this being least constrained to further inform the location of a site.
- Landscape and environmental RAG analysis May 2022
- Identification of land to form the basis of the DCO application – July 2022.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Your comments – Site Selection

- Do you have any comments on the location of the scheme (developable and non-developable areas)?
- Are there any other areas that should be considered?
- Are there any further criteria that need to be considered as we refine our plans further?
- Is there anything further we need to consider in our initial search areas (developable, non-developable, cable corridor and connection search areas)?

\*Information correct as of July 2022







## Ecology and biodiversity

- Desk-based baseline information shows that there are no European designated nature conservation sites within 10km of the scheme.
- There are no Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) located within 2km of the main site.
- The nearest Local Nature Reserve (LNR) is located approximately 3km to the west of the scheme in Gainsborough.
- Our terrestrial and aquatic ecology teams are currently carrying out habitat and species surveys which will then allow us to identify any potential biodiversity impacts of the scheme.
- These surveys include, but are not limited to, breeding birds, wintering birds, bats, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, water vole and otter.
- Where there are potential impacts, we will look to provide appropriate mitigation in consultation with Natural England and other bodies, such as Wildlife Trusts.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Your comments – Ecology and Biodiversity

- Are there any local ecological features that we should be aware of?
- Are there any species that we should be aware of in the local area?
- How could we enhance the local area from a nature and biodiversity perspective?
- Which areas could we consider for enhancement?

\*Information correct as of July 2022







## Cultural heritage

- Villages to the west of the B1398 such as Hemswell, Glentworth and Fillingham near to the scheme, and Springthorpe further to the west, contain built heritage conservation areas containing Listed Buildings.
- There is a Scheduled Monument and Grade I Listed Building in Harpswell and a Scheduled Monument just south of Springthorpe.
- There is a Registered Park and Garden approximately 1.5km to the south-east of the main site.
- As part of a cultural heritage assessment, archaeological surveys (i.e. geophysical surveys and trial trenching) will be undertaken for the scheme in consultation with Historic England and the County Archaeologist.
- This will provide the information we need to assess the impacts and identify an appropriate mitigation strategy.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Your comments – Cultural heritage

- Are there any local heritage features that we should be aware of?

\*Information correct as of July 2022





## Landscape and visual

- Initial landscape site visits have been undertaken to understand the landscape and visual constraints and opportunities at receptors surrounding the scheme.
- An Area of Great Landscape Value encompasses the historic villages to the west of the B1398, including several public rights of way. The developable area is set back from these designations.
- The landscape and visual impacts from the scheme will be assessed from a number of key views agreed with the landscape specialist from the relevant local planning authority.
- Mitigation will be incorporated into the scheme where appropriate including setting back from existing development and planting to screen views where appropriate.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

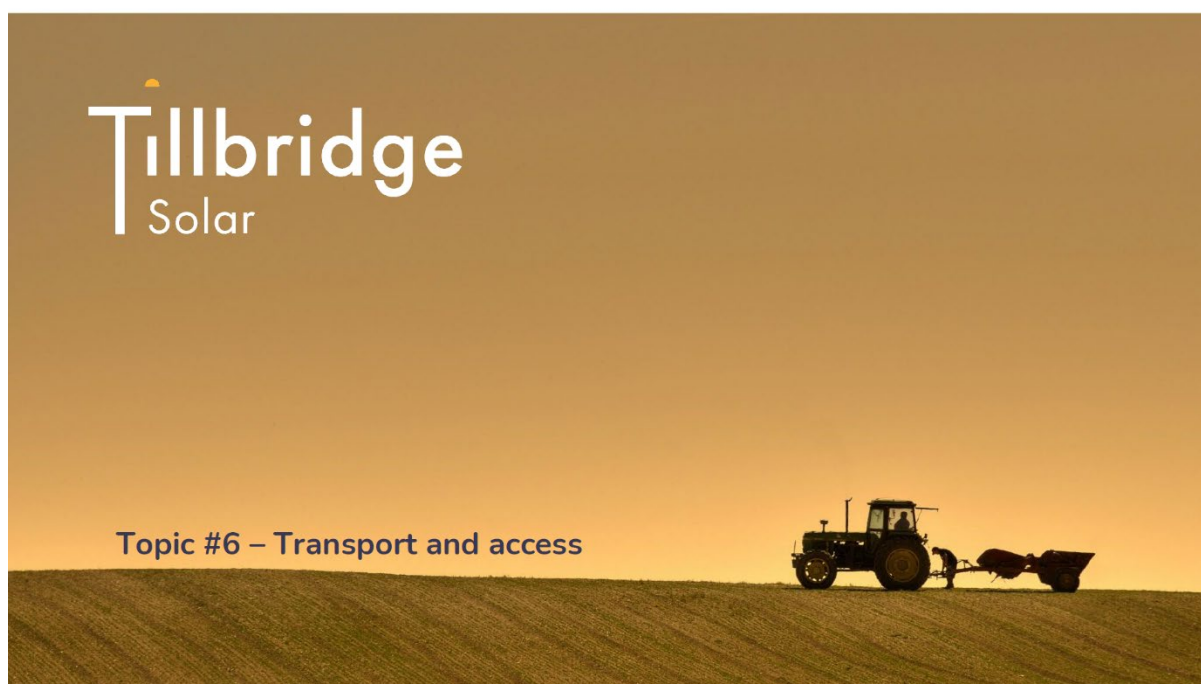




## Your comments – Landscape and Visual

- Are there any key landscape features that we should be aware of?
- Are there any key viewpoints that we should be aware of?
- What type of enhancement and mitigation measures would you like to see?

\*Information correct as of July 2022.





## Traffic and Access

- Traffic surveys are being undertaken including:
  - Manual Classified Counts (MCC) turning counts and queue length surveys.
  - Automatic Traffic Count (ATC) surveys.
- The MCC data will be analysed to identify turning movements for the construction staff peak hours (AM & PM). The ATC data will also be analysed to identify the network peak hours and extracting the baseline traffic flows for the construction staff peak hours (AM & PM), and to review of the speed data.
- The impacts of the scheme on local traffic will be assessed as part of a traffic and access assessment.
- The scheme design will look to avoid the closure or diversion of public rights of way.
- The impacts of the scheme on public rights of way will be assessed as part of a socio-economics and land use assessment.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



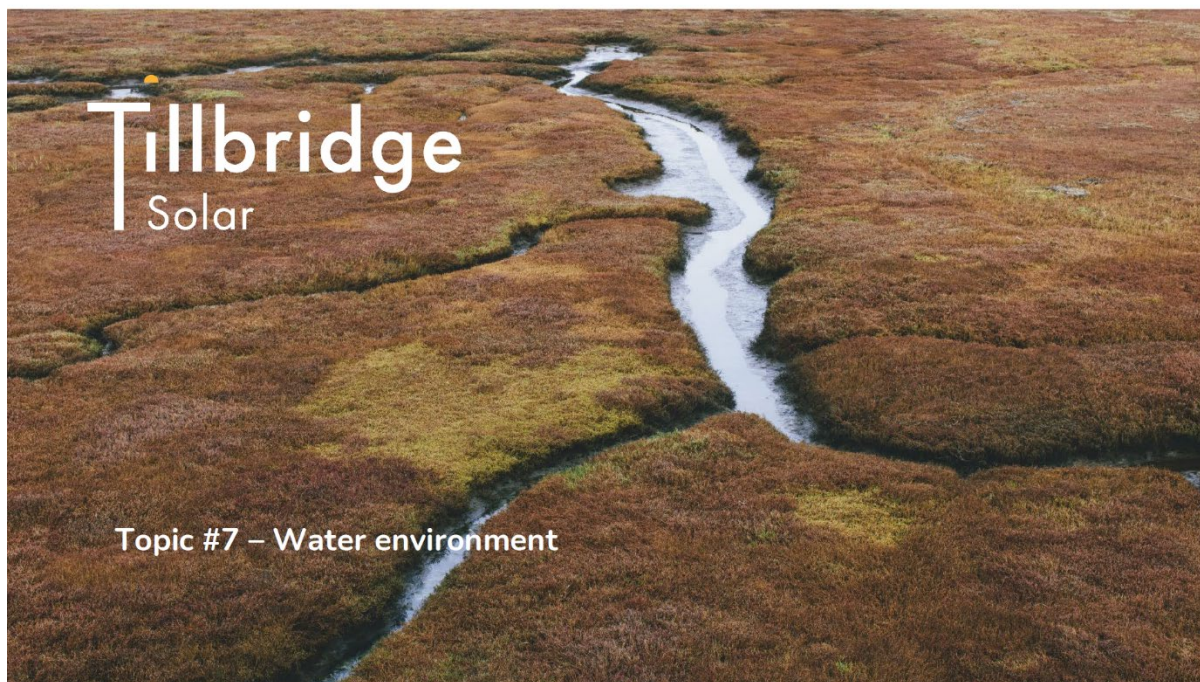
## Your comments – Traffic and Access

- Which are the most popular local traffic routes?
- Which routes current present issues to local people?
- Which public rights of way are well-used locally?
- Would there be benefits to introducing a permissive path through the site?

\*Information correct as of July 2022







## Water environment

- Initial constraints mapping indicates that several small watercourses exist within the main site. The cable route would cross watercourses, including the River Trent and associated flood zones.
- A combined water quality, flood risk and drainage assessment will consider the impacts of the scheme through the construction, operation and decommissioning phases.
- A Water Framework Directive (WFD) Screening will be undertaken.
- A Flood Risk Assessment and a Drainage Statement will also be prepared as part of the DCO application.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

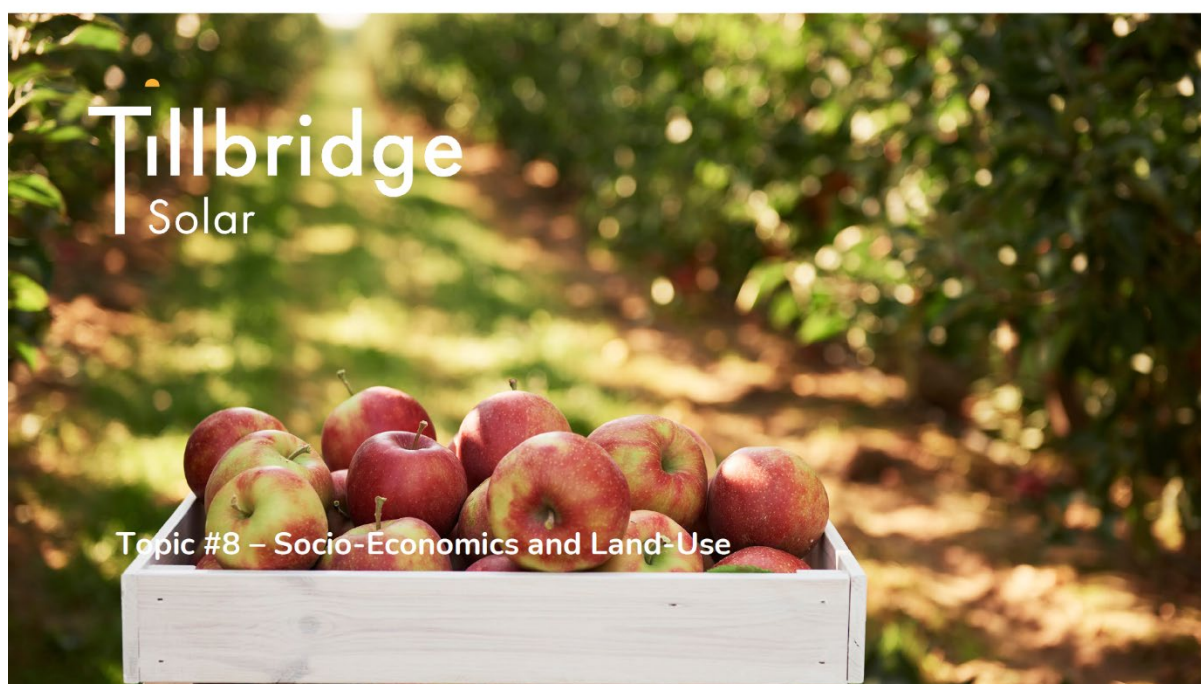




## Your comments – Water environment

- Are there any popular water courses locally?
- Is there a history of flooding/poor drainage that we should be aware of?
- Are there any sensitive sites that we should be aware of?

\*Information correct as of July 2022

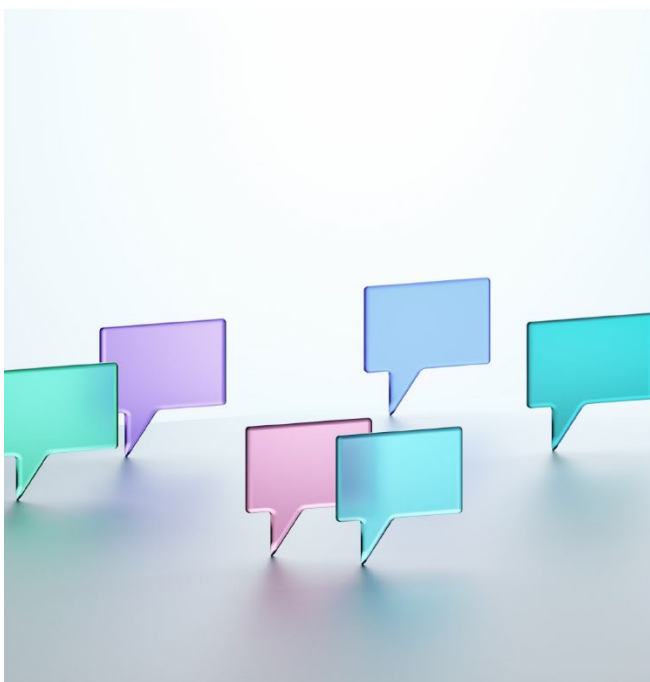




## Socio-economics and land use

- As part of the socio-economics and land use assessment, an Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey is planned to be undertaken. Baseline mapping indicates that the land that encompasses the main site is of Grade 3 soil quality. The ALC survey will determine which land is of Grade 3a and Grade 3b soil quality.
- The socio-economic and land use assessment will also consider other aspects such as impacts on employment, local businesses, impacts on local amenities and land use, and impacts on public rights of way.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Community benefits

- We value your feedback on what benefits you would like to see and what would be of most benefit for communities closest to the project.
- Benefits could be **on-site** and **off-site**, along with benefits independent to the project (Tillbridge Solar), or in collaboration with other projects/initiatives.
- **On-site** – this refers to initiatives that you would like to see incorporated into the project design and on the site itself (within the **developable** and **non-developable** areas).
  - For example, this could be environmental mitigation and enhancements, or achieving biodiversity net gain, through additional planting and habitat creation.
- **Off-site** – this refers to separate initiatives, including supporting wider community projects (new and existing), or providing shared benefits outside of the project areas
  - For example, this could be providing wider broadband/fibre-optic improvements, EV charging points, wider educational initiatives.

\*Information correct as of July 2022





## Community benefits

- We are currently investigating initiatives for how local communities can benefit from Tillbridge Solar. These include (and are not limited to):
  - Recreational access improvements, such as new or upgraded footpaths and bridleways in the project design.
  - Careful landscaping, including alignment with other local proposals to deliver public value
  - Collaboration with other initiatives, such as rewilding and biodiversity net gain, creation of wildflower meadows and other habitats, new ponds, additional planting around the site areas and neighbouring villages.
  - Providing free-to-use community infrastructure, such as EV charging point, fibre-internet access through underground cabling.
  - Providing solar panels for local communities (e.g., church and village halls)
  - Business rates to the local authority during operational lifespan of the project
  - Educational packs and visits for local primary schools
- We could also create a fund that is independently administered by relevant community foundations, such as the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Community Foundations, who are better placed to identify relevant opportunities.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



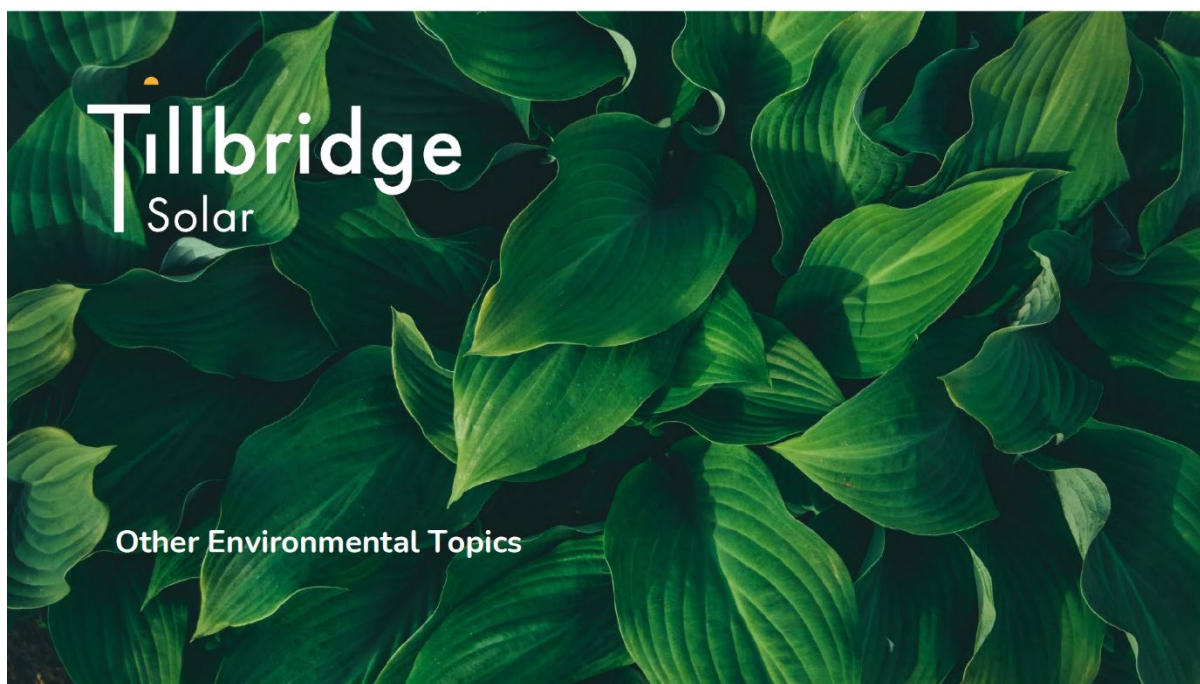
## Your comments – Socio-economics and land use

- Do you have any thoughts on our approach to community benefits and how local people can benefit from the scheme?
- Are there any local groups that could positively benefit from the scheme?

\*Information correct as of July 2022







## Other topics

- The following topics are also being considered as part of the EIA scoping stage:
  - Air quality
  - Noise and vibration
  - Climate change
  - Human health
  - Glint and glare
  - Ground conditions
  - Major accidents and disasters
  - Waste

\*Information correct as of July 2022

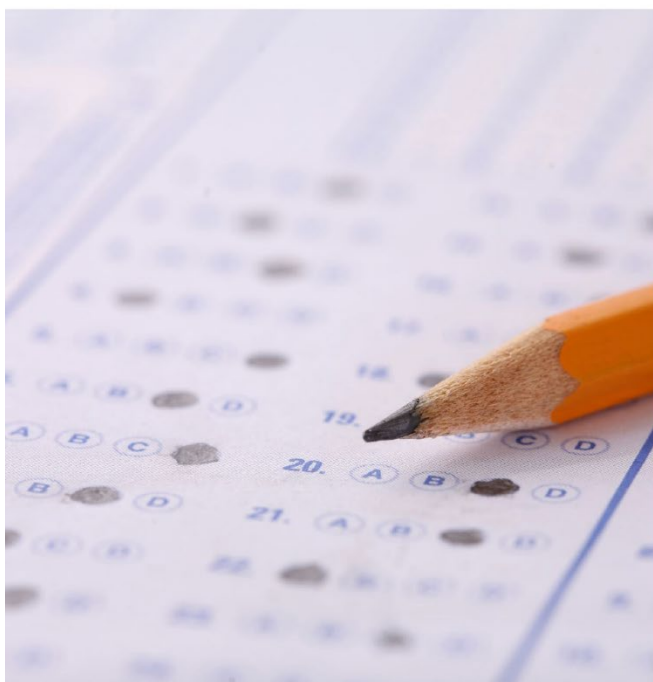




## Your comments – other topics

- Do you have any thoughts on other topic areas?

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Your feedback

- Your feedback at this stage is important to us in helping to refine our plans for Tillbridge Solar further and contribute towards a more defined proposal.
- We welcome you to provide any additional feedback using the comment sheets. This includes any wider considerations, outside of the topic areas we have discussed during this session.

\*Information correct as of July 2022





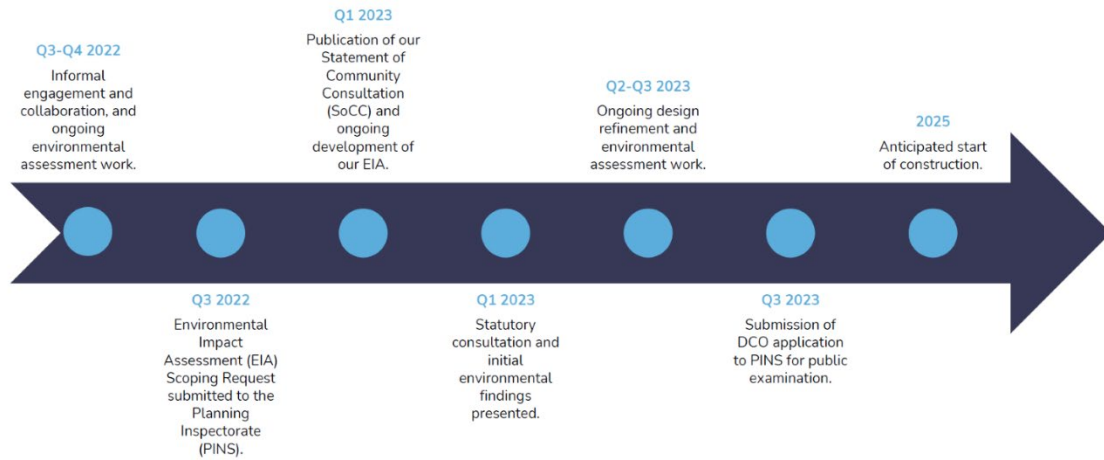
## Next steps

- Thank you for attending today's workshop.
- These workshops have played an important role in our early-stage engagement for Tillbridge Solar and have allowed us to introduce the scheme in more detail.
- After these workshops we will:
  - Consider all comments and suggestions and factor these into the ongoing development of the project ahead of statutory consultation.
  - Share information with you and follow up with a record of what was discussed today.
  - Share information more widely with local communities and wider stakeholders.
  - Continue our engagement with all stakeholders, including local planning authorities.

\*Information correct as of July 2022



## Timeline ahead



\*Information correct as of July 2022

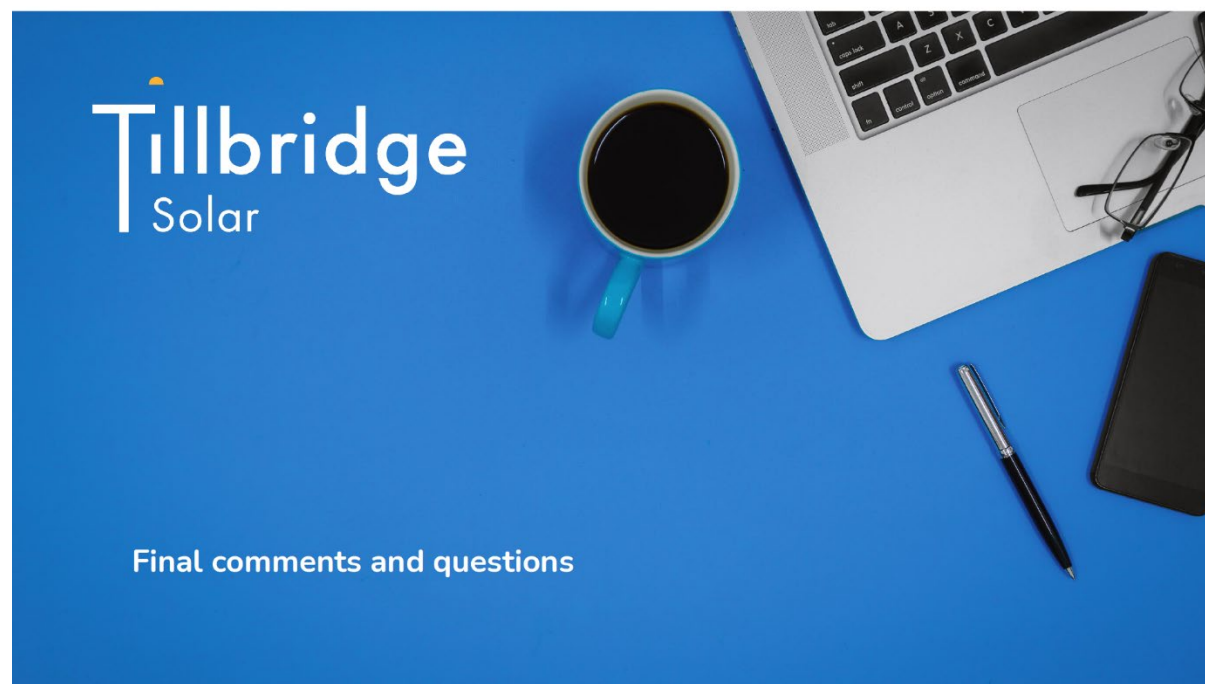


## Keeping in touch

- We are committed to engaging openly with all stakeholders.
- You can continue to get in touch using the details below:
  - Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)
  - Freephone: 0800 046 9643
  - Freepost: FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR
  - Website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)
- We welcome the opportunity to set up additional meetings with you/your organisation and establish an ongoing relationship.

\*Information correct as of July 2022

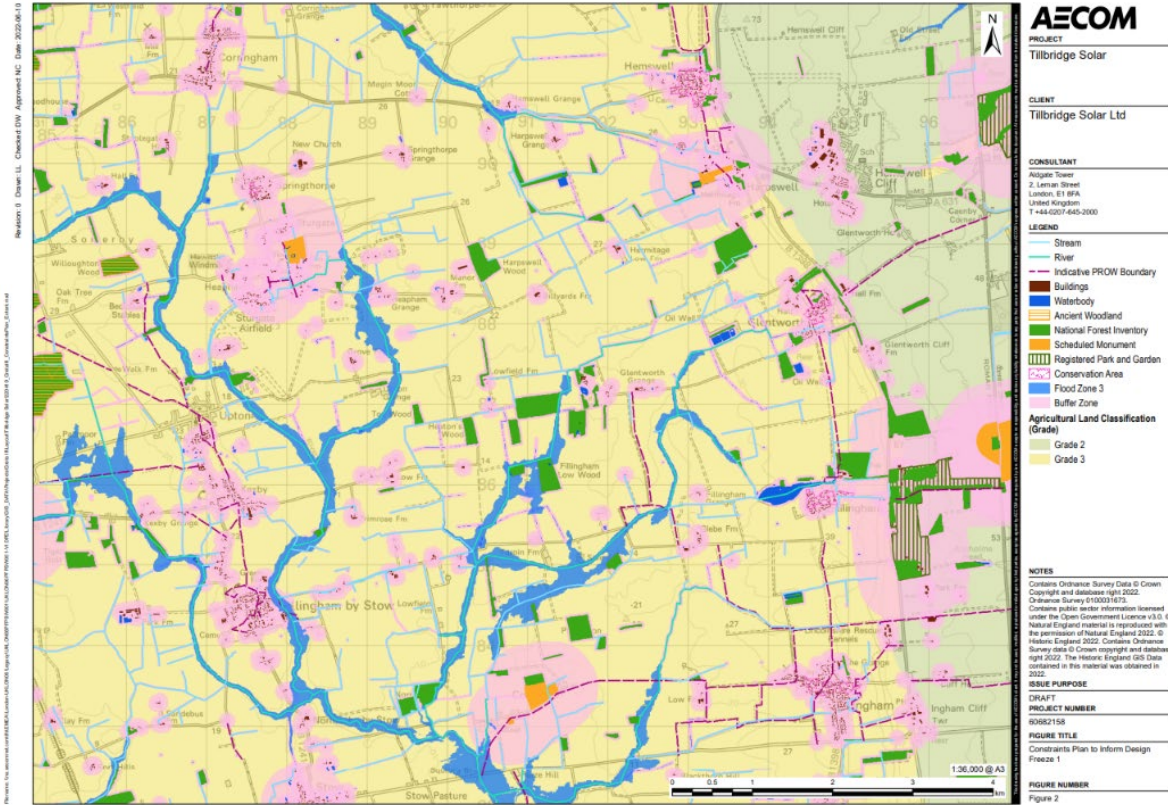






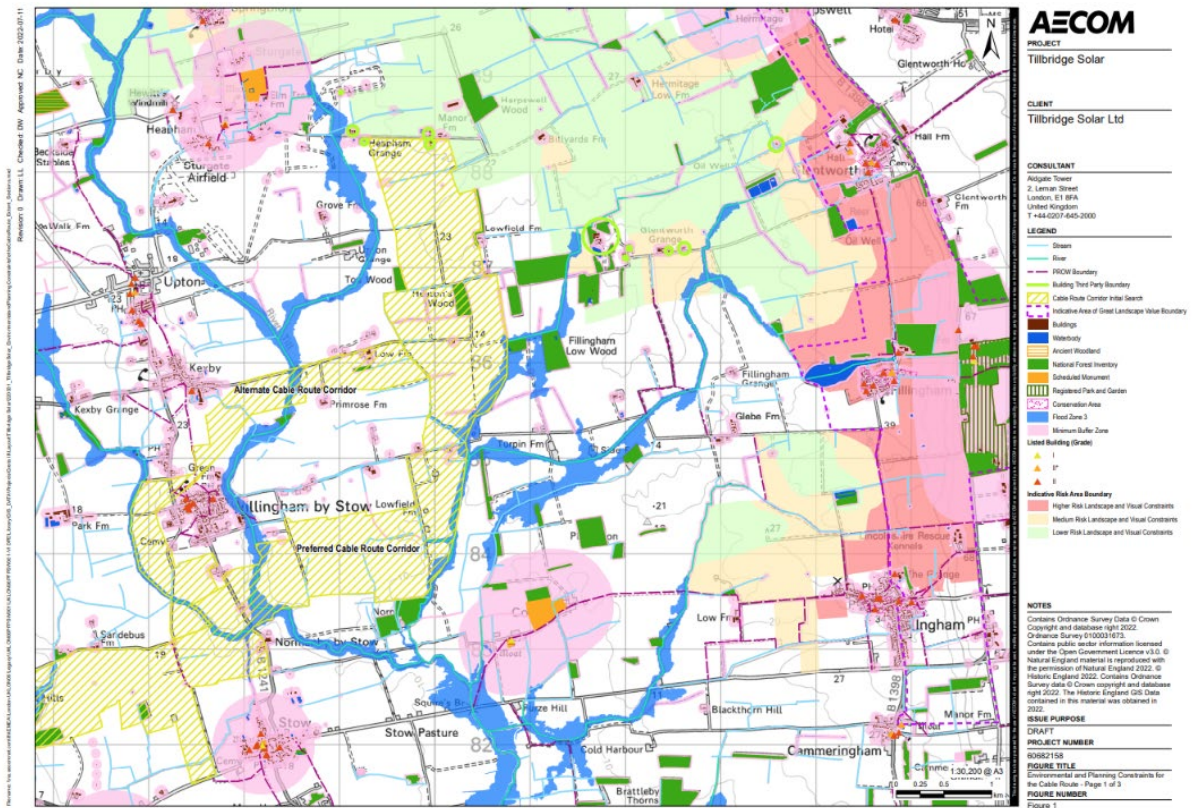
# Appendix A-5: Maps and plans shared during the collaboration workshops

## A-5.1: Constraints plan

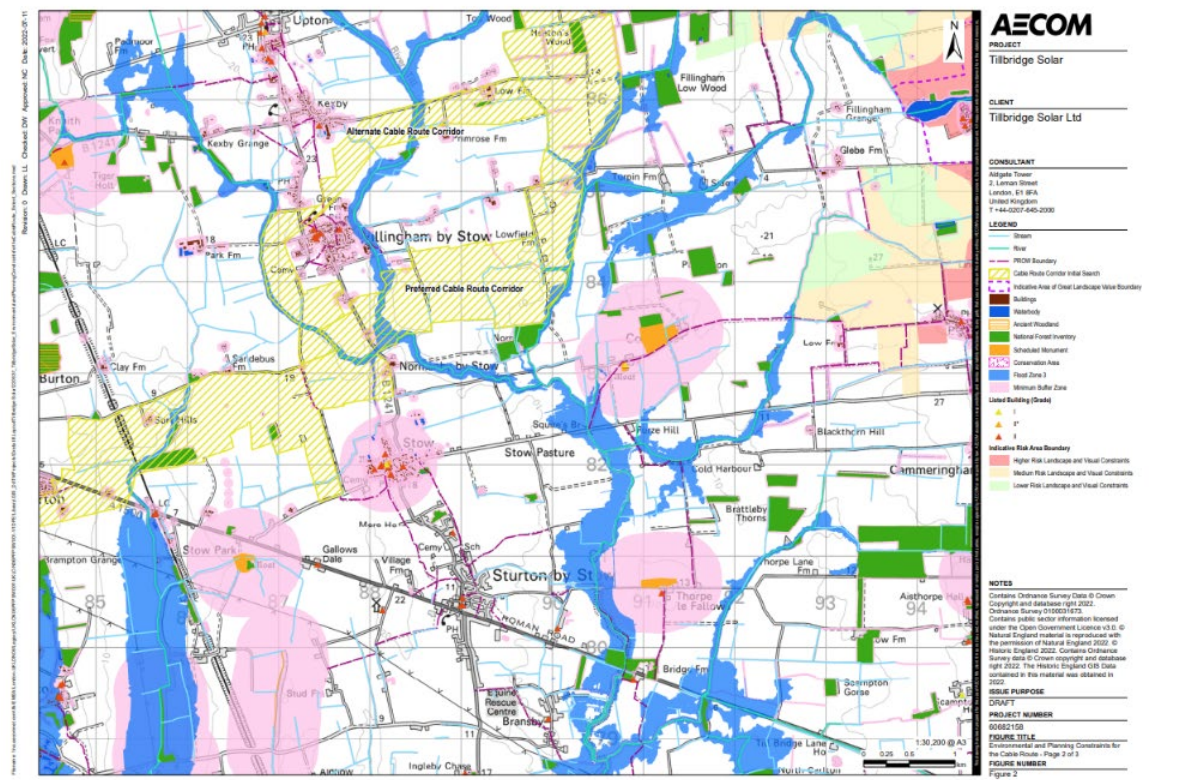




## A-5.2: Environmental and Planning Constrains for the Cable Route – Figure 1

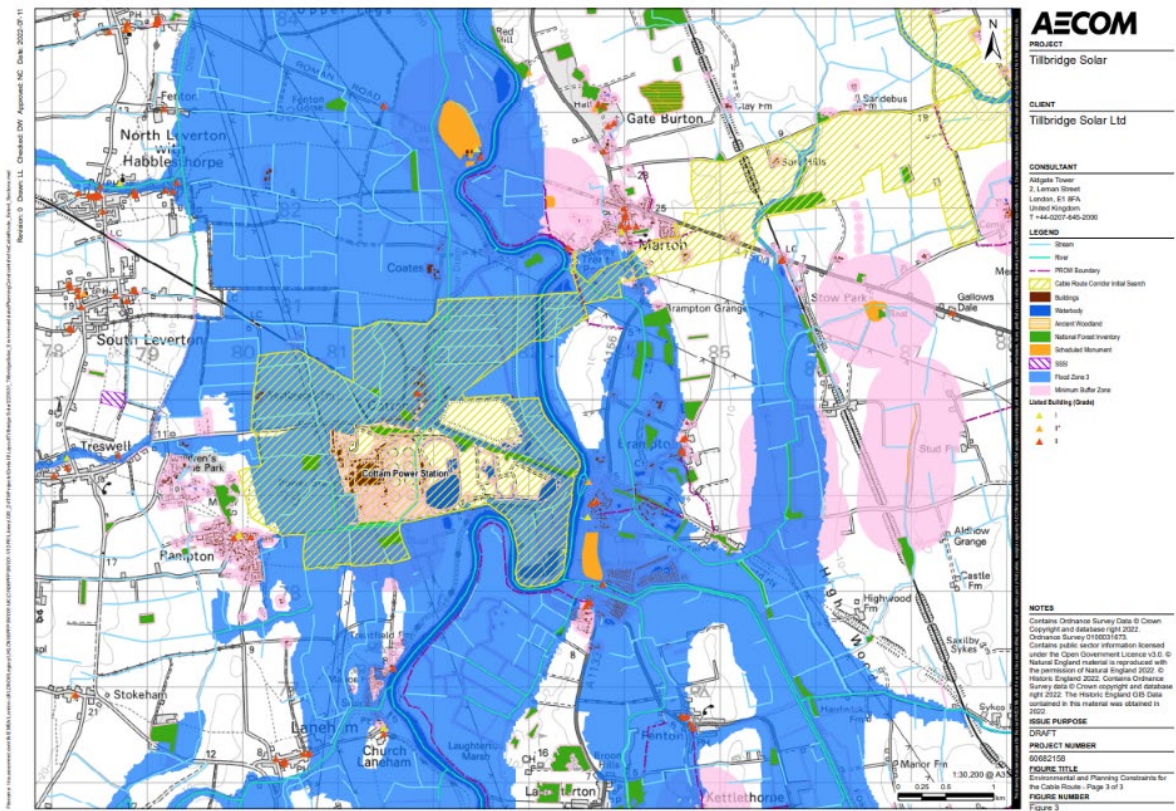


## A-5.3: Environmental and Planning Constrains for the Cable Route – Figure 2

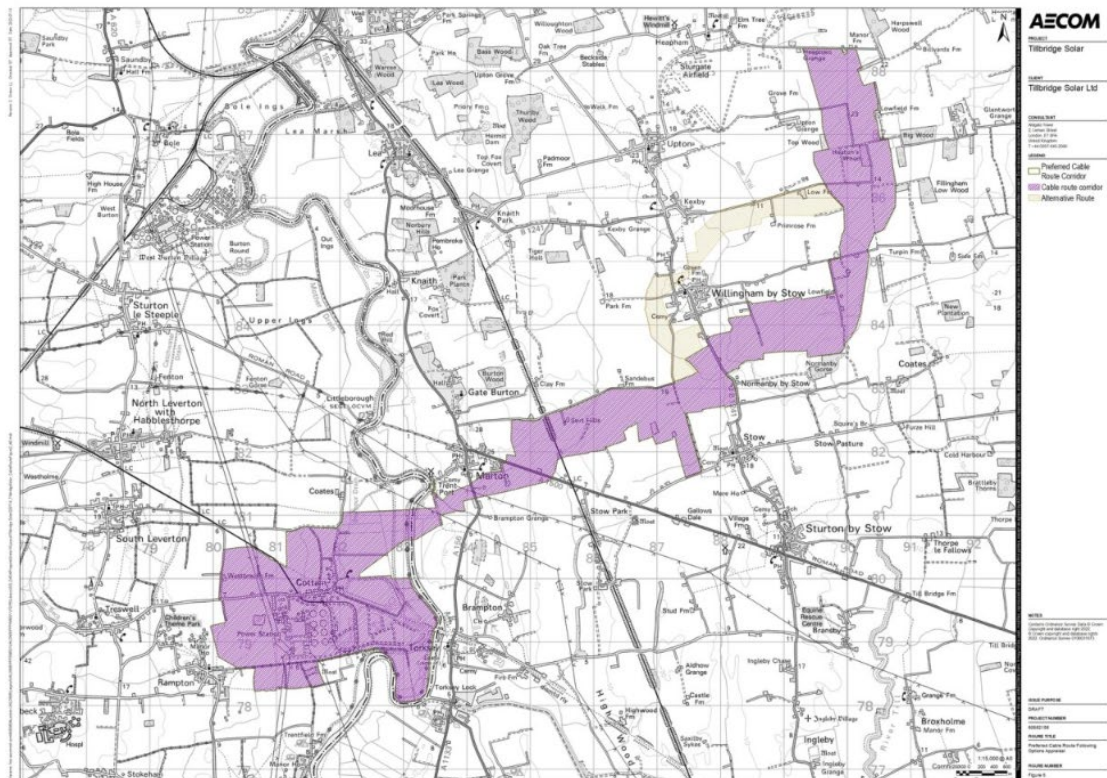




## A-5.4: Environmental and Planning Constrains for the Cable Route – Figure 3

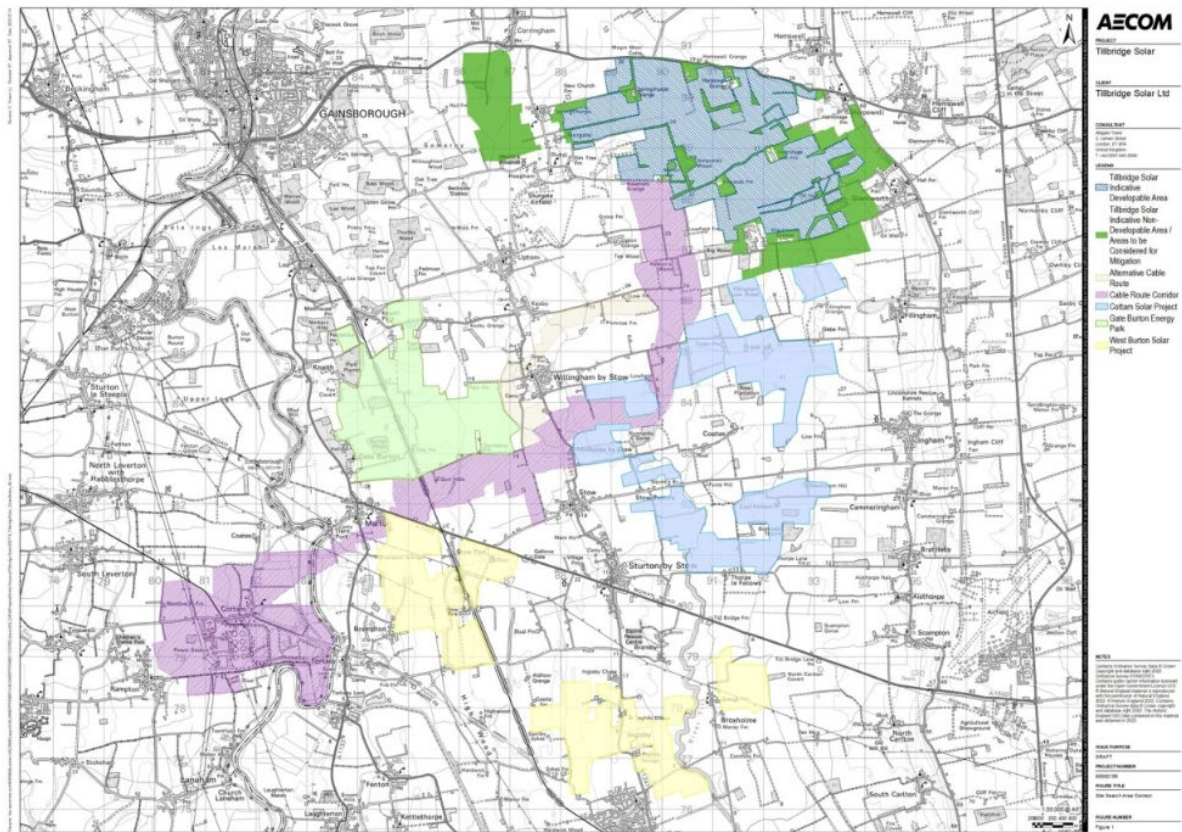


## A-5.5: Cable Route

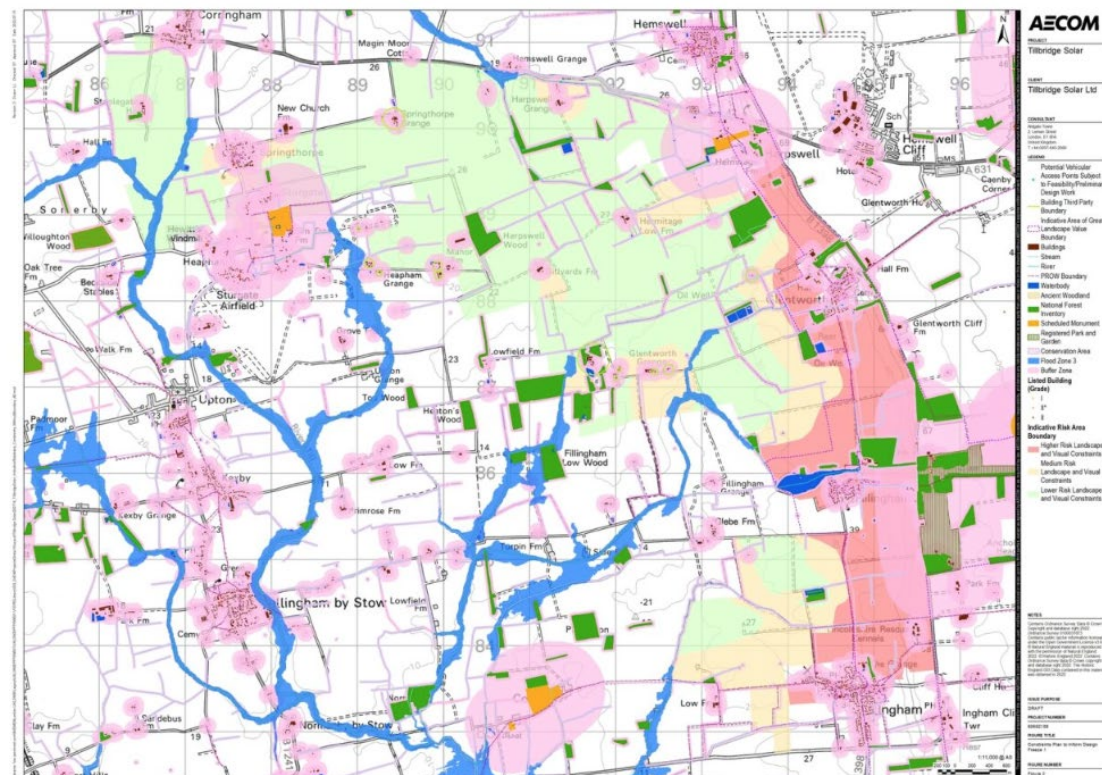




### A-5.6: Close-by solar schemes

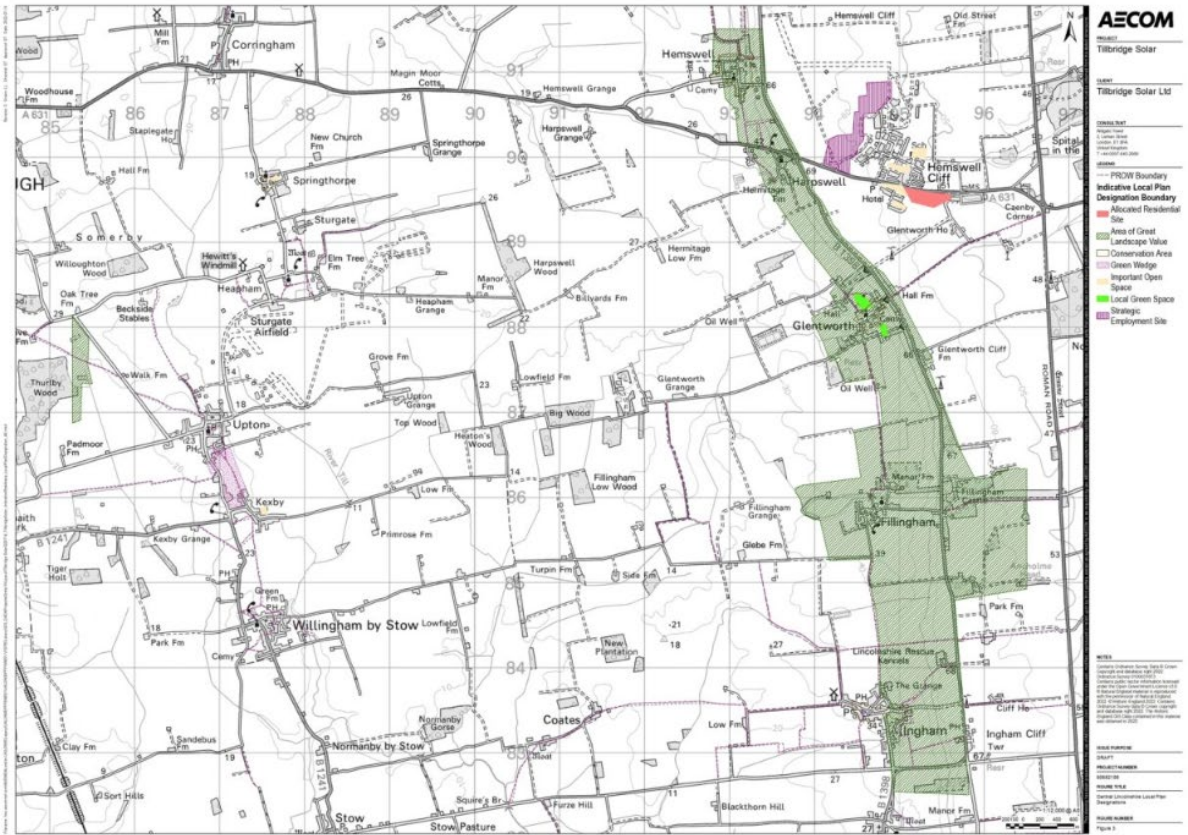


### A-5.7: Indicative risk areas - Constraints

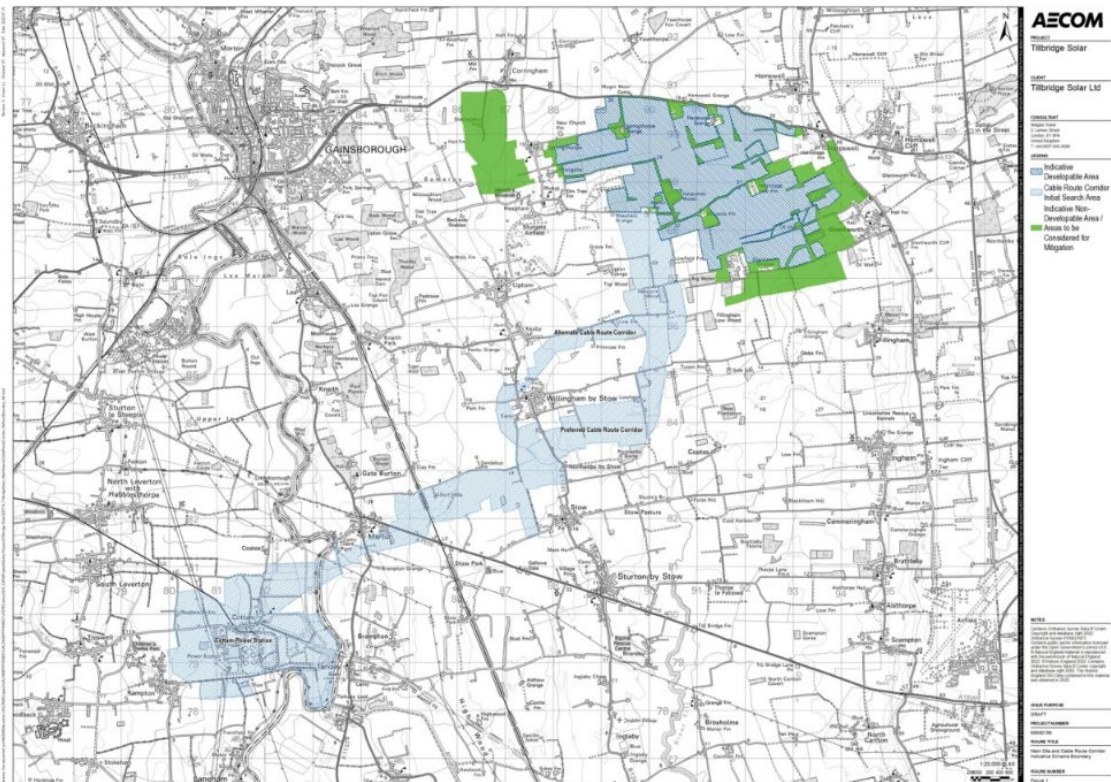




### A-5.8: Indicative risk areas – Local Plan Designation

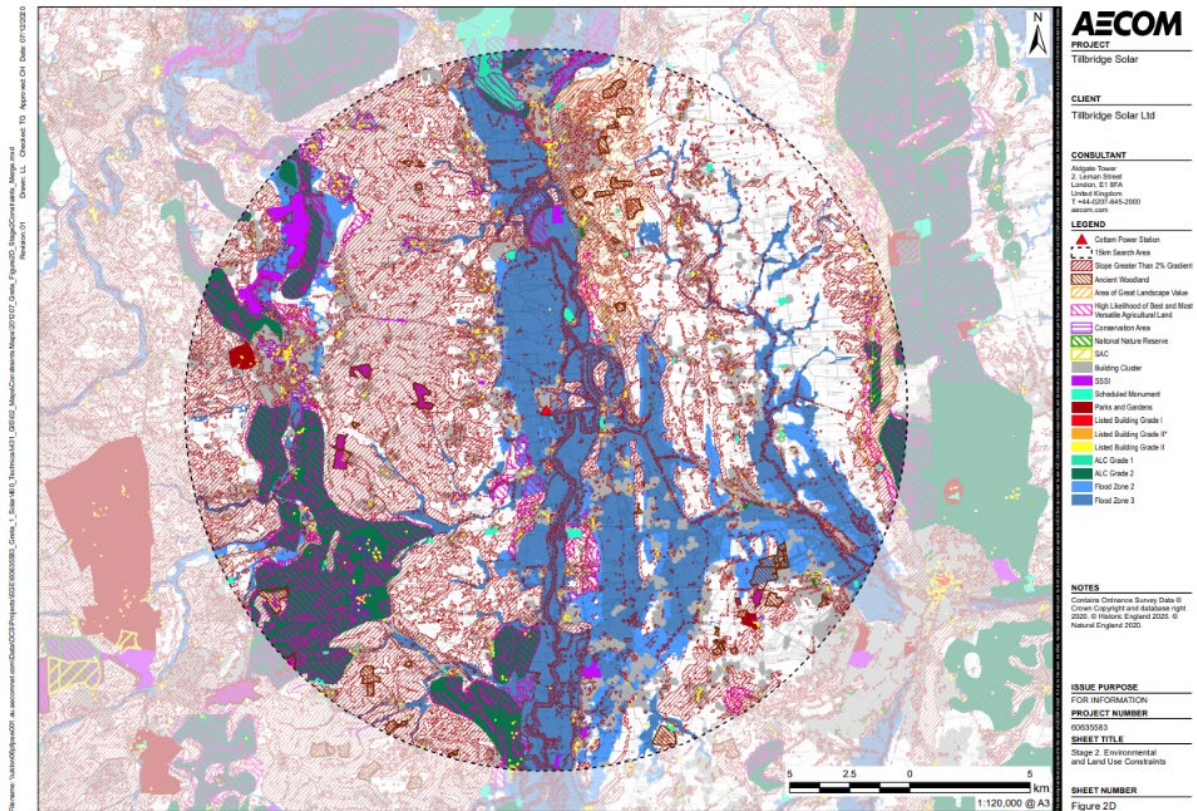


### A-5.9: Main Site and Cable Route Corridor

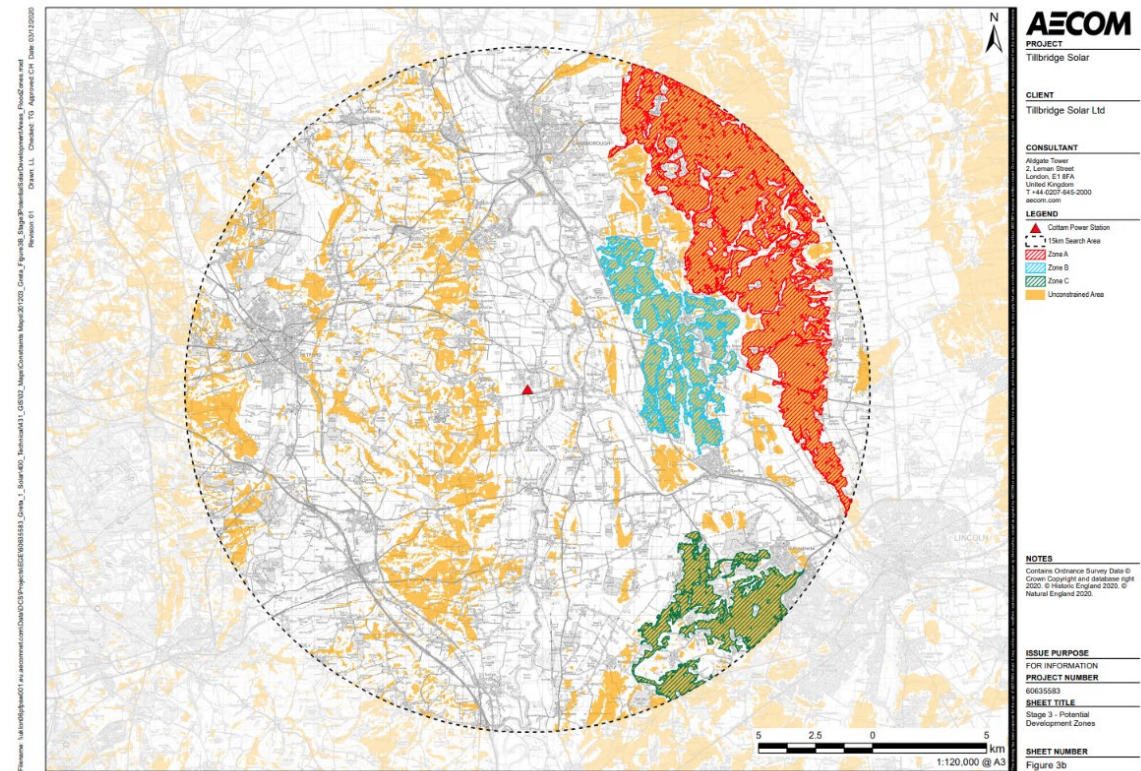




## A-5.10: Environmental and Land Use Constraints

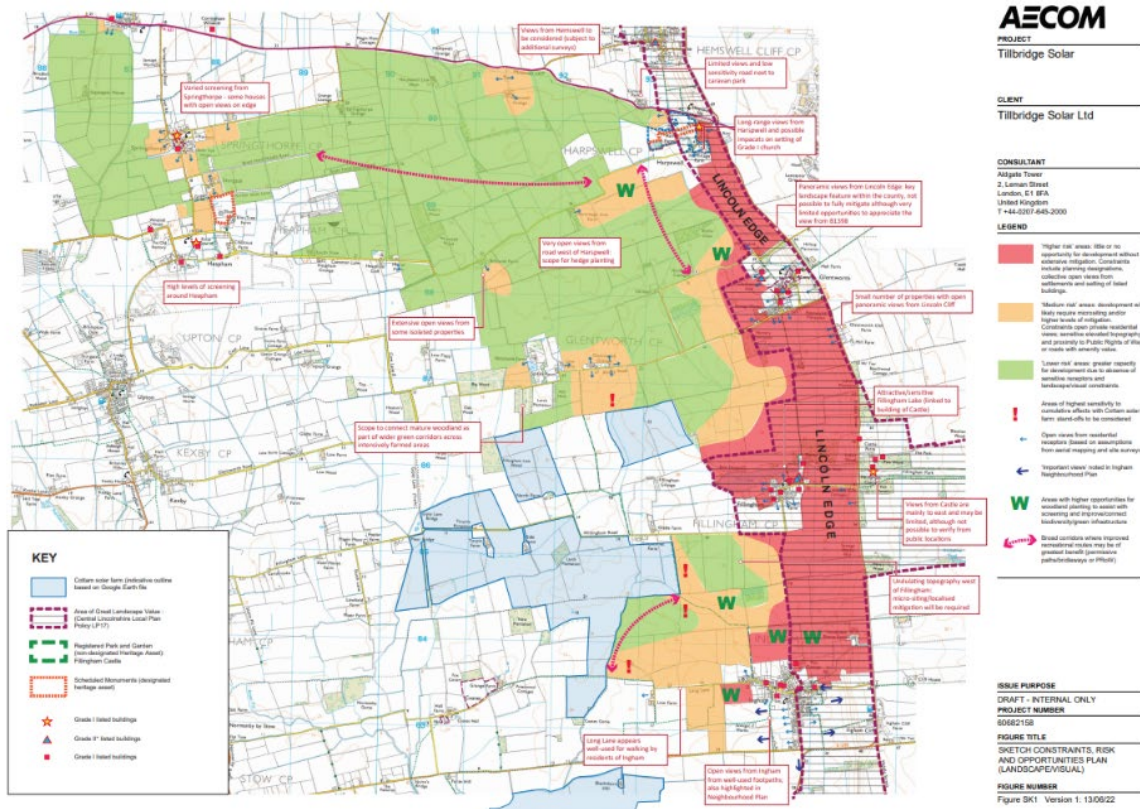


## A-5.11: Potential Development Zones





## A-5.12: Sketch constrains: Risk and Opportunities Plan



## Appendix A-6: Comment sheets used at the end of each session



### Comment sheet

Your feedback is important to us as we refine our proposals for Tillbridge Solar. Your comments and suggestions will contribute towards our more define proposal at statutory consultation, expected to take place in early 2023.

You can use this form to provide any additional comments and suggestions during our collaboration workshops in July 2023. Please complete the 'More about you' section and provide your comments using the boxes below.

### More about you

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your interest in Tillbridge Solar: (e.g., local resident, local interest group members, local representative, statutory organisation)

Other details: \_\_\_\_\_

### Data privacy notice

*Tillbridge Solar is committed to protecting your personal information. Whenever you provide such information, we are legally obliged to use it in line with all applicable laws concerning the protection of personal data, including the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).*

*For more information, see our full data privacy policy: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)*



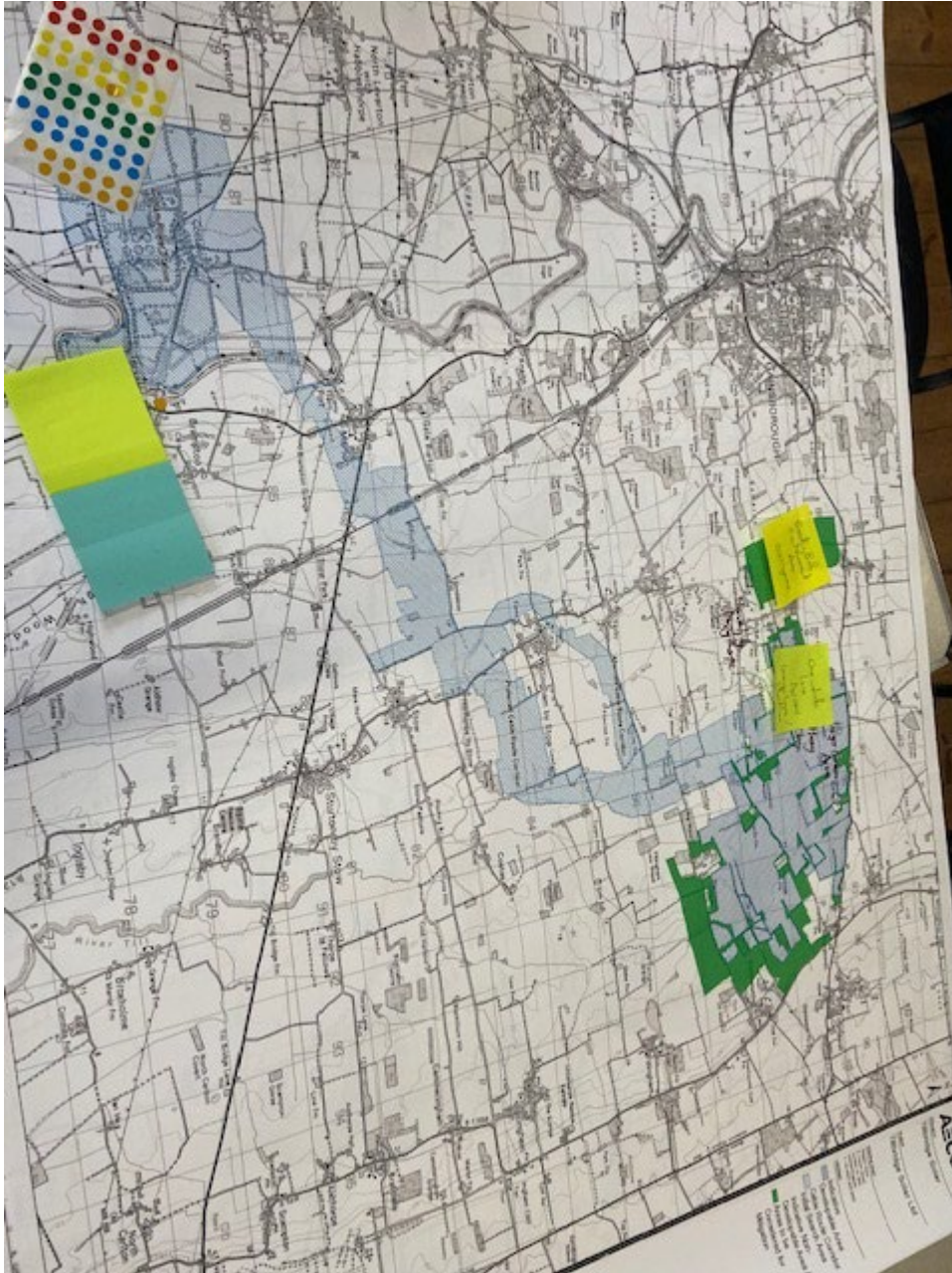
**Do you have any further comments on our early-stage plans for Tillbridge Solar?**

*Please use this comment box to provide any comments on our plans for Tillbridge Solar, including the information that has been presented today on our indicative developable and non-developable areas and cable route corridor search area. You can also use the boxes below to capture any of the discussions had today, including any agreements made with the project team.*

**Space for further comments and suggestions**



## Appendix A-7: Additional images and examples of feedback from the collaboration workshop sessions

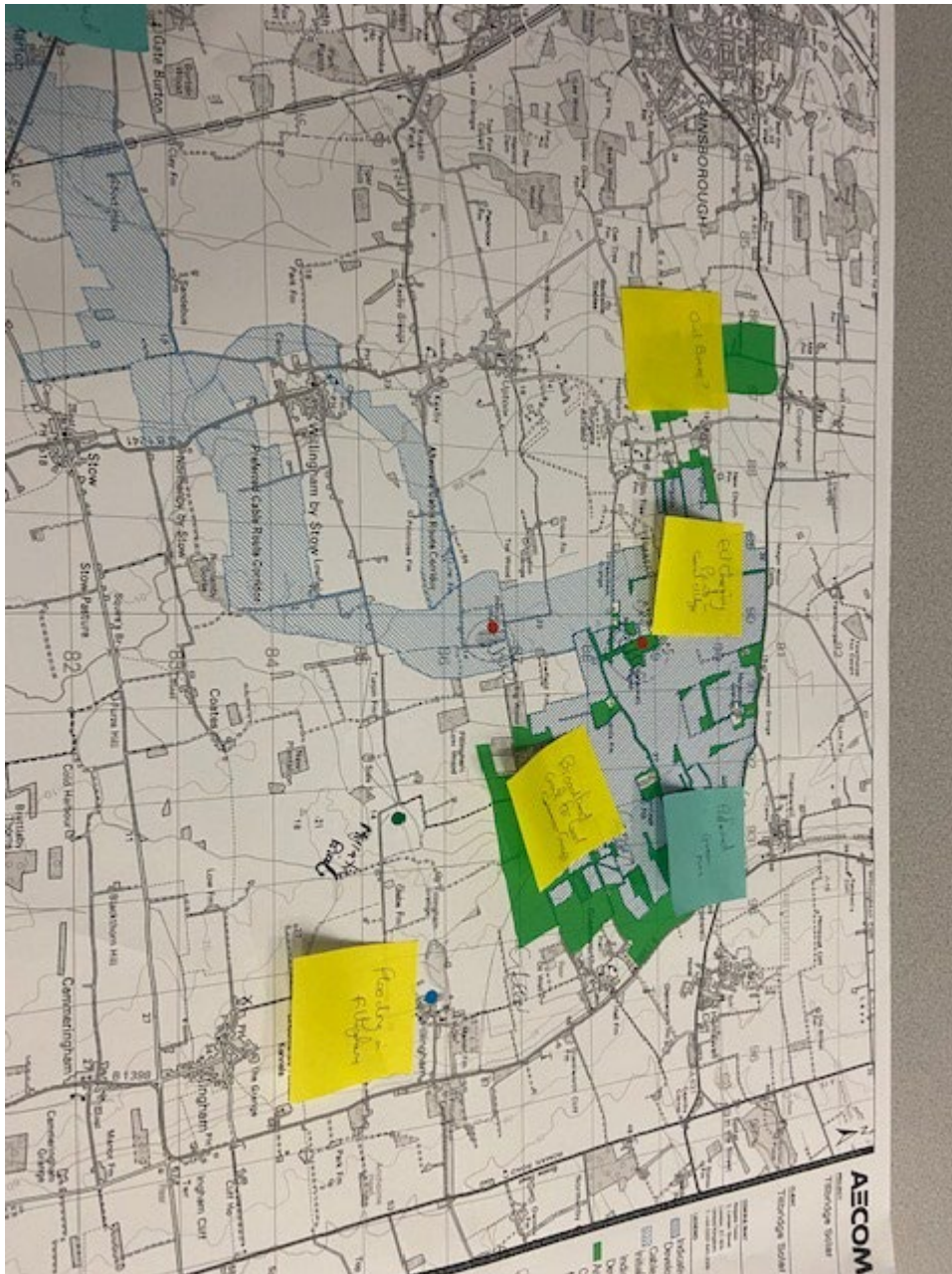


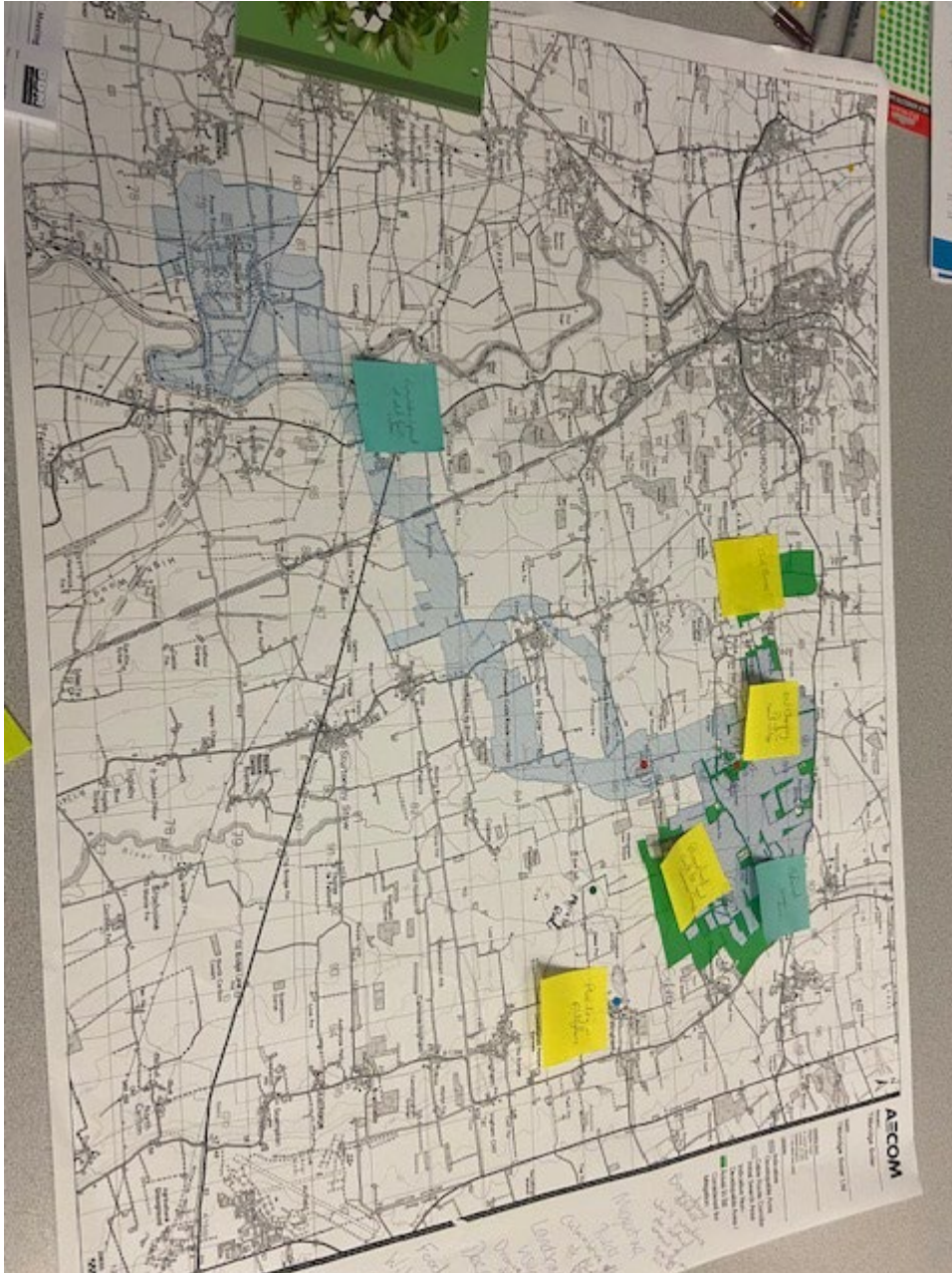














Control of  
information flow  
suggests lack of  
transparency  
despite claims  
to contrary

It would be  
interesting to see  
a map of  
landowners  
superimposed on  
the proposed  
development

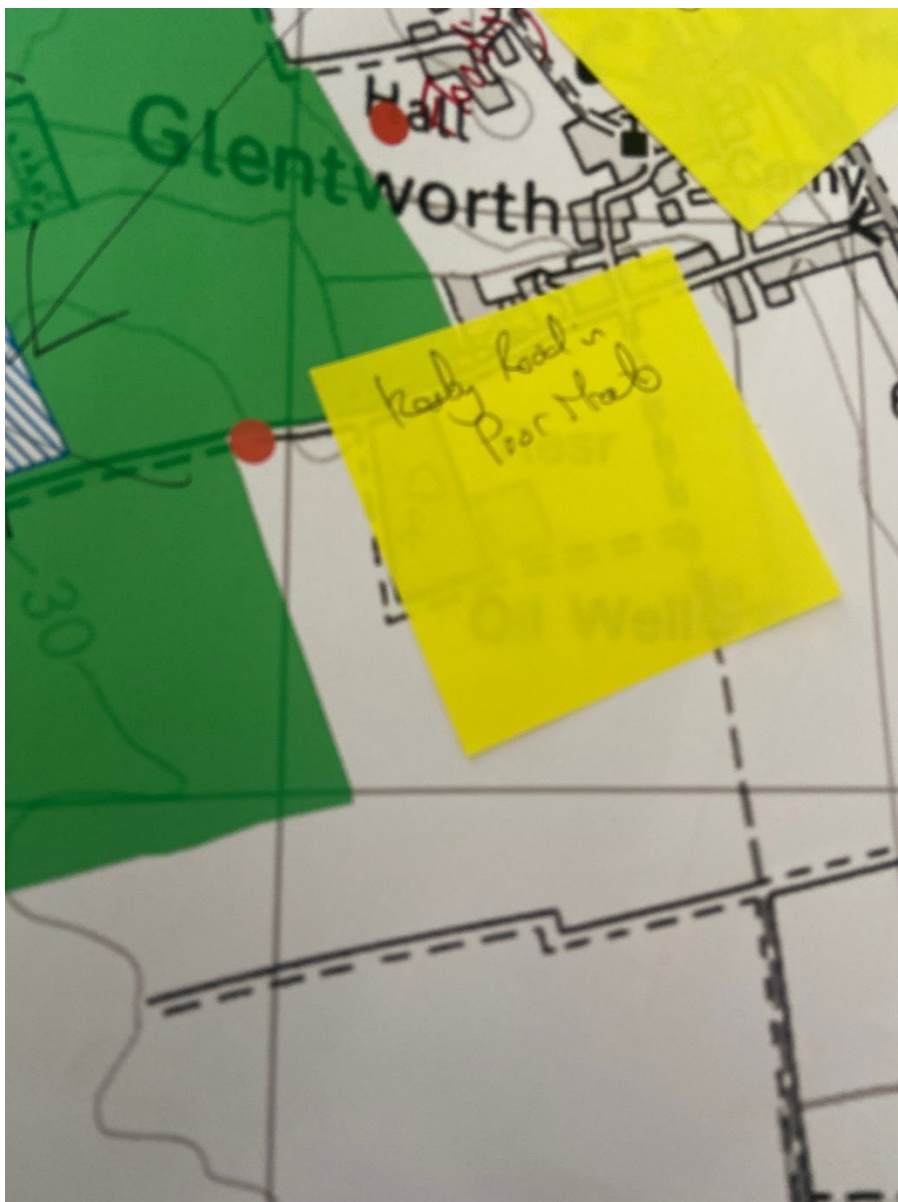
Can't be like a  
Prison - informal  
walking routes.  
Need to give people  
somewhere to go.

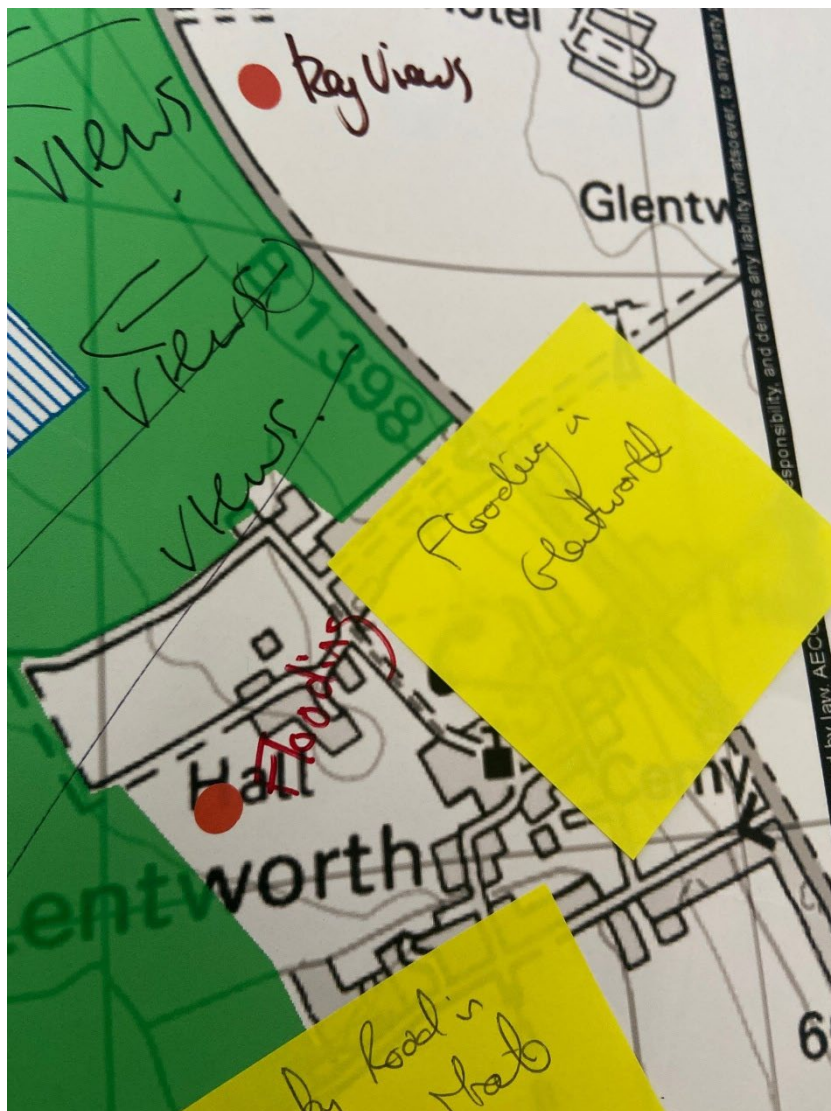
Island Green Power  
↳ Surveys without  
permission.

Committed to  
min 48hrs notice.

Greenzone - NO. hire  
with + know  
+ better than











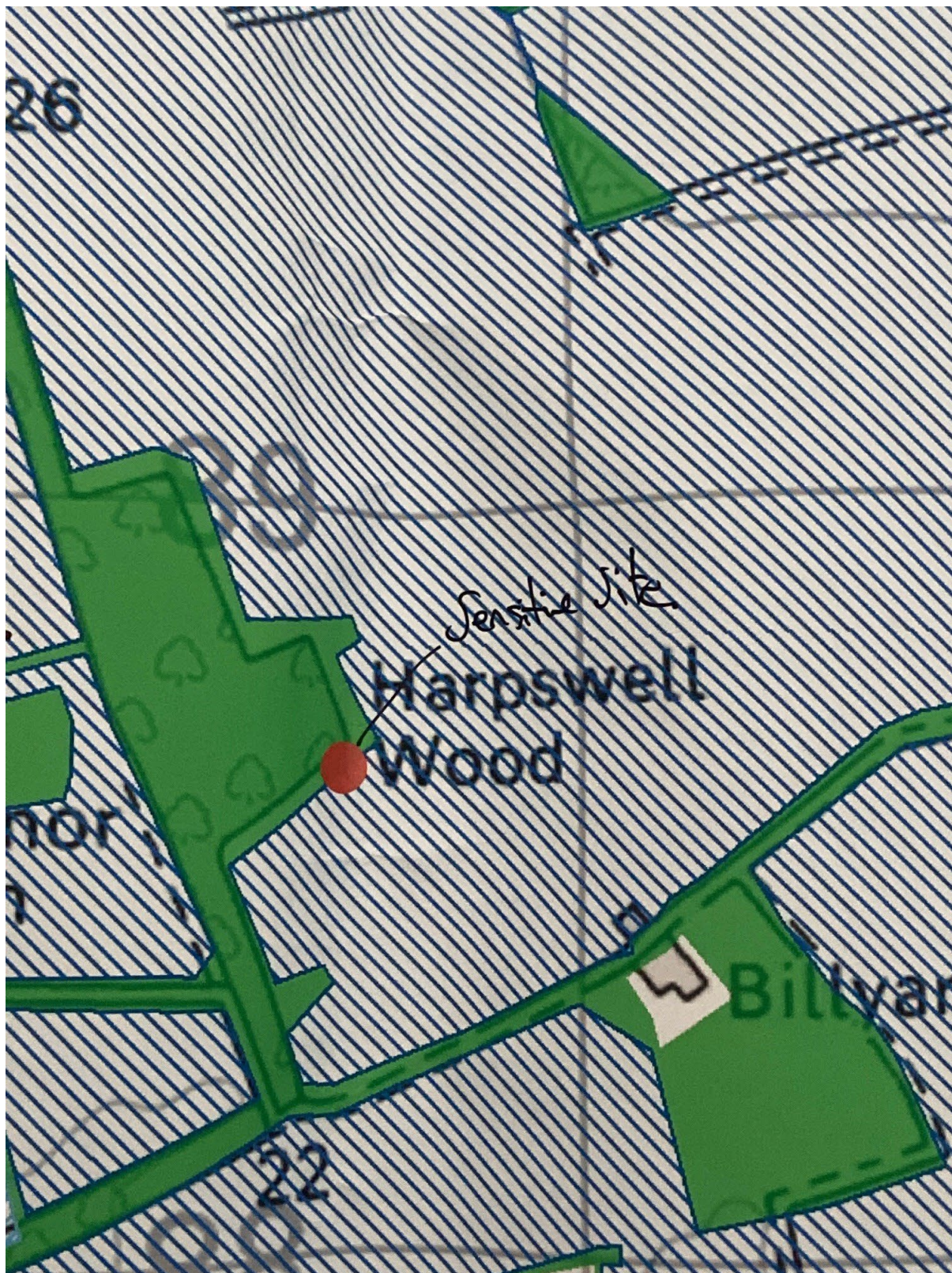


















110

**CONSULTANT**  
 Aldgate Tower  
 2, Leman Street  
 London, E1 6FA  
 United Kingdom  
 T +44-0207-645-2000

---

**LEGEND**

-  Indicative Developable Area
-  Cable Route Corridor
-  Initial Search Area
-  Indicative Non-Developable Area / Areas to be Considered for Mitigation

*Boundary ditches  
 won't produce the actual amount of energy on*

*Mitigation  
 Birds  
 Cumulative effect of project  
 of project*

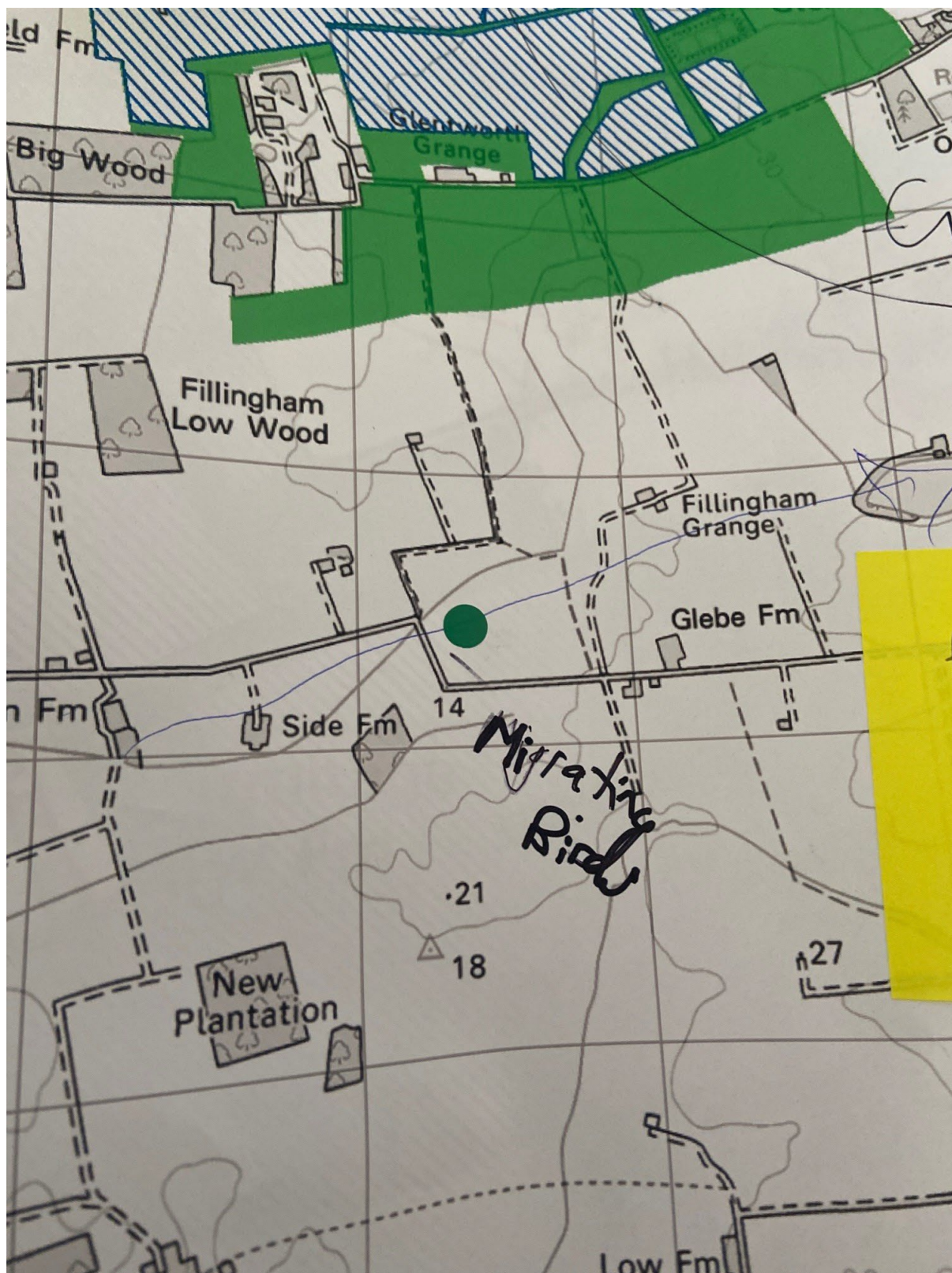
*Landscape  
 Visual  
 Ditches to be maintained*

*Deer  
 Food security  
 Wildlife  
 Environmental  
 impact  
 conservation areas*

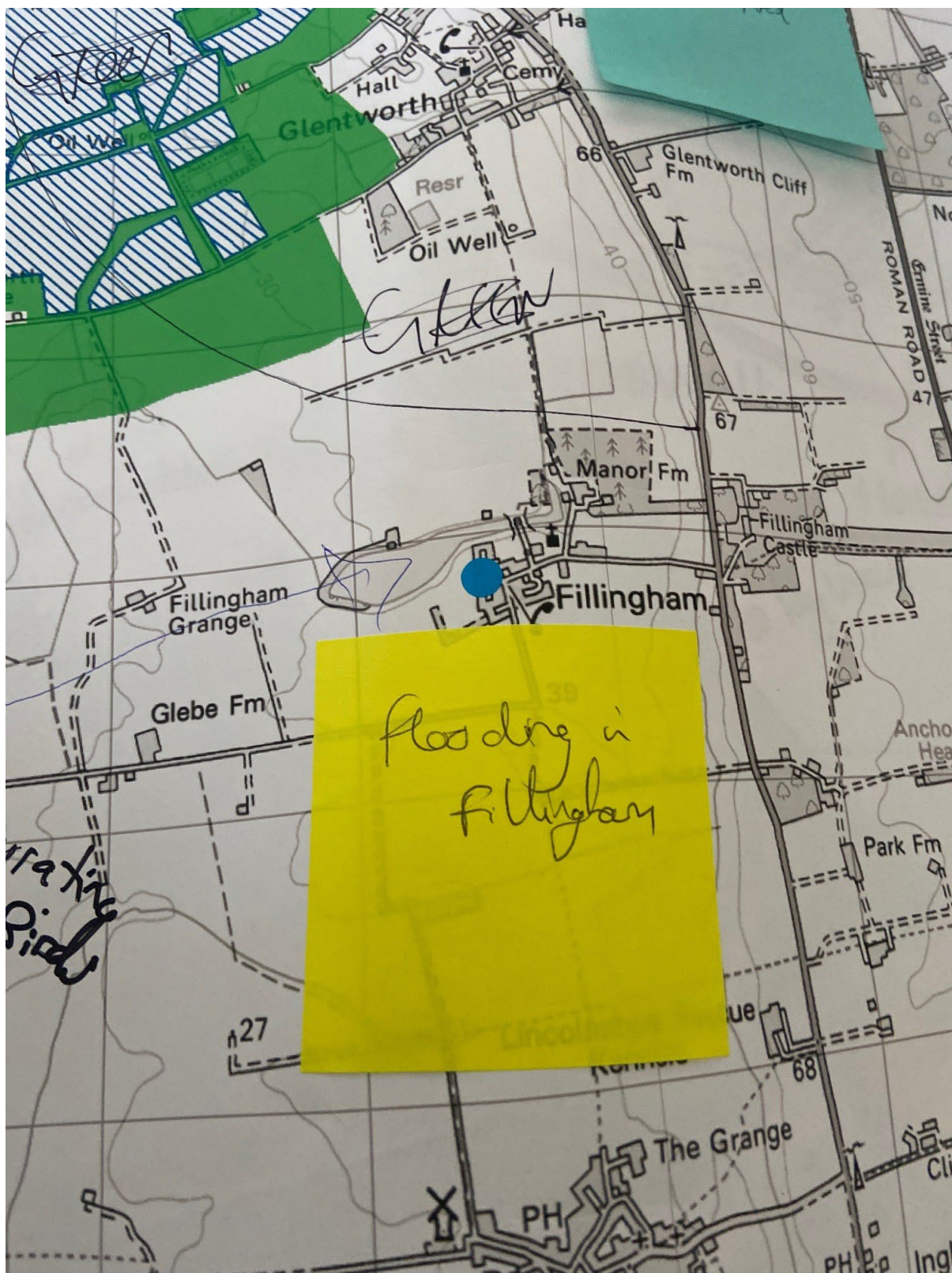
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**NOTES**

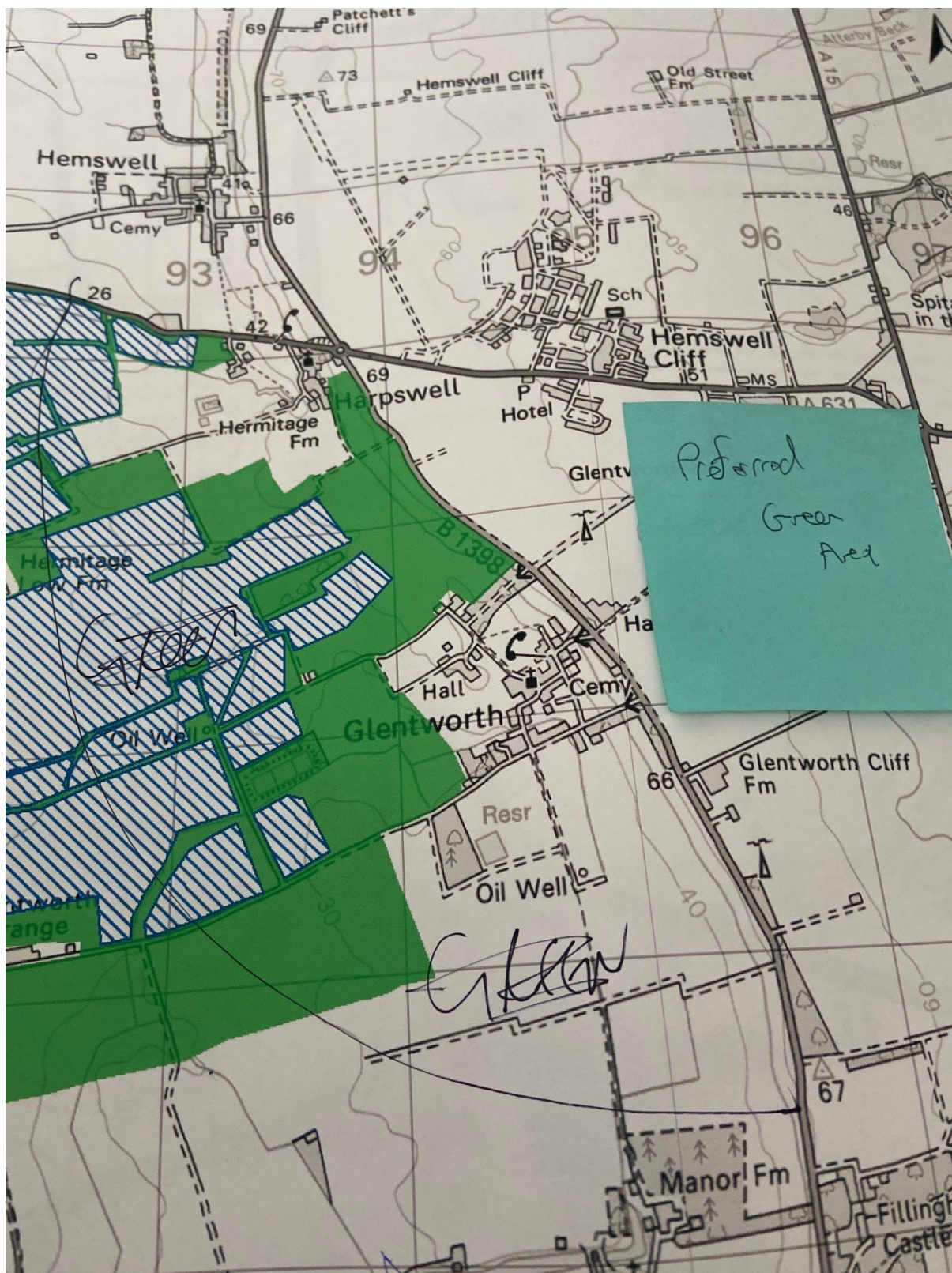
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 Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.  
 © Natural England material is reproduced with the permission of Natural England  
 2022 © Historic England 2022. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2022. The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained in 2022.



















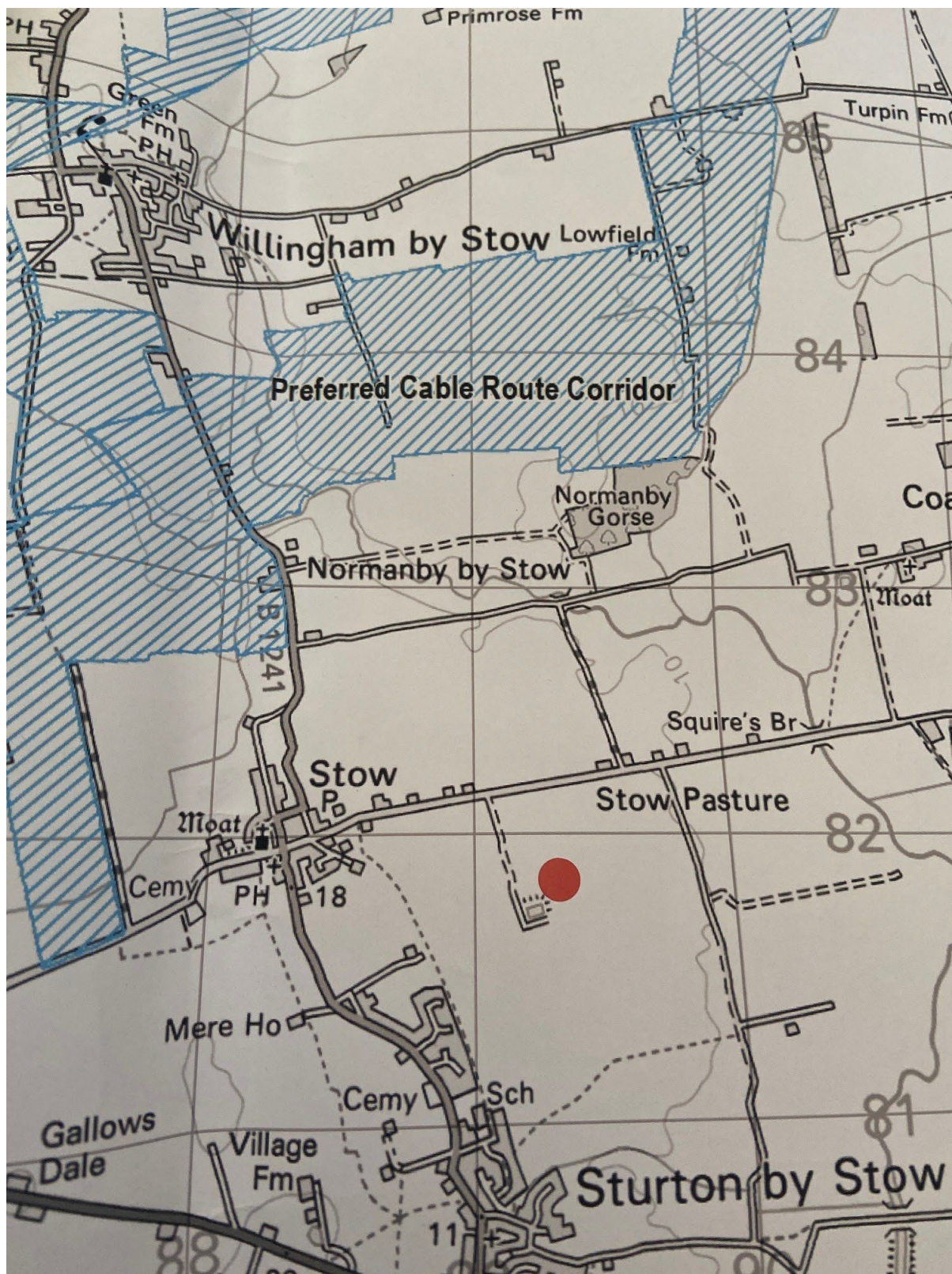




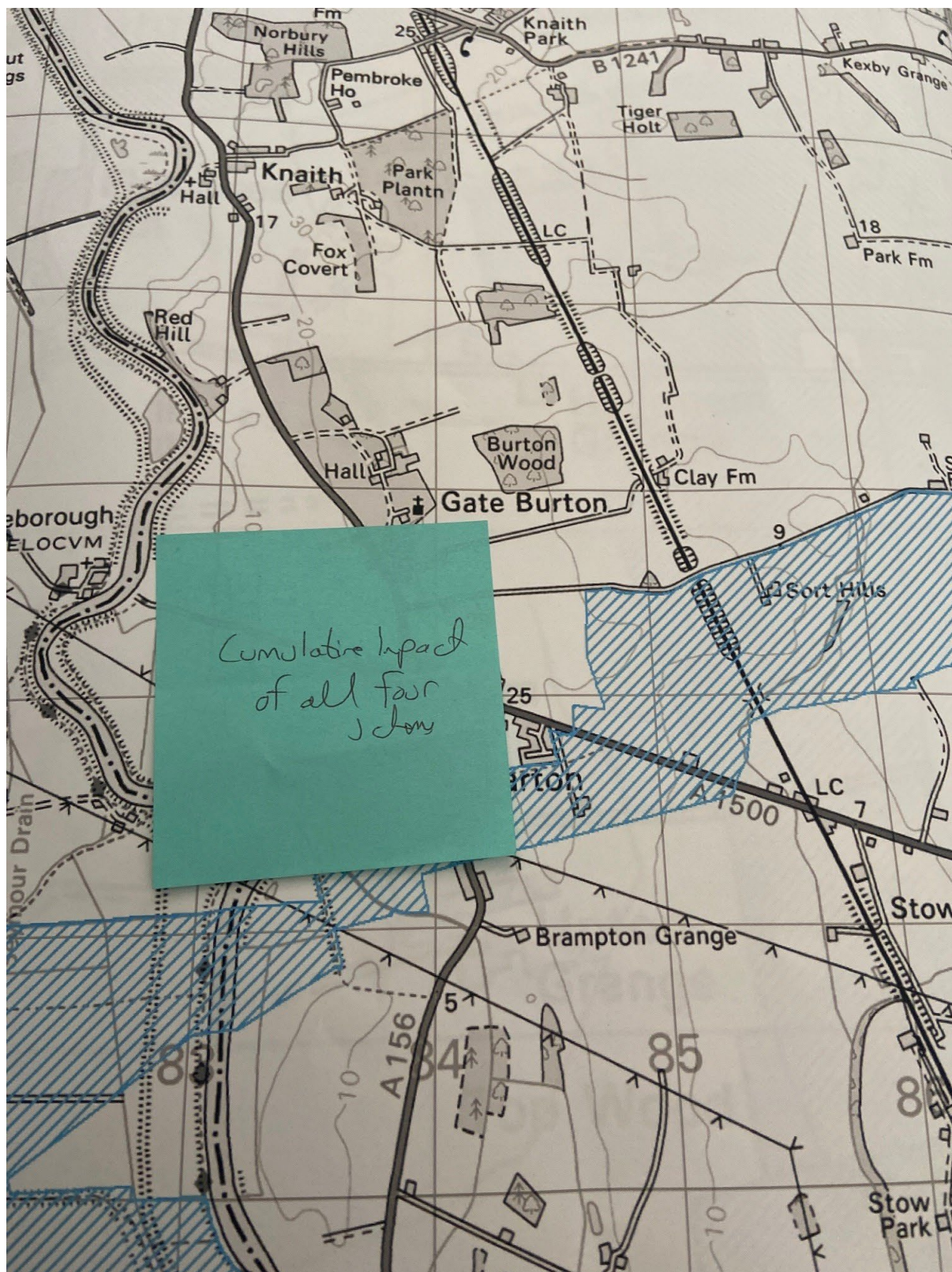








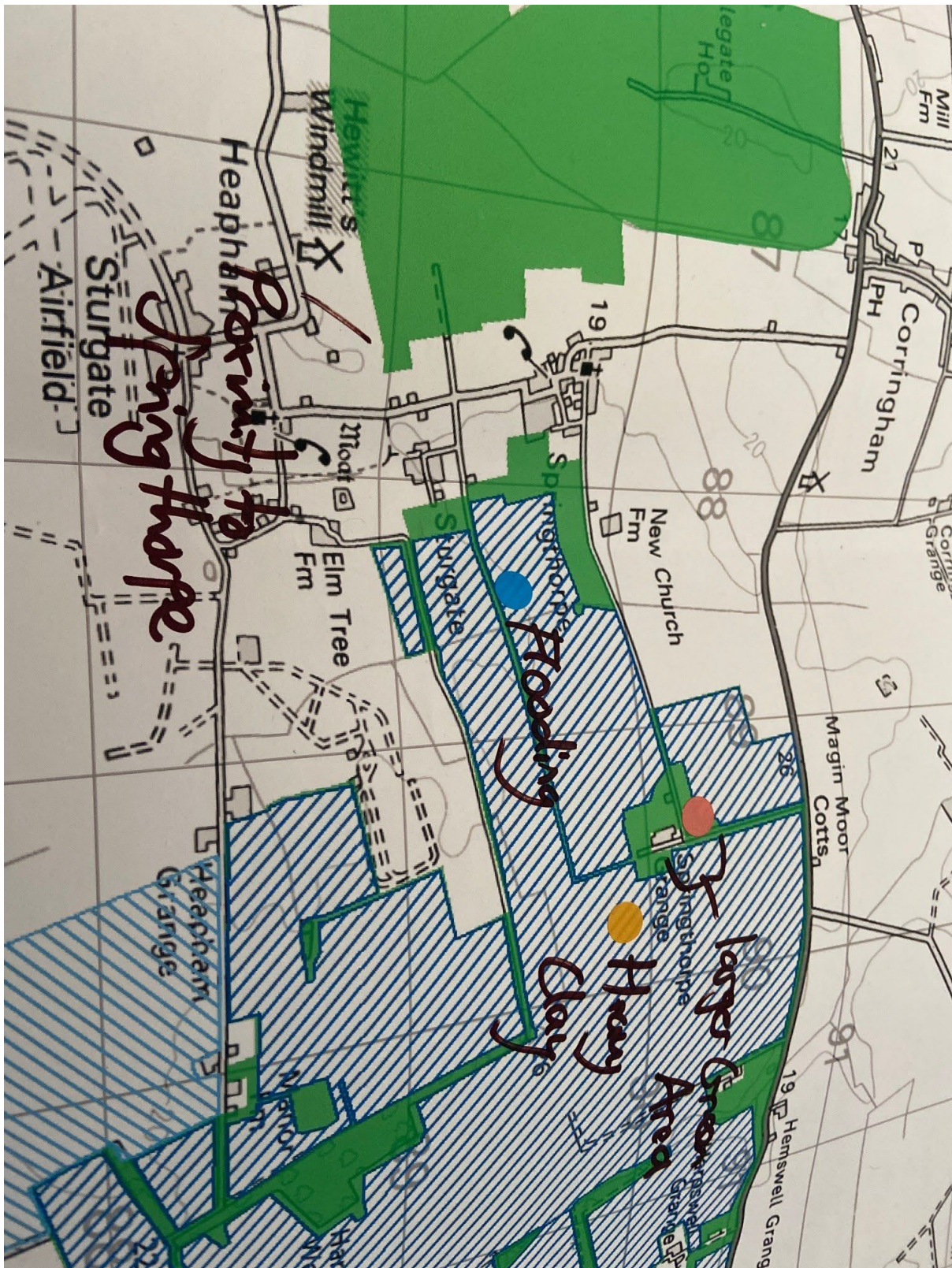




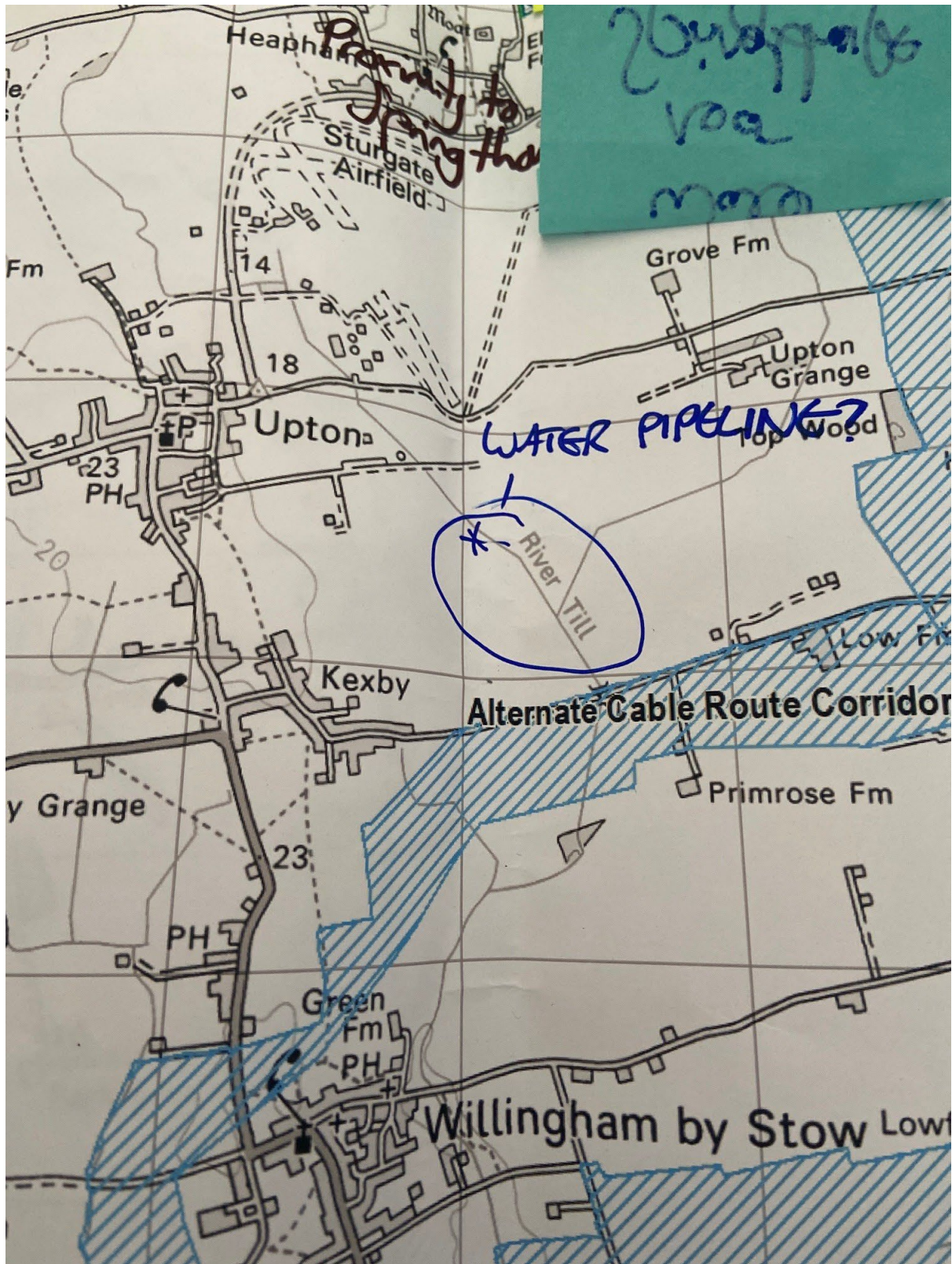




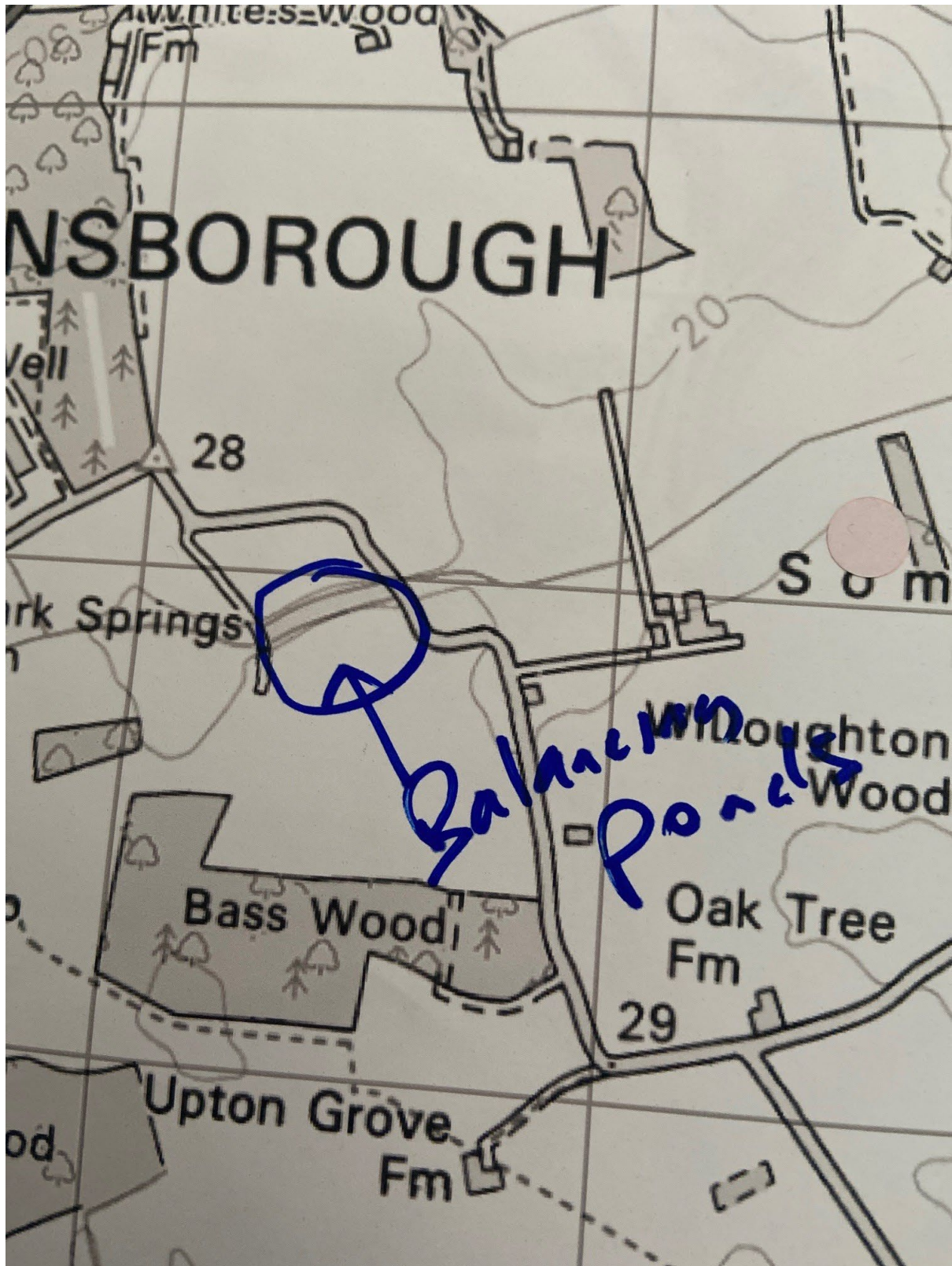




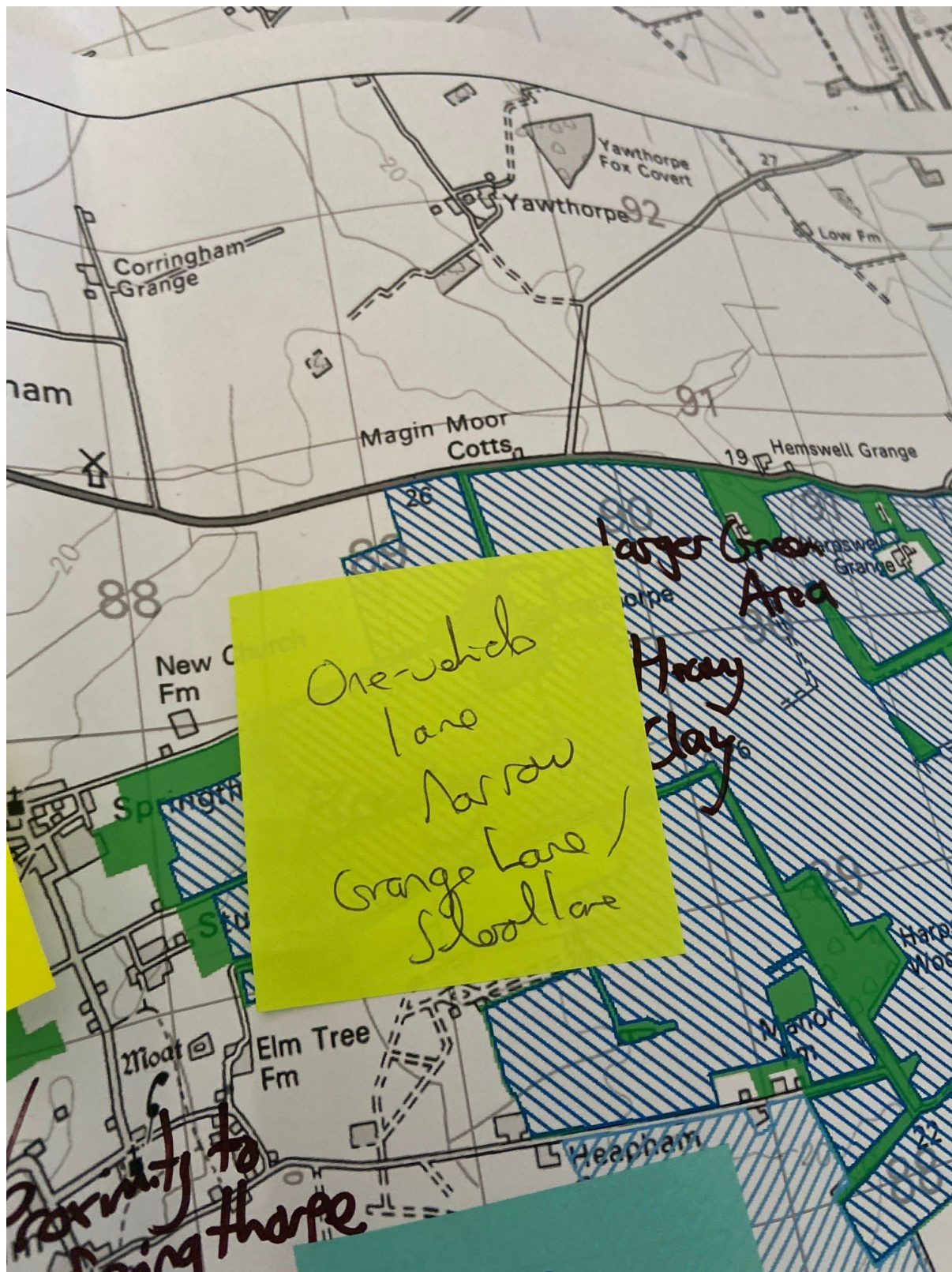




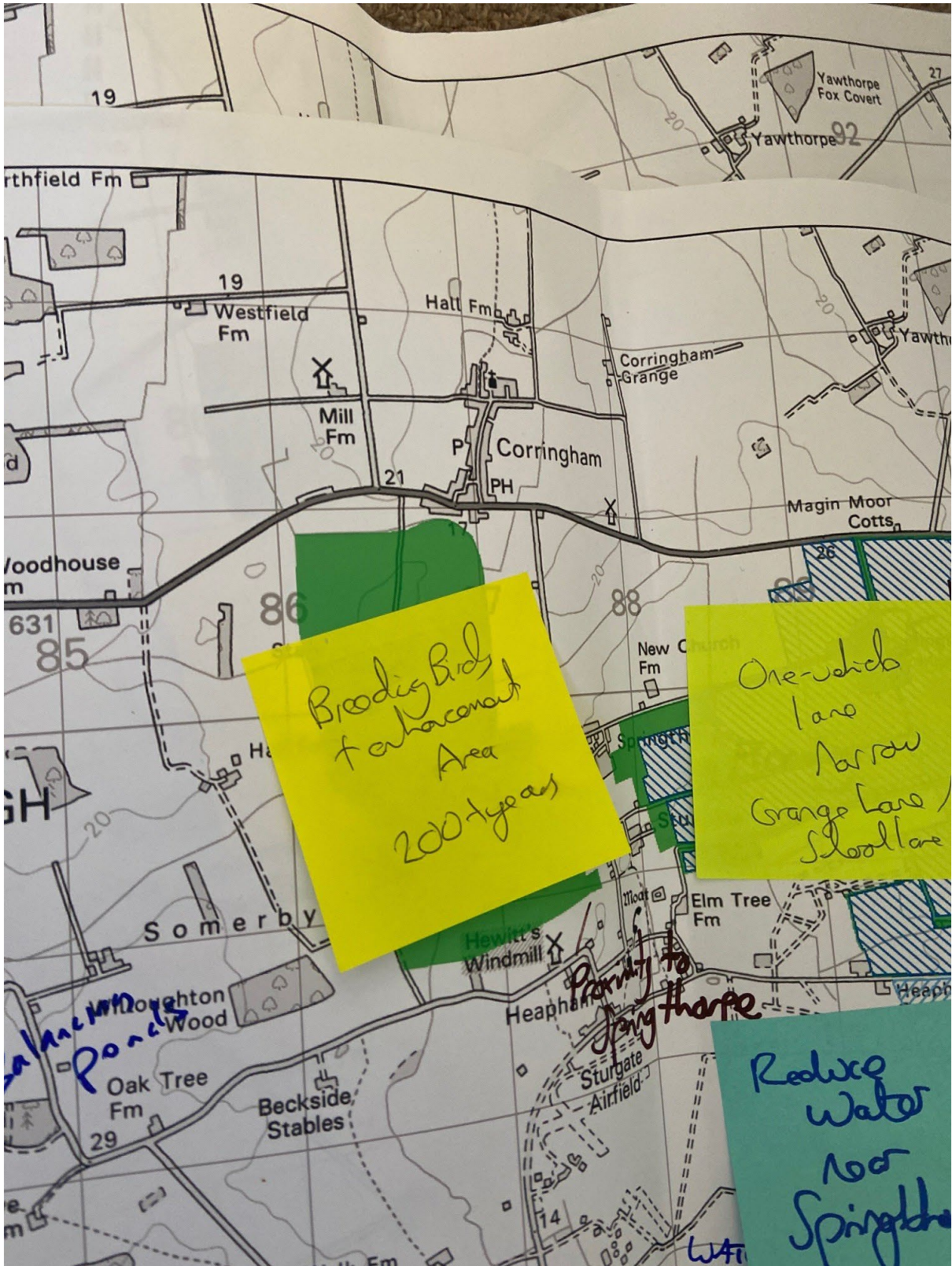




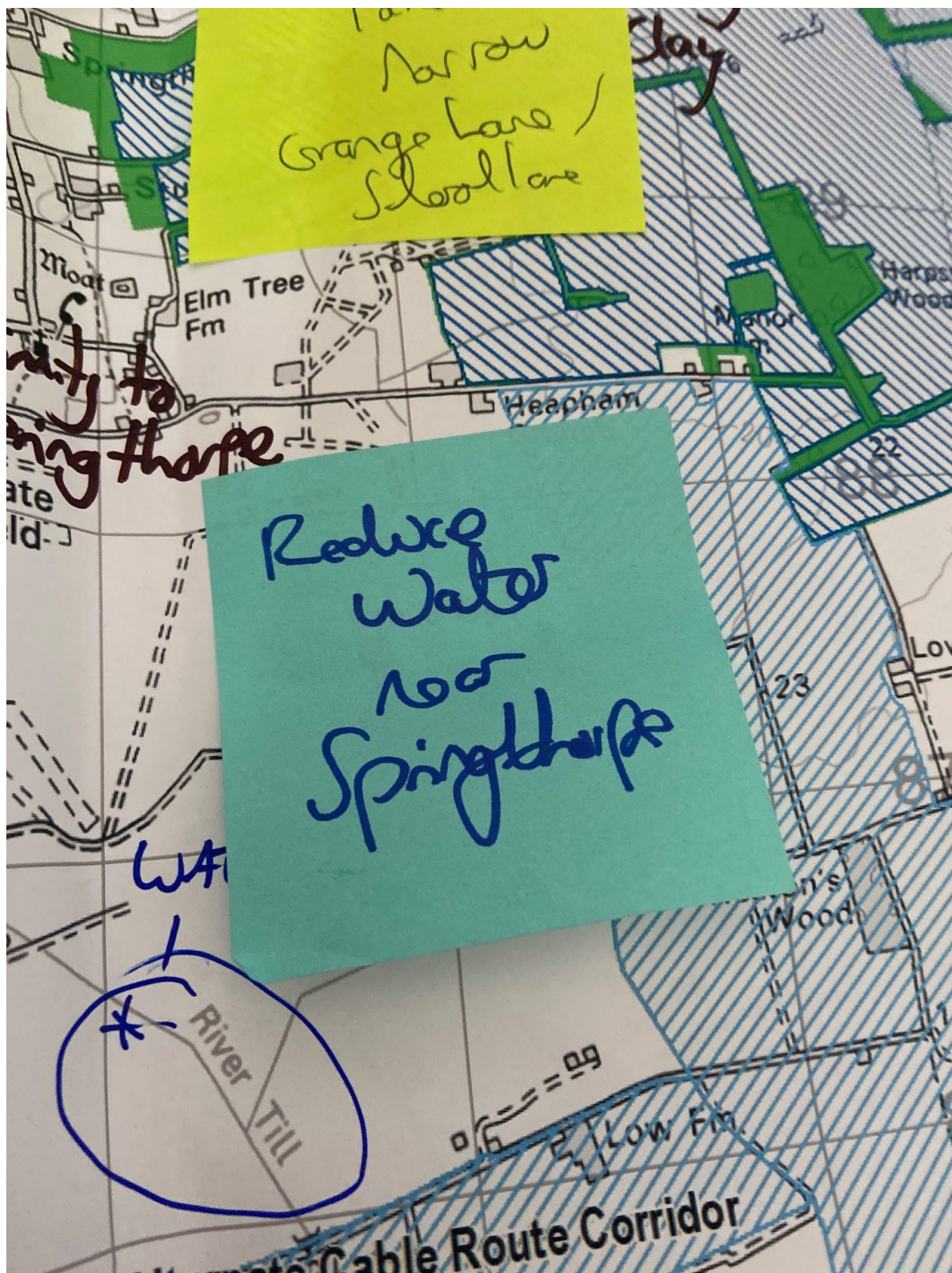




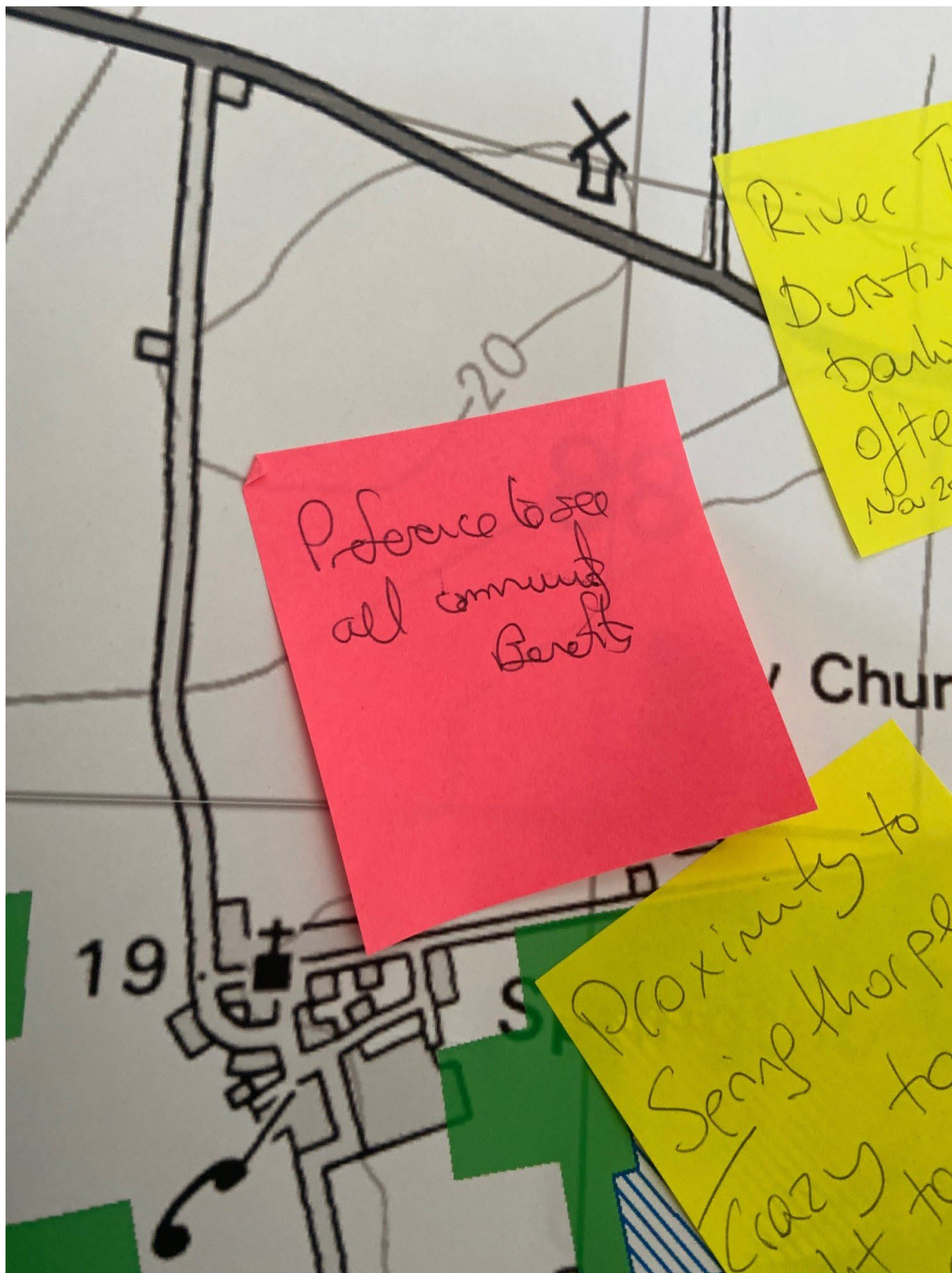




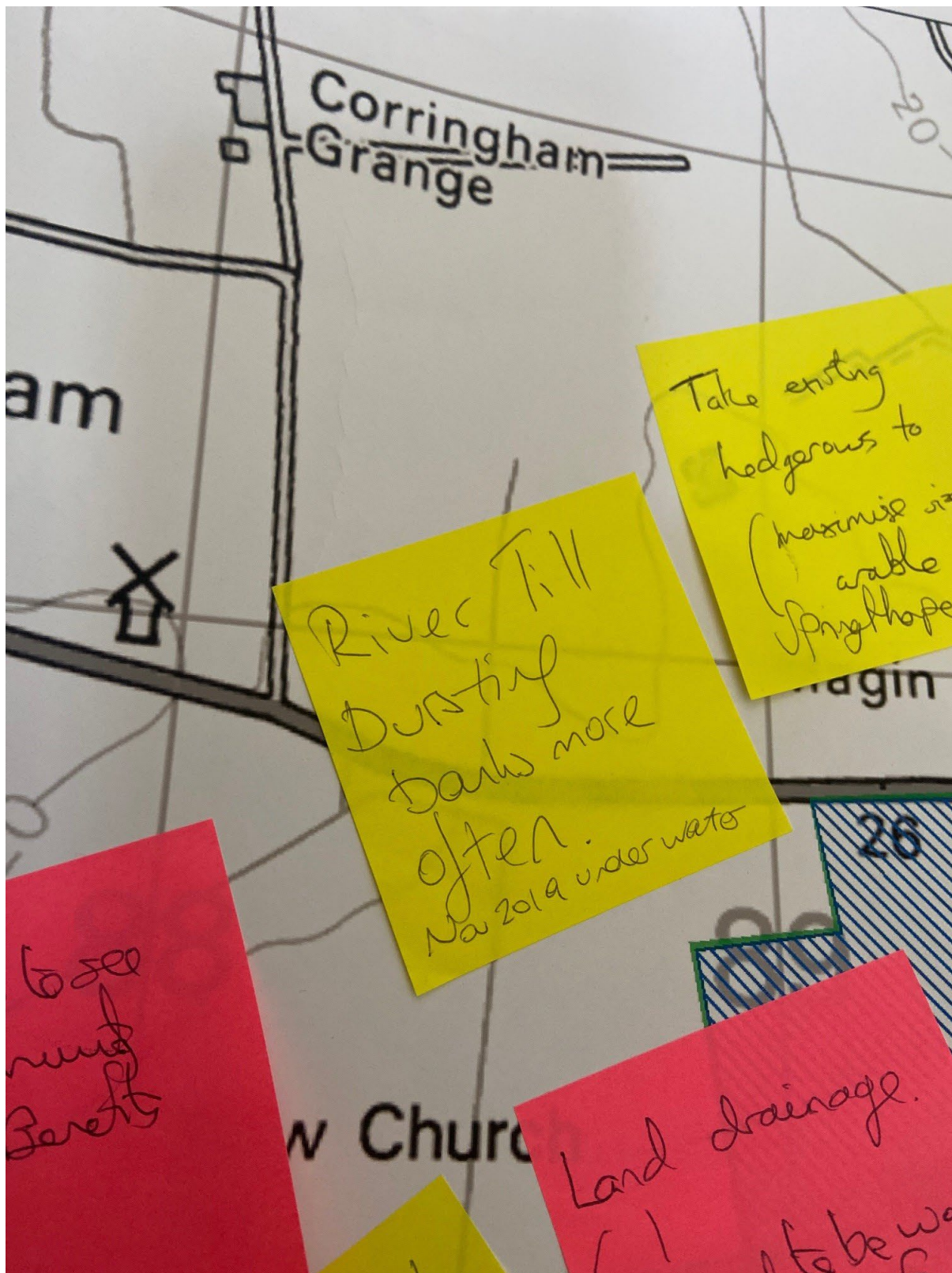




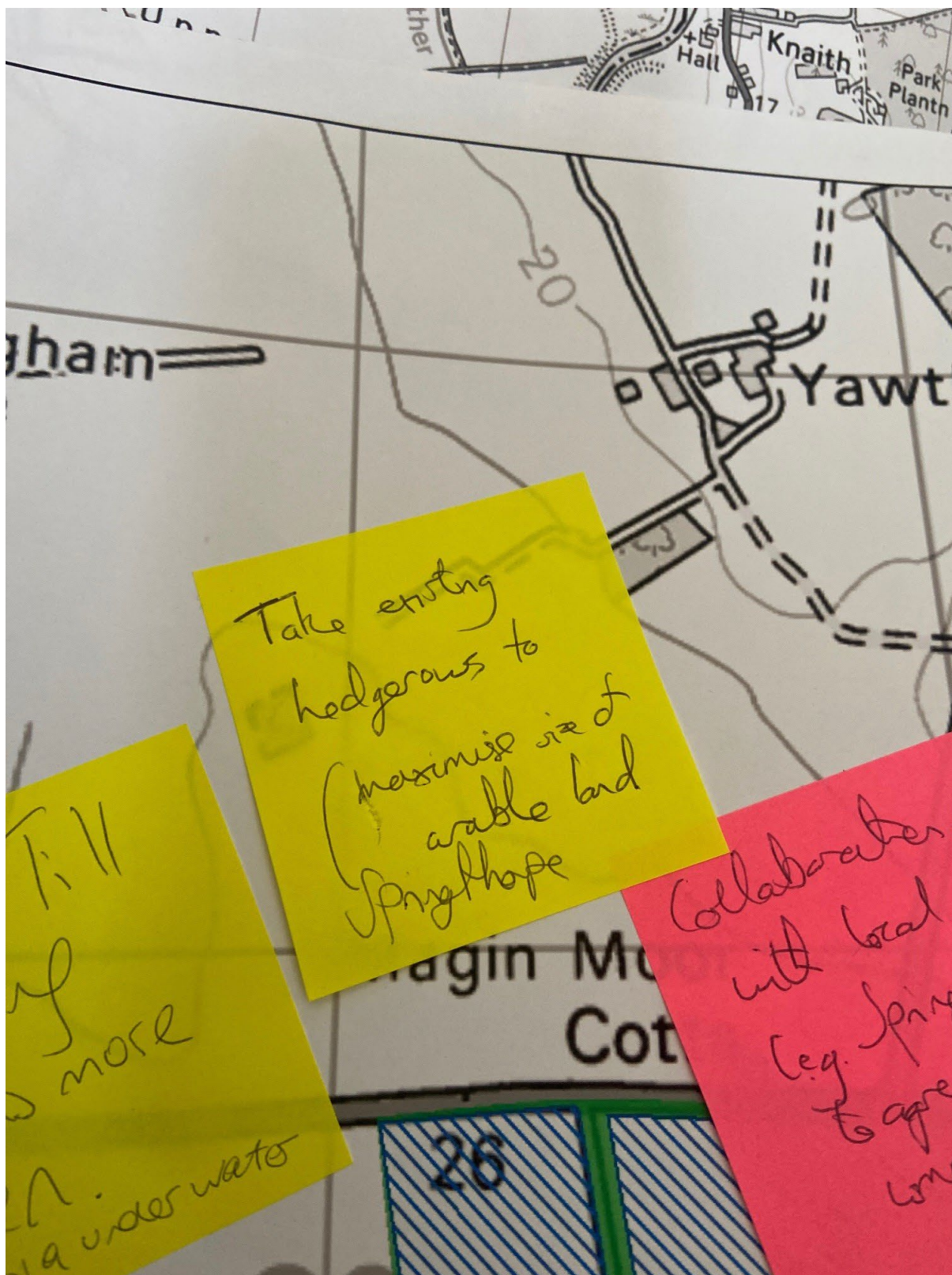




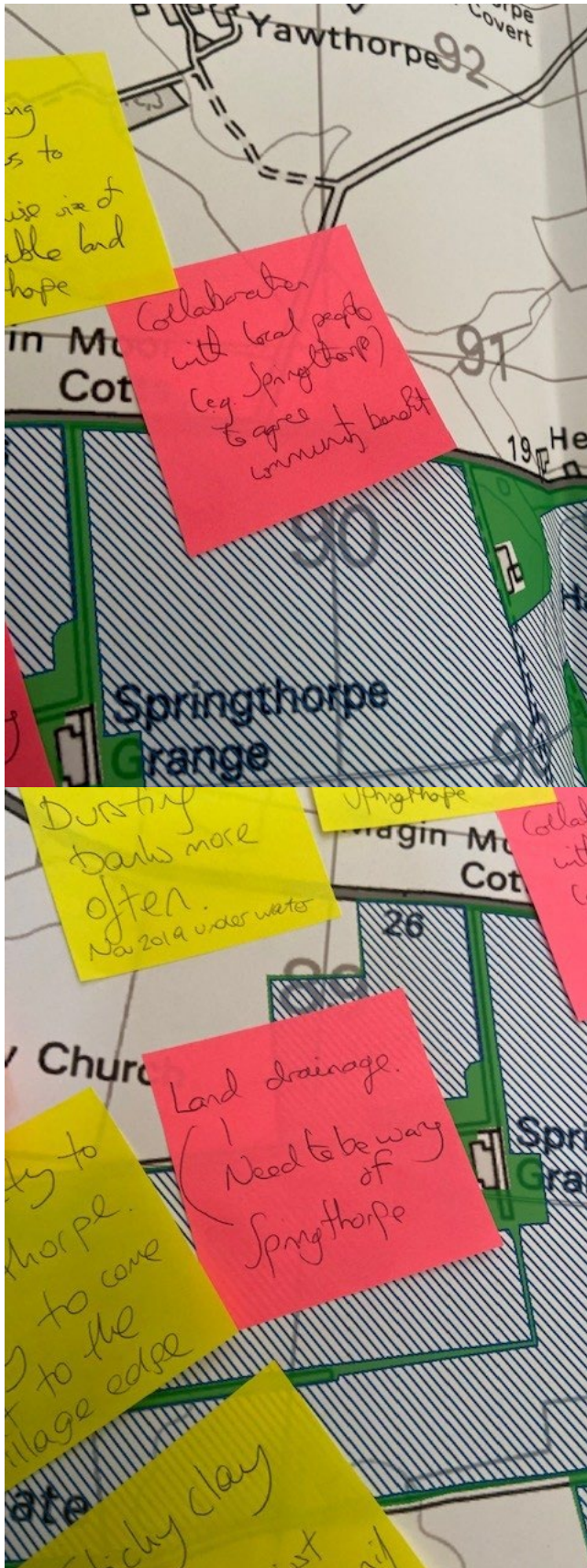




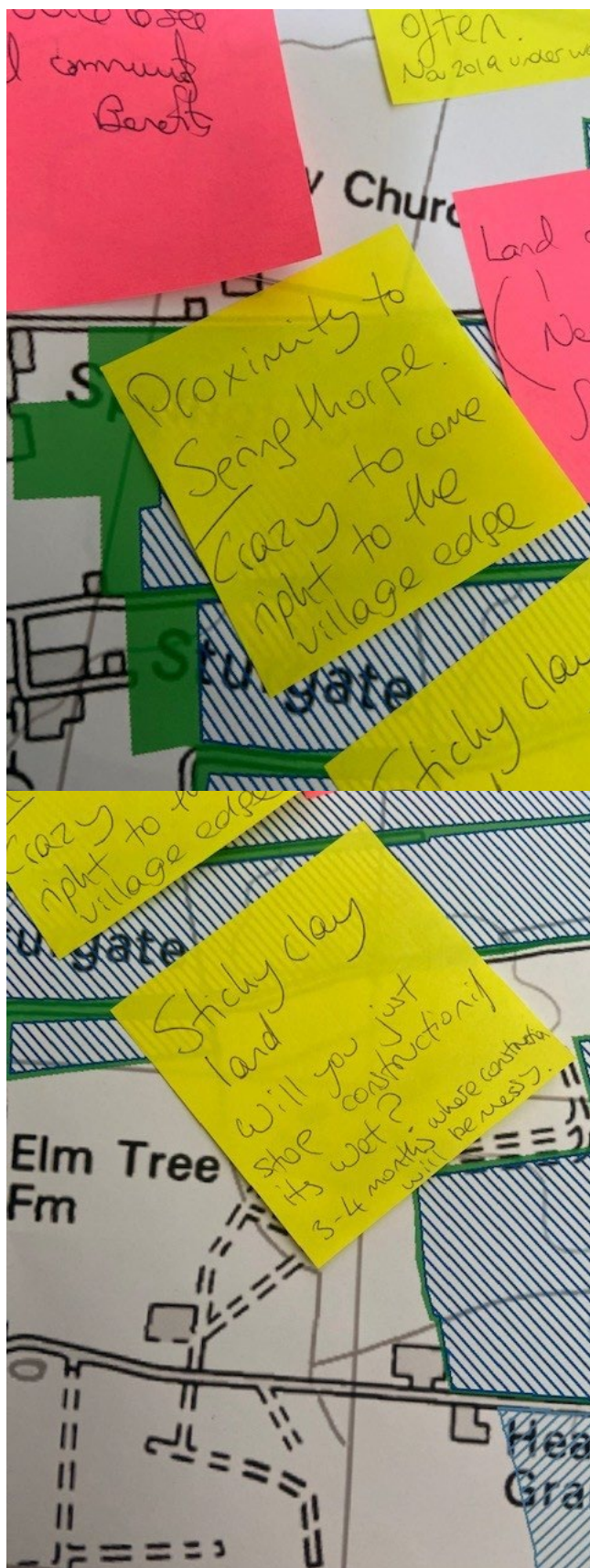


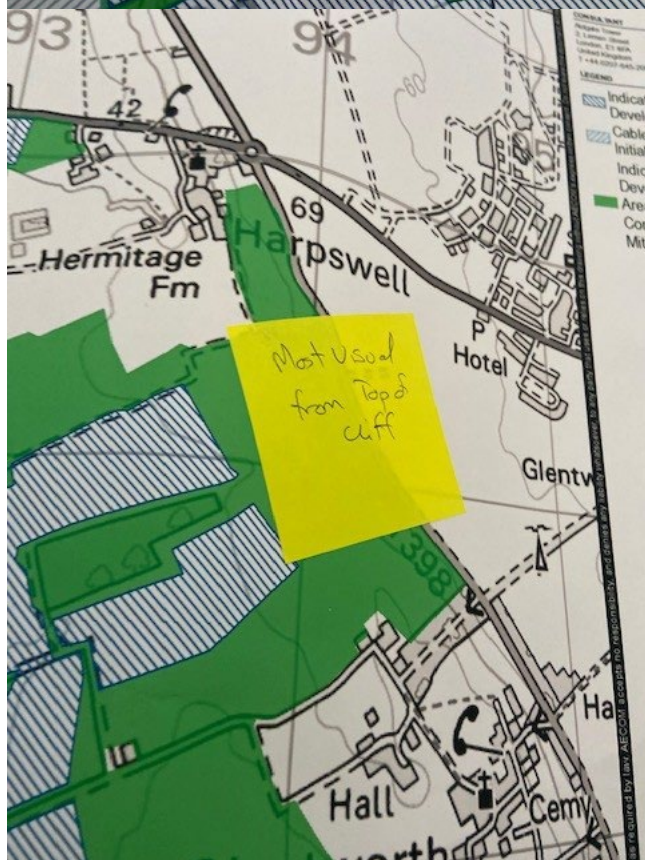




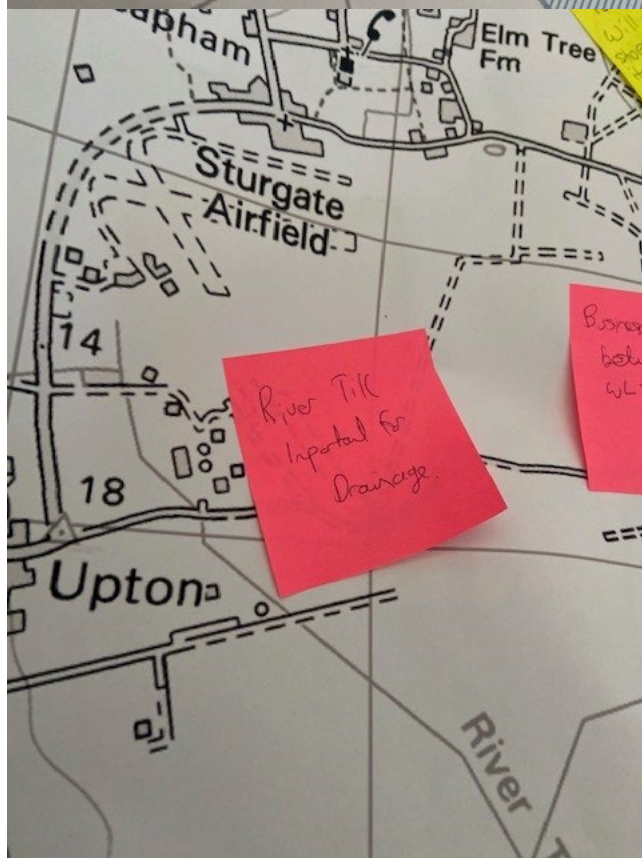
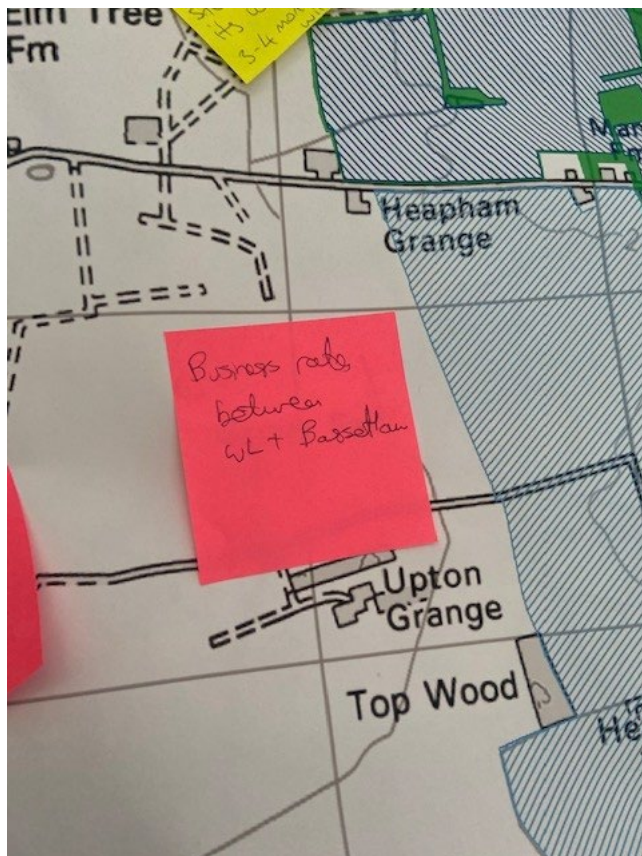


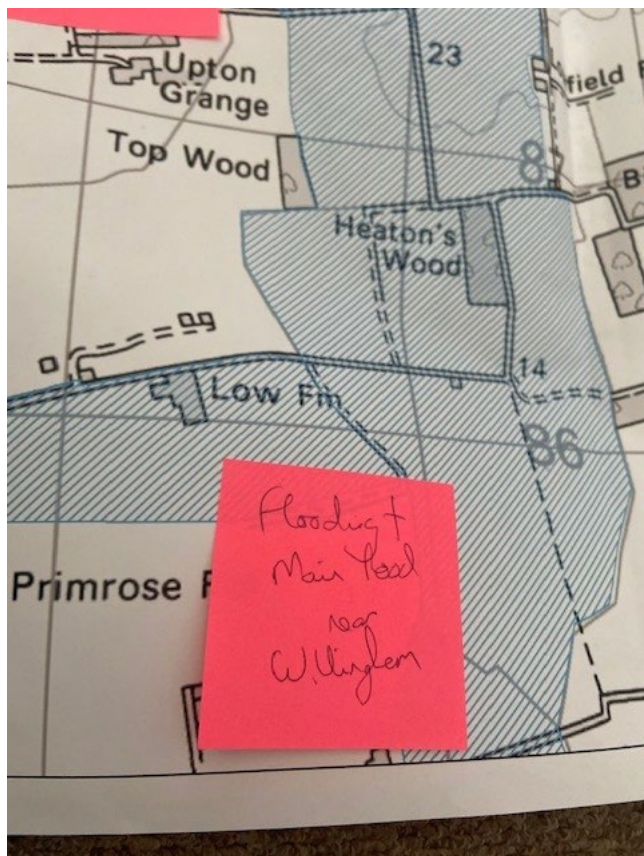












Many unintended  
BAD consequences  
of drive at all  
costs for net  
Zero would  
suggest policy needs  
review



## Appendix A-8: Example of an email issued to stakeholders invited to the collaboration workshop

**From:** [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar post-collaboration workshop report - September 2022  
**Date:** 30 September 2022 14:34:34  
**Attachments:** [Tillbridge Solar Post-Collaboration Workshop Report September 2022.pdf](#)

---

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for attending one of our collaboration workshops for Tillbridge Solar in July 2022. These workshops provided an opportunity for the project team to introduce the early-stage plans and explain more about our proposals.

Each workshop included a series of presentations, question and answer sessions and opportunities for attendees to have their say. Engagement during the workshops has been important to us as we continue to refine our plans for Tillbridge Solar.

We are now in a position to share the attached *post-collaboration workshop report*, which provides the following information:

- Introductory information about Tillbridge Solar
- Overview of the approach to consultation
- Summary of the collaboration workshops, including format and information presented
- Overview of feedback and key themes, along with our responses to comments
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Overview of next steps for the project

We would like to thank everyone that took part in our collaboration workshops. Your comments have helped us to refine certain aspects of the project and provide suggestions for how we carry out our detailed environmental assessment and design work. We will be sharing more detail on our design in due course, including as part of our statutory consultation, planned for the start of 2023.

A copy of the workshop report, along with a copy of the presentation slides, have also been uploaded to our website ([www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)). Following publication of this report, we will also be issuing copies of our latest community newsletter to local communities.

If you have any questions about this report or the project itself, please contact the community relations team by responding by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or telephone (0800 046 9643). We also welcome the opportunity to meet with you again to discuss the project updates in more detail or answer any further questions you may have. More information can also be found on the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com).

Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray

Project Director

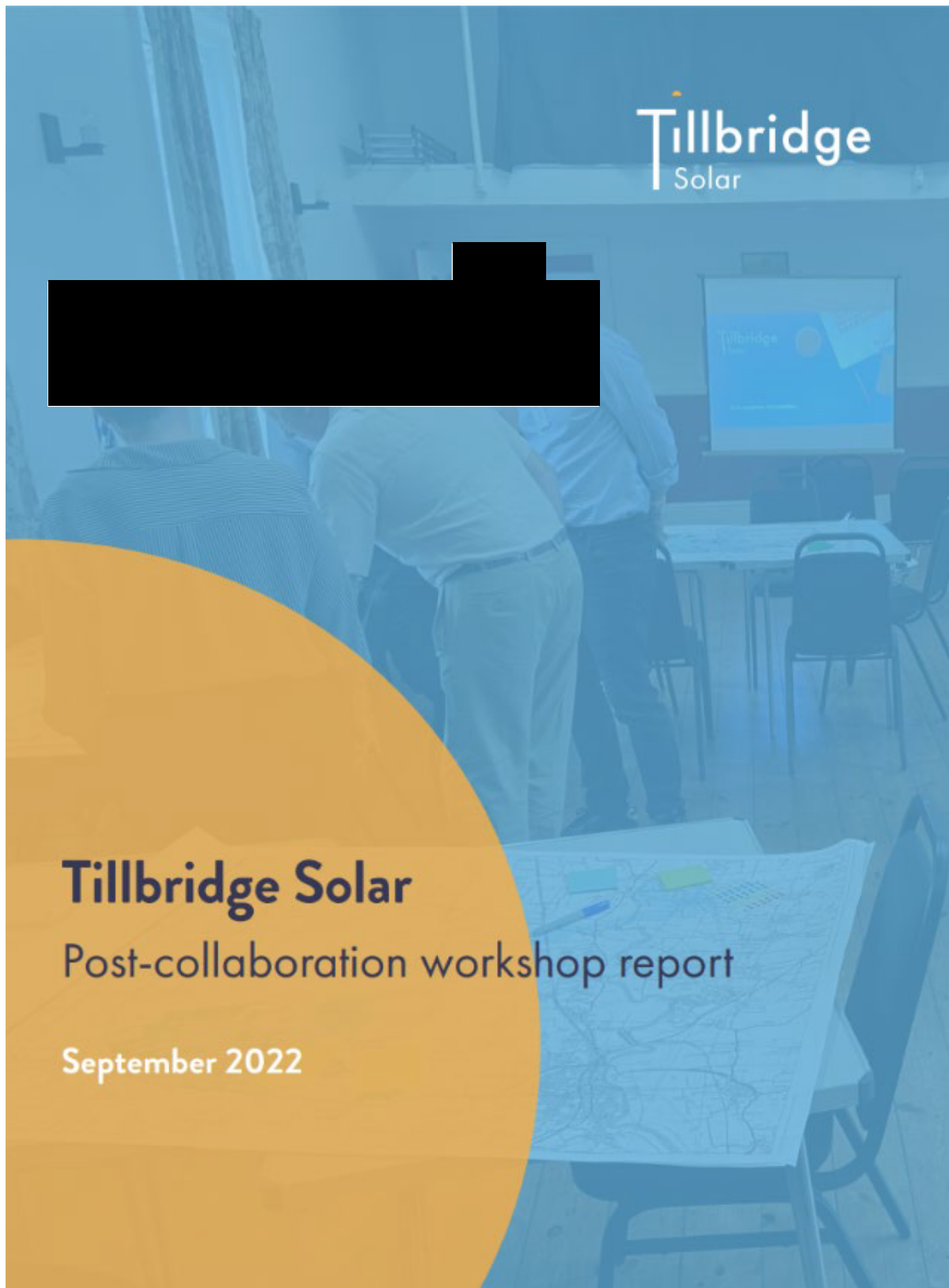
Tillbridge Solar

Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)

Freephone : 0800 046 9643

Website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

## Appendix A-9: Collaboration workshop report (September 2022)





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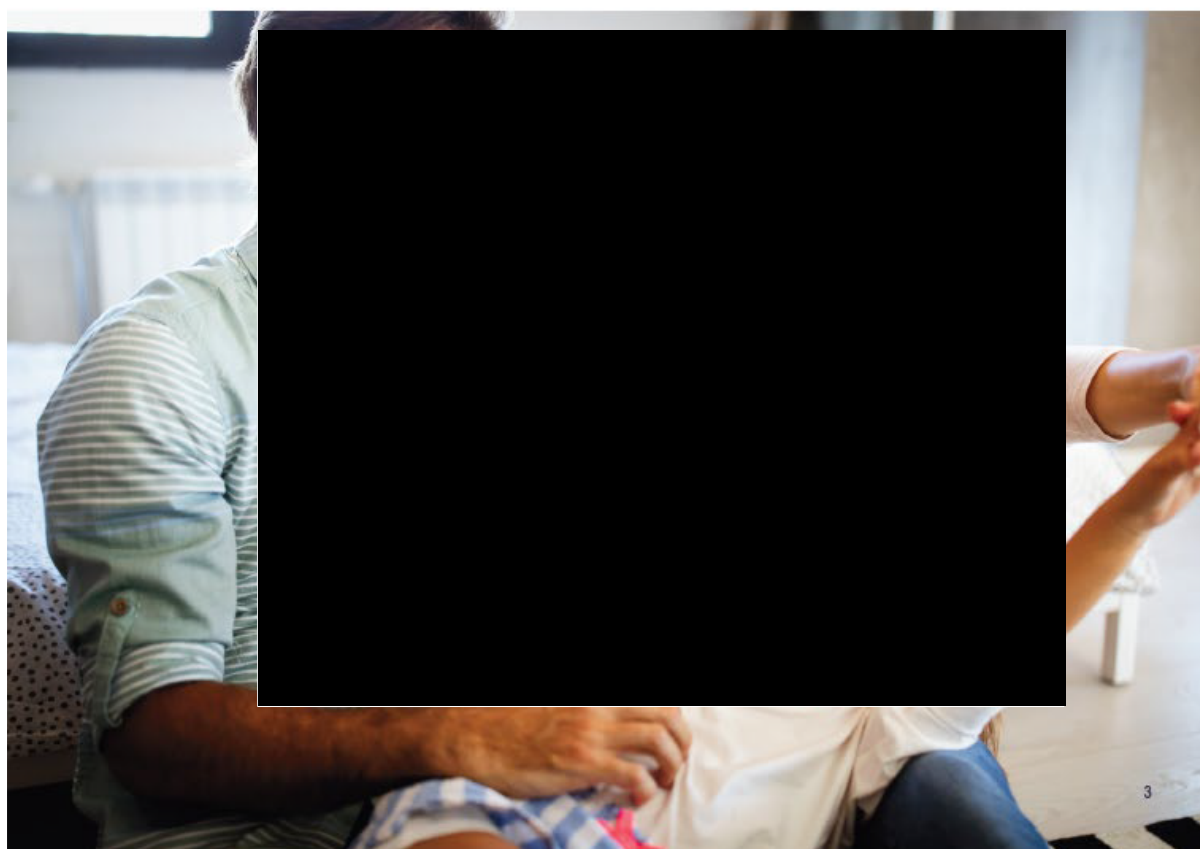
## — 1. Introduction

**Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project which would involve the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire and associated infrastructure for connection to the national grid at Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire.**

The project, known as Tillbridge Solar, would allow for the generation, storage, export and import of electricity with an anticipated capacity greater than 50 megawatts (MW).

Proposals for the project are still at an early stage. In July 2022 we held a series of collaboration workshops with representatives of groups with an interest in the area to help shape the project at this early stage.

This report provides a summary of the collaboration workshops, including the information presented and discussed, key issues and themes from comments received during the workshops. This report also sets out the next steps in the development of the project, including in respect of consultation and engagement.





## 2. Tillbridge Solar

**Tillbridge Solar (“the project”) is being developed by a joint venture partnership between Tribus Clean Energy and Canadian Solar (together forming Tillbridge Solar Limited), who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects. They are being supported by an experienced team of technical specialists.**

Tillbridge Solar would be located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough, and to the north west of Lincoln. The project would involve the installation of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, with electricity generated from the project connecting to National Grid’s Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. The project would also have an energy storage solution located on site.

The project would make a significant contribution towards achieving the UK’s ambitious climate change targets and the target of 70 gigawatts (GW) of solar electricity generation capacity by 2035, whilst also helping to provide a reliable source of affordable energy.

### Our objectives are to:



Build a solar farm that will contribute UK’s zero-carbon future and enhance Lincolnshire’s reputation as the home of ground-breaking clean energy projects.



Provide equivalent energy needs for around 200,000 households with low-cost energy, generated in the UK at a time of great uncertainty within the energy market.



Increase biodiversity and enhance existing ecology, to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain and maximise opportunities to create new habitats for wildlife.



Develop a project in a responsible and considerate way.

### 3. Approach to consultation

**Given that the project would generate more than 50MW of renewable energy, Tillbridge Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) in accordance with the thresholds set out in the Planning Act 2008 (the Act). This means that we will need to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).**

The DCO process for NSIPs is set out in the Act and associated regulations. In accordance with section 42 of the Act, we are required to carry out a period of statutory consultation which we are planning to hold at the start of 2023.

Before this, we have been carrying out an initial period of consultation and engagement, where we have been working collaboratively with stakeholders to help understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area. This early engagement included holding a series of collaboration workshops, initial engagement with landowners and near neighbours (to the Tillbridge Solar project site), along with engagement with statutory bodies, such as local planning authorities and environmental groups.

The ongoing development of our proposals is an iterative process, with this initial engagement contributing towards the ongoing refinement of our plans for Tillbridge Solar.



Provide opportunities for community involvement from an early stage.



Ensure local landscape is central to the project's design.



Provide opportunities for local communities and the local economy.



Seek opportunities to collaborate with other developers to help minimise impacts of local communities and the environment.



## 4. Collaboration workshops – July 2022

### Introduction

As part of the early-stage engagement for Tillbridge Solar, we held a series of collaboration workshops in the local area. These were held as follows:

- **Wednesday 20 July 2022**, from 1 pm to 5 pm, at Glentworth Village Hall, Stoney Lane, Glentworth, Lincolnshire, DN21 5DF
- **Thursday 21 July 2022**, from 2pm to 6pm, at Willingham Village Hall, High St, Willingham by Stow, Gainsborough, DN21 5JZ
- **Friday 22 July 2022**, from 10am to 2pm, at Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AE

These workshops provided the opportunity for the Tillbridge Solar team to introduce the early-stage plans and explain more about our proposals – a summary of the information presented at the workshops is set out below. Engagement during the workshops also helped to shape the project at this early stage and allow attendees to discuss in detail a number of key topics and aspects of our plans.

### Workshop attendees

Tillbridge Solar invited key stakeholders to attend the collaboration workshops. These stakeholders were selected by Tillbridge Solar as being representative of persons with an interest in the project, from a political, community and technical/ environmental perspective and was discussed with the relevant local planning authorities before the workshops were held.

A total of 110 individual stakeholders and/or organisations were invited to attend one of the collaboration workshops on the date most suitable to them.

These stakeholders included:

- Relevant country, district, and ward councillors across the districts of West Lindsey and Bassetlaw and Counties of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire
- Wider council Members, Portfolio Holders, and technical/planning officers
- Representatives of the local community, including parish councils and local interest/ community groups
- Statutory consultees and wider environmental/ technical stakeholders

### Format

By holding a series of collaboration workshops at this early stage, this created a platform for active participation in the design process.

Each workshop was chaired and facilitated by representatives of the project, each session involved a series of presentations, question and answer sessions and opportunities for attendees to have their say during the session. Information was presented using a PowerPoint presentation along with printed maps and plans and attendees were able to provide their comments throughout the session by engaging with the materials, including using printed comment sheet.

### Information presented

The workshops provided an opportunity for attendees to learn more about the project and shape the proposals at this early stage. The information presented during the workshop (as part of the PowerPoint presentation) is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Information presented during the collaboration workshops

Information presented	Summary
Introduction to the collaboration workshops	
<b>The Tillbridge Solar team</b>	An overview of the Tillbridge Solar team, including the joint venture partnership between Tribus Clean Energy and Canadian Solar, along with the specialist team supporting the project.
<b>Our approach to consultation</b>	An overview of the approach to consultation and classification of Tillbridge Solar as a NSIP.
<b>Key aims</b>	An overview of the key aims and objectives of the project and the opportunities presented by this early-stage engagement, including what the workshops were designed to achieve.



Introduction to Tillbridge Solar	
<b>About Tillbridge Solar</b>	An overview of the elements of Tillbridge Solar, including the construction, operation and decommissioning of ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays and supporting infrastructure.
<b>Location and key facts</b>	An overview of the location of Tillbridge Solar and initial identification of preferred areas for development (approximately 1,000 hectares), and preferred areas to be considered for mitigation and enhancement (approximately 700 hectares).
<b>The needs case</b>	An overview of the needs case for the project, including the role that solar plays in the transition to net zero, and opportunity to develop Tillbridge Solar in a responsible way.
The story so far	
<b>Site Search Assessment</b>	An overview of the initial high-level site search assessment completed to identify a location for a proposed solar energy farm in the east of England.
<b>Environmental constraints and opportunities</b>	An overview of initial environmental constraints and opportunities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of environmental features and designations</li> <li>• Consideration of planning designations</li> <li>• Landscape and visual analysis, including low, medium and high risk areas for development</li> </ul>
<b>Preferred cable corridor</b>	An overview of the location of the preferred cable corridor, including key constraints considered. This included reference to a series of alternative options that were explored and assessed prior to the inclusion of the preferred option.
<b>Extent of DCO following site selection process</b>	An overview of the project being presented at this early stage, including indicative areas for development and enhancement (“developable” and “non-developable”) and preferred route of the cable corridor.

Key topic areas	
<b>Discussing the key issues and constraints</b>	<p>A discussion around a number of key topic areas in relation to how the project is defined going forwards, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumulative impact, including where the project is located in relation to other solar developments, and how the project has, and will be continuing to, engage constructively with other developers</li> <li>• Site selection and consideration of alternatives, including the approach taken to date</li> <li>• Socioeconomics and land use, including consideration of community benefits</li> </ul> <p>A number of other environmental topics were discussed, with an explanation provided around work carried out to date and identification of initial constraints and features. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecology and biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Landscape and visual</li> <li>• Transport and access</li> <li>• Water environment</li> </ul> <p>Other environmental topics (outside of the others listed) were also discussed.</p>
<b>Next steps</b>	<p>An overview of next steps and project refinement following the collaboration workshops, along with the project timeline and how attendees can continue to engage with the project.</p>



A number of maps and plans were made available at each workshop and have now been made available on the project website, including plans showing:

- Environmental constraints and opportunities, including desk-based research on Agricultural Land Classification
- Environmental and Planning Constraints, including indicative areas for higher, medium and low risk landscape and visual constraints
- Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Designations
- The preferred cable route corridor, including identification of an alternative route
- The indicative project boundary, including developable and non-developable areas
- The wider site search area, in the context of other large-scale solar projects in the region

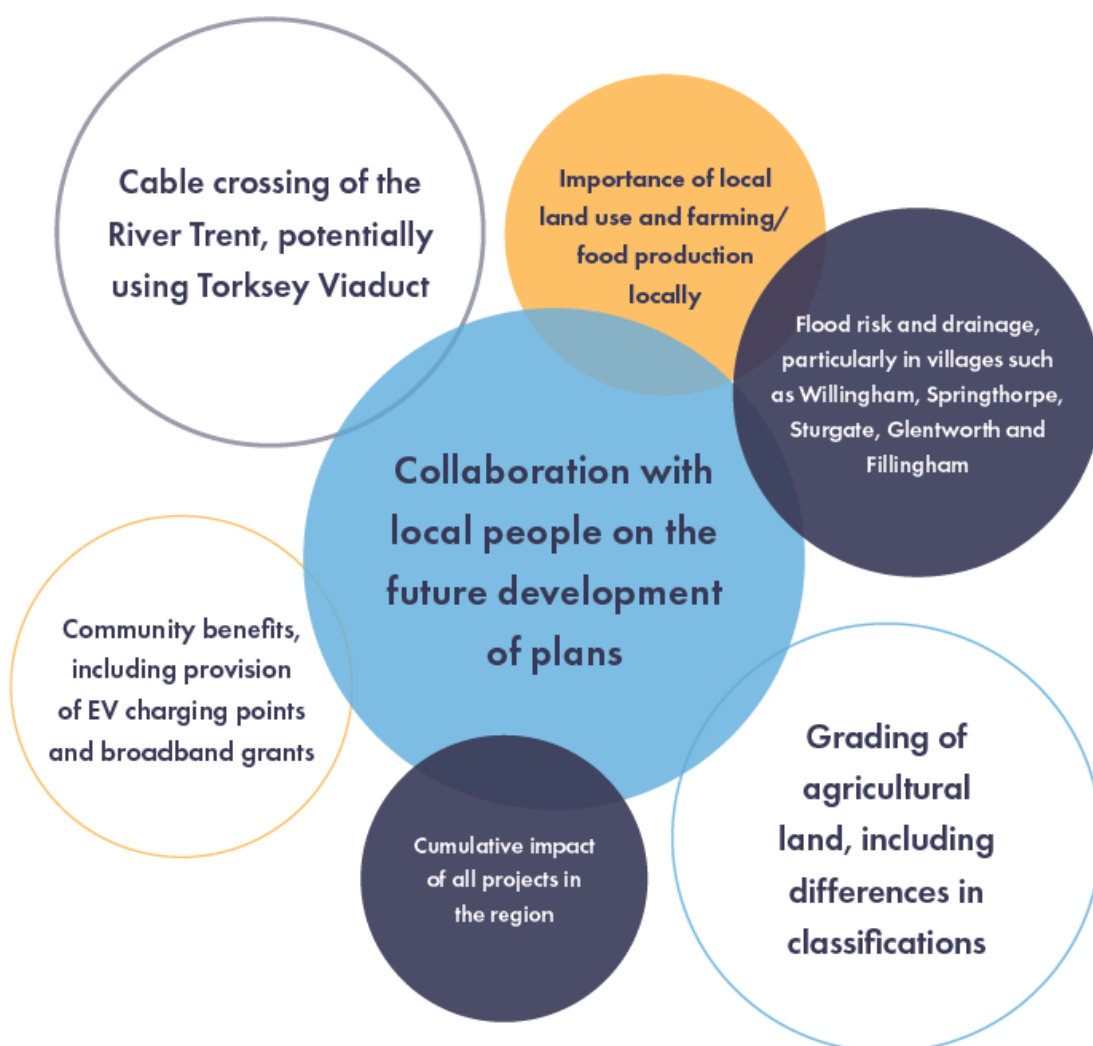
### Feedback and comments

The project team welcomed the input of workshop attendees in relation to all issues raised, including in respect of local constraints and features. Feedback and comments could be provided throughout the session by:

- Providing comments on post-it notes, which could be pinned on printed maps (showing the indicative developable and non-developable areas of the project and cable corridor)
- Placing pins/ stickers on maps to identify notable locations and constraints in the area
- Writing directly onto maps
- Using comment sheets – there was an opportunity to write down any final thoughts at the end of each workshop
- Noting down key issues during discussions with the project team, recorded by both attendees and the project team

## Key themes

Attendees were asked to identify key issues, constraints and features that are most important to them and the people who live in local communities. These key issues are shown below:







## Our response to comments received

Comments received from workshop attendees are important to us as we continue to refine our plans for Tillbridge Solar. Table 2 notes how the project is listening to feedback and how plans are being refined ahead of the statutory consultation, planned for the start of next year.

Table 2: Summary of key issues raised during collaboration workshops

Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p><b>Site Selection</b>            Comments highlighted concern about the potential size of the project, suggesting that the scale should be reduced to minimise impact on the local area.</p> <p>In particular, comments suggested that the project should be moved further away from Springthorpe, which would currently be impacted by indicative developable and non-developable areas.</p>	<p>We recognise that there are concerns about the size of the project that has been communicated at this stage, and how this would impact on the local area</p> <p>The figures stated at this stage for our indicative developable areas (1,000 hectares) and indicative non-developable areas (700 hectares), relate to the maximum extent of the project design. These areas are subject to change and will be refined through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ongoing engagement with landowners, local communities and key stakeholders</li> <li>• ongoing design work</li> <li>• environmental assessments</li> </ul> <p>This work will help us to identify the most suitable areas for development and enhancement/mitigation.</p> <p>Tillbridge Solar has secured a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA) with National Grid to allow 500MW of renewable energy to be transferred in to and out of their substation. We are now working to refine our proposals to ensure the project can generate as much energy as possible in line with this agreement, whilst balancing that objective against having acceptable environmental and local community constraints.</p> <p>In response to your comments, we have also removed approximately 200 hectares of land to the west of Springthorpe, which would no longer be required for landscape enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>



Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
	<p>This amendment has been informed by the initial results of habitat survey work, especially in relation to breeding birds. These early results suggest a less of a potential impact to breeding birds than originally envisaged, therefore, there is less of a need for mitigation measures in this area.</p> <p>We have also set back the project further to the east from the village. This means that our indicative non-developable areas are now approximately 400 hectares.</p> <p>In regard to site selection, we are continuing to refine our plans. The next stages of the project will be to produce an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report, which sets out the proposed cope of work and methods to be applied in carrying out the EIA.</p> <p>We will then be producing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which will be published at the same time as the commencement of a statutory consultation. The PEIR will present preliminary findings of survey work and environmental assessments in relation to the likely significant environmental effects of the development and will help inform consultee responses to the project.</p> <p>This preliminary stage will support the continued iterative design process with respect to site selection before taking on board consultee comments and finalising the DCO application and the Environmental Statement (ES).</p> <p>The PEIR will include a series of drawings that support the initial findings of the environmental assessment. This will include a parameter plan that illustrates the locations of the solar panels and associated infrastructure, including battery storage and substations and it will show areas for mitigation informed by environmental surveys. A landscape masterplan will also be prepared at this stage.</p>

Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p><b>Land use and agriculture</b>            Feedback during the workshops highlighted the importance of agricultural land and that this land should not be taken out of valuable food production.</p> <p>People also expressed concern about how agricultural land was noted as ‘lower quality’ and how the land was classified.</p> <p>Comments also suggested that solar panels should be sited on brownfield land, and rolled out on a larger scale on the roofs of houses and buildings.</p>	<p>An initial site selection assessment began in 2020 which identified suitable areas for solar development in the East of England. This assessment resulted in the exclusion of all agricultural land classified as Grade 1 and 2 from further consideration. Our desk-based surveys to date have identified all of the preferred land for the project site (where solar PV panels and associated infrastructure would be located) as being grade 3 classified agricultural land.</p> <p>At this stage, we do not know the extent of which this area is Grade 3a or 3b. This will be confirmed once survey work has been completed. As a project, we are committed to avoiding best and most versatile (BMV) land, where possible.</p> <p>Solar farms can provide a means for farmers to diversify supporting continued agricultural production whilst also delivering much needed renewable energy with the two uses being compatible. Land associated with the solar farm could be used for grazing and support could be provided to UK farmers as they continue food production on other parts of their land. The solar industry will continue to work closely with Britain’s farmers to reduce their energy costs and improve the sustainability of their operations.</p> <p>The initial site assessment completed to identify an area of search for the development of a solar farm considered the availability of brownfield sites. None of these were suitable due to their small size or where renewable energy would be contrary in land use terms to existing or emerging allocations within the Council’s development plan. There is an overriding need to achieve Net Zero with large-scale solar having an important role to play in this transition. The preferred site, following the initial site selection process, is suitable, available and deliverable for a solar farm. Building solar panels solely on brownfield sites, such as on buildings roofs, would not make a significant enough contribution to meet the Government’s objective of delivering 70GW of installed solar generation capacity by 2035. This would also then require additional land to be found to deliver competing uses to renewable energy, such as housing and employment on greenfield sites.</p>



Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p><b>Flood risk and drainage</b>            Comments during our workshops showed us that flood risk and drainage is an important issue with a history of flooding in villages such as Willingham, Springthorpe, Sturgate, Glentworth and Fillingham.</p> <p>People questioned whether the project would worsen the quality of land in the area and increase the risk of flooding.</p>	<p>As a project, we will carry out a site specific flood risk assessment. This will identify the existing baseline of the site and will assess whether the proposed development would result in an increase in flooding and if so, include mitigation measures. The flood risk assessment would set out any residual impacts following completion of the development and ensure that any new drainage proposed as part of the development is managed and maintained in perpetuity. The project would need to include sustainable urban drainage which will be detailed as part of a Drainage Statement. The initial site selection process has sought to identify land with the lowest probability of flooding.</p> <p>Initial information on flood risk and specific measures for mitigation and enhancements will be available in our PEIR and as a final proposal in our ES, submitted as part of our DCO application.</p>



Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p><b>Landscape and visual impact</b>                      Comments highlighted the importance of the landscape and its overall character and helped us identify a number of locations where the project could be visible from. This included Middle Street and Springthorpe Village.</p> <p>Workshop attendees also welcomed plans for all of the cable corridor to be underground, rather than pylons/other above-ground infrastructure.</p>	<p>A walk-over survey was undertaken following the completion of the initial site selection process. This survey informed the production of a landscape constraints, risk and opportunities plan. This plan identified areas at higher, medium and lower risk from landscape and visual impacts. This also included consideration of impacts associated with heritage assets and public rights of way. This initial work informed a refinement of the preferred site presented at the non-statutory consultation event in landscape and visual terms, as well as consideration of other environmental issues. Planning designations and key planning policies were also factored into this assessment, including recognition of important views highlighted in Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p>A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) will form an important part of our EIA. The PEIR will include the preliminary findings of survey work and environmental assessments in respect of this LVIA, which will be available for comment during statutory consultation. The PEIR will also include a draft outline landscape and ecology management plan to set out measures to mitigate the effects of the project on landscape and biodiversity. The LVIA will be refined following the PEIR stage to take onboard consultee comments. Landscape and visual impacts will be fully assessed within the EIA, with the final LVIA provided within the ES.</p> <p>As part of our early stage engagement, including with nearest neighbours to the project and key stakeholders, we have made a series of changes to the project to help reduce visual impact from sensitive receptors. This includes setting back to the project further from Middle Street, moving the project to the east from Springthorpe and pulling the project further back westwards from Glentworth. A summary of engagement with near neighbours is also provided on page 21 of this document, including how a series of changes to the project have been made.</p>





Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p><b>Cumulative impacts</b>                      Feedback highlighted concerns about the cumulative impact of multiple projects in the region. Attendees questioned whether all developers will be working collaboratively, sharing the same infrastructure, and assessed together once the planning applications have been submitted.</p>	<p>We recognise the impacts associated with multiple projects being developed in the region, including the connection of two projects at National Grid’s Cottam substation.</p> <p>Given the proximity of Tillbridge Solar to other solar projects, we are currently exploring opportunities for collaborative working, particularly where we have common interests to reduce the potential impacts of the project on local communities and the environment. We will continue to work collaboratively to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People are easily able to engage with each of our consultation processes and have opportunities to get involved.</li> <li>• All environmental effects are fully assessed, including any cumulative impacts.</li> <li>• A common-sense approach to construction is taken in order to minimise disruption, including sharing infrastructure and construction timelines, where feasible.</li> </ul> <p>A preliminary shortlist of cumulative developments will be prepared for the PEIR report for comment as part of the statutory consultation phase of the project. The methodology for undertaking the cumulative assessment will be in accordance with best practice and guidance. The final shortlist of cumulative developments will be presented within the ES.</p>

Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p><b>Archaeology</b>            Feedback helped us better understand the importance of local archaeology to the community, including historical Roman settlements and Torksey Road (and its link to Viking times).</p> <p>Workshop attendees also discussed potential opportunities for the project, including sharing archaeological data (with other developers), and creating educational initiatives for local people to understand more about Lincolnshire’s heritage.</p>	<p>Our early-stage plans for Tillbridge Solar have been designed to avoid heritage assets, where possible. The preferred site is located away from statutory listed buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Historic Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas. Initial work is being undertaken to assess the significance of all heritage assets within and adjoining the preferred site through consideration of the Council’s Historic Environment Record. This desk-based work will enable consideration of the potential impacts of the project upon cultural heritage as part of the PEIR.</p> <p>Our desk-based and field walkover studies are ongoing in relation to archaeology. Recent approval has been given by Lincolnshire County Council for the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the geophysical survey of the Principal Site. The geophysical survey will enable a greater understanding of archaeological potential and will inform the methodology for trial trenching. The results of this work will be fed into the ES, including measures for mitigation and residual impacts.</p> <p>We will also be working with statutory and technical stakeholders to agree an appropriate assessment methodology, and investigate opportunities to share information with other developers, ensuring the most efficient outcome for all parties.</p> <p>Educational initiatives for local people will be considered as we continue to develop our community benefits strategy.</p>





Important issues	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p><b>Traffic and access</b>                      We received valuable feedback about the condition of local roads and examples of routes that would not be suitable for heavy goods vehicles during the construction phase. Particular roads included Grange Lane, School Lane and Dog Kennel Road. The A15 and A161 were suggested as more suitable routes.</p>	<p>A full Transport Assessment (TA) and a Construction Traffic Management Plan will be produced for the project. The TA will assess the current usage of the local highway network and determine the highway impact of the proposed development upon existing roads. Traffic surveys have been undertaken to assess traffic flows in the local area and to inform a preliminary access strategy for the proposed development. The Construction Traffic Management Plan will set out how construction traffic is to be managed to reduce impacts within the local area.</p> <p>The TA and Construction Traffic Management Plan will be made available as part of the suite of documents supporting the statutory consultation. Traffic and access impacts will be considered at the PEIR stage with baseline data informing an assessment of the effect of the project upon traffic and access and any mitigation measures required. This will enable full engagement by consultees prior to the completion of the ES and submission of the DCO application to take onboard feedback. Feedback received in respect of specific roads and local routes at the non-statutory consultation stage will be taken on board as we continue to refine our plans.</p> <p>We recognise the importance of reducing traffic impacts locally, including those associated with having multiple projects in the area.</p>

## Engagement with near neighbours

In addition to the collaboration workshops, early stage engagement also included meeting with near neighbours to the development site. Properties were selected based on their proximity to the development site (where the solar PV panels and associated infrastructure would be located), with the project team pre-arranging meetings (by contacting known individuals, such as landowners), or by 'door-knocking'. In total, 19 properties/sets of interested parties were met with across three separate site visits. This included meeting with local residents and farmers, which has also resulted in return visits in subsequent weeks.

These meetings took place prior to the workshops and involved representatives of the project (including land agent and technical specialists) providing introductory information about the project and welcoming comments on how plans could be refined.

A summary of comments received during these visits is provided in Table 3, along with how changes to the project have been made.

Table 3: Summary of near neighbour comments

Summary of comments	Response and relevant changes to the project
Residents were concerned that the project is being brought forward alongside other solar developments in the area. There was concern about the potential cumulative effect on the landscape and its visual impact, especially from residential properties.	Where the project is nearest to other solar developments, plans have been refined to ensure relevant areas are to be used for mitigation planting such as woodland, rather than solar PV panels and infrastructure. We are committed to tree planting and mitigation along routes (including Kexby Road), which will help limit or prevent views of multiple schemes in combination.
Concerns were raised by some residents about proximity and visibility of the scheme to properties, with the open, rural views being highly valued.	Following discussions and observations from residential properties, the indicative developable areas have been setback further in a number of locations. Key views from such locations, along with consideration of the subtle local topography, has informed proposed mitigation buffers (ensuring a larger space between the developable areas and sensitive receptors), including woodland and hedgerows.
Residents questioned whether planting that offers ecological value, including fruit trees, could be included in the plans for the project.	Planting, as proposed for mitigation and enhancement, will be selected to be best adapted to the specific site conditions. The project hopes to deliver maximum diversity and offer features that provide benefits to local people, such as the provision of orchard trees.



Summary of comments	Response and relevant changes to the project
<p>Some residents raised concerns about the potential impacts on existing rural traffic routes (for construction traffic), along with where site access would be taken. Questions were asked about which farm access tracks may be used, which could have a negative impact on the quiet rural amenity along with the safety of families who use the routes adjacent to houses and gardens.</p>	<p>Plans are currently being refined in regard to how site is accessed both during construction and operation of the project. Sensitive routes that are unsuitable for heavy or frequent vehicle movements will be avoided, where possible.</p>
<p>Some residents raised concerns about the impacts on the welfare of livestock, such as from noise and disruption arising during construction of the project.</p>	<p>The project is working to refine the location of the solar PV panels (within the developable area) to ensure minimal impact on livestock. Mitigation proposals are also being developed.</p>
<p>Some residents questioned the proximity of the project to local villages, along with potential impacts on amenity of local people who use recreational routes such as permissive paths.</p>	<p>Further buffers have been included between villages such as Springthorpe, to avoid visual impacts and allow opportunities for more extensive and focused mitigation in these areas.</p>
<p>Queries were raised as to how much ecological mitigation would be incorporated, how it would be managed through the lifetime of the project, and what would happen at decommissioning.</p>	<p>Management of features such as woodland, hedges and species-rich grassland will be clearly explained as the plans are developed in more detail. This will include clarity on the frequency on cutting, thinning and hedge height to ensure careful management during the construction, operation and decommissioning of the project.</p>
<p>Discussions with landowners provided opportunities to identify suitable areas for mitigation and enhancement, including areas of lower agricultural value.</p>	<p>The plans are now being developed in more detail to include specific fields and areas that would be suitable for tree planting or ecological enhancement.</p>

## 5. Frequently Asked Questions

**In addition to the FAQs on our website, we recognise a number of questions you may have at this stage. Some of these questions were asked at our collaboration workshops, however, please get in touch if you have any further questions about the project.**

**Would the project result in substantial loss in land, which is currently used for food production?**

As reported in a 2022 report<sup>1</sup> from Solar Energy UK, new solar farms in the UK occupy roughly four acres of land per megawatt of installed capacity. This accounts for 0.08% of total land use in the UK, which would increase to 0.4-0.6% should the UK meet its Net Zero targets of between 75GW of solar by 2035.

However, we do recognise the importance of agriculture in Lincolnshire and the number of large-scale solar projects that are being proposed in this region. Tillbridge Solar alone would provide equivalent energy needs for around 200,000 households with low-cost energy.

We have also been engaging with the Planning Inspectorate in respect of how projects in the region are assessed together. This will include joint impacts on land and how these impacts could be reduced.

To help reduce the impact on agricultural land in the region, we are committed to selecting areas of land that avoids best and most versatile land (BMV) where possible (Grades 1, 2 and 3a). In this regard, we are undertaking survey work to assess whether any of the Grade 3 land is 3a (BMV). The outcome of this survey will then need to be considered and balanced against all other issues associated with the development.

The proposals would allow land (that has previously been intensively farmed), to recover and become more productive following the operational lifespan of the project, ultimately safeguarding the agricultural usage of this land for future generations. Equipment will be reviewed the end of the design life of the project to determine whether it remains in a viable condition to continue operation after that time.



### Why are multiple projects being brought forward in this area? Why can the project not be sited nearer to Cottam Power Station?

The decommissioning of Cottam Power Station (in 2019) has provided additional spare grid connection capacity and the opportunity for the region to play an important role in renewable energy generation in years to come.

We are aware that we are not the only developers to recognise the need for increased solar generation and the opportunity in this area, with approximately 2,000 MW of grid capacity now available at National Grid's Cottam substation. We have secured a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA) to allow 500MW of renewable energy to be transferred in to and out of their substation. We are now working to refine our proposals to ensure the project can generate as much energy as possible in line with this agreement.

We will also be working with other developers to share information and explore opportunities for coordination and cooperation, where possible.

In regard to the area surrounding Cottam, our desk-based Site Search Assessment, which dates back to 2020, has identified this area as a high-risk flood zone. It is therefore not suitable to hosting large-scale solar projects and ground-mounted panels and was discounted from our options appraisal process at an early stage.

### What is actually meant by Biodiversity Net Gain?

Ground-mounted solar projects, such as Tillbridge Solar, can deliver major benefits to the environment. In addition to providing clean, affordable energy – addressing the nation's energy security and net zero ambitions – the project would improve local biodiversity by supporting new and existing plant and animal life.

The importance of environmental benefits is recognised in the Environment Act 2021 (the Environment Act). The Environment Act introduces a mandatory requirement to deliver a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) compared against the pre-development biodiversity value of at least a 10% for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects through revisions made to the Planning Act 2008. Although these requirements have not yet come into force and are subject to regulations, Tillbridge Solar Limited is already instilling the concept of BNG into its design for the Project.

It is likely that the Project will deliver significantly more BNG than 10% with many solar farms achieving net increases of upwards of 80%. Our plans at this early stage show indicative non-developable areas, where we will be considering specific environmental mitigation and enhancement measures. These specific measures could include preserving, restoring or delivering new hedgerow growth, creating new habitats for pollinators, butterflies and ground nesting birds, and promoting wetland habitats. The project could also provide drainage solutions for the site, which would reduce local flood risk, whilst simultaneously supporting wetland habitats.

### Will Tillbridge Solar be built with the landscape in mind?

Landscape and visual impact forms an important element of our EIA work and it is essential for these impacts to be minimised. By engaging with key community representatives and wider stakeholders from an early stage, this is helping us to mitigate any concerns you may have and this will continue as we receive feedback during our statutory consultation at the start of next year.

We are considering a number of landscape management options, including:

- Sensitively designing the project, including using the existing landscape and considering the best locations for developable areas in the context of local features and lines of sight.
- Screening sites by encouraging existing and supporting new hedgerow and tree growth.

Consideration of new rights of way, including permissive paths through the project.

### Why can panels not be manufactured in the UK and will any other local suppliers benefit?

As we are still in the early stages of our plans, we are yet to make all final decisions about suppliers for the project. Our specialist team will be working to create a robust supply chain plan, which will outline potential local benefits throughout the construction and operation of the project. On a local level, Tillbridge Solar could create many temporary and permanent jobs and provide wider benefits for the local community and regional economy.

We recognise that the development of large-scale solar is still a relatively new technology in the UK and is therefore not commonly manufactured in this country. Our assessments will consider how the project could be built in a way that maximises the use of local suppliers, where possible.



## 6. Next steps

**We would like to thank everyone that took part in our collaboration workshops. Your comments and engagement has helped us to understand the key issues and constraints and what's important to you as we continue to refine our plans.**

Your comments have also helped us to refine certain aspects of the project and provide suggestions for how we carry out our detailed environmental assessment and design work. We will be sharing more detail on our design in due course, including as part of our EIA Scoping Report and during our statutory consultation, planned for the start of 2023.

Our EIA Scoping Report will provide an overview of the proposed development and the baseline environmental surveys. It will also describe how we will be assessing the likely significant environmental effects of the project. This report will be part of a formal request for a scoping opinion from PINS, who acts on behalf of the Secretary of State, on the information to be included in our final ES. As part of this work, PINS will then engage with the relevant consultation bodies, which will establish the scope and level of detail to be provided in our environmental assessments for the project.

A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) will build on the environmental assessments outlined in the Scoping Report and will be published as part of the statutory consultation process, in accordance with the Planning Act 2008. The PEIR will outline the initial findings of the EIA and identify proposed mitigation measures which would reduce any environmental impacts. We will be actively seeking comments from all stakeholders at this stage and will be an opportunity to shape the design of the project and our ongoing EIA work.

We will then prepare a final ES, which will build on the content in our PEIR and describe the outcomes of our assessments, along with how comments and feedback received during statutory consultation have been taken on board. The ES will also outline any changes to the project and any mitigation and enhancement measures that we are proposing. This will form part of our final DCO application, which we are planning to submit to the Planning Inspectorate in Q3 2023.

Alongside this environmental work, consultation and engagement will continue to be important as we refine our plans. All comments and feedback received during our pre-application consultation, and how our plans have changed in response to this, will be reported in a final Consultation Report, submitted alongside our DCO application.

## 7. Consultation and engagement

We are planning to hold our statutory consultation at the start of next year, where we will also publish our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). This document will describe how we will be engaging with and seeking feedback from the local community and how people can get involved. We will be engaging with LPAs at this stage and asking for them to comment on our approach to consultation before publishing a final document.

Before we hold this consultation, we will be continuing to engage with key stakeholders, including local residents, parish councils, landowners, and interest groups, along with statutory and technical consultees, including local planning authorities and wider environmental groups. We will also be engaging with other developers to see how we can work constructively together.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any further questions about Tillbridge Solar or would like to speak with a member of the project team.

You can contact us using the details below:



[www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)



[info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)



0800 046 9643



FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR.



# Contact us

If you have any questions about Tillbridge Solar, please don't hesitate to contact the project team using the details below.



[www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)



[info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)



0800 046 9643



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(please note that no stamp is required)

You can also sign-up for updates and contact us using our comment form on our website.

If you would like this document in large print, audio or braille formats, please contact us using the details above.

All graphics and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes.

A-9.1: Example of an email issued to stakeholders following the collaboration workshop

Dear [Sir/Madam, insert name of relevant community group, Councillor, Parish Council]

As you may be aware, we held a series of collaboration workshops as part of our early stage engagement for Tillbridge Solar. The three workshops, held in July 2022, provided the opportunity for the Tillbridge Solar team to introduce the early-stage plans and explain more about our proposals.

Each workshop included a series of presentations, question and answer sessions and opportunities for attendees to have their say. Engagement during the workshops has been important to us as we continue to refine our plans for Tillbridge Solar.

We are now in a position to share the attached *Post-collaboration workshop report*, which provides the following information:

- Introductory information about Tillbridge Solar
- Overview of the approach to consultation
- Summary of the collaboration workshops, including format and information presented
- Overview of feedback and key themes, along with our responses to comments
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Overview of next steps for the project

We would like to thank everyone that took part in our collaboration workshops. Your comments have helped us to refine certain aspects of the project and provide suggestions for how we carry out our detailed environmental assessment and design work. We will be sharing more detail on our design in due course, including as part of our statutory consultation, planned for the start of 2023.

A copy of the workshop report, along with a copy of the presentation slides, have also been uploaded to our website ([www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)). Following publication of this report, we will also be issuing copies of our latest community newsletter to local communities.

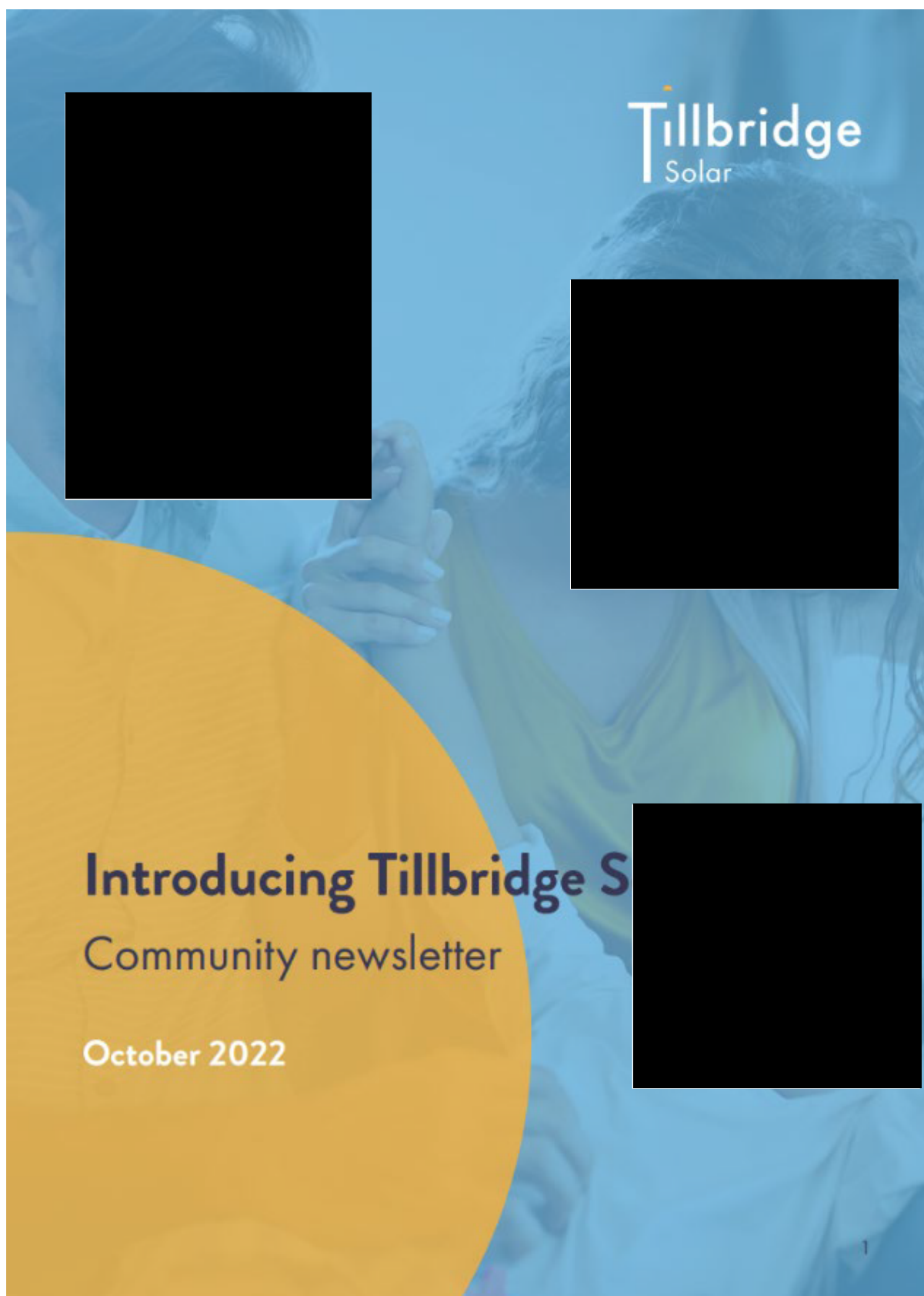
If you have any questions about this report or the project itself please contact the community relations team by responding by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or telephone (0800 046 9643). We also welcome the opportunity to meet with you again to discuss the project updates in more detail or answer any further questions you may have. More information can also be found on the project website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)

Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray  
Project Director  
Tillbridge Solar  
Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
Freephone : 0800 046 9643  
Website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)



## Appendix A-10: Community Newsletter (October 2022)



## Introduction

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project which would involve the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire.

The project would also include infrastructure for connection to the National Grid at Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire.

The project, known as Tillbridge Solar, would allow for the generation, storage, export and import of electricity with an anticipated capacity greater than 50 megawatts (MW).


This newsletter has been produced to introduce you to our early-stage proposals. It includes information on who we are, and what we are looking to develop, and how you can get involved. If you have any questions, please get in touch using the contact details at the end of this newsletter.

## Who we are

Tillbridge Solar Limited is a joint venture partnership between Tribus Clean Energy Ltd and Canadian Solar, who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects. They are being supported by a team of technical specialists.

Founded in 2018, Tribus Clean Energy Ltd specialises in the development of renewable energy projects, and has a UK solar PV development pipeline of over 1.5 gigawatts (GW) and a pipeline of over three gigawatt hours (GWh) of Battery and Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Founded in 2001, Canadian Solar is a leading manufacturer of solar PV modules and provider of solar energy solutions, and has a UK solar development pipeline of over 2GW, with over 4GWh of BESS.



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**Our vision** for Tillbridge Solar is to deliver cleaner, greener, and lower cost energy, while also enhancing the local environment and ensuring we are a responsible developer.

## Our objectives are to:

- Build a solar farm that will contribute UK's zero-carbon future and enhance Lincolnshire's reputation as the home of ground-breaking clean energy projects.
- Provide equivalent energy needs for around 200,000 households with low-cost energy, generated in the UK at a time of great uncertainty within the energy market.
- Increase biodiversity and enhance existing ecology, to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain and maximise opportunities to create new habitats for wildlife.
- Develop a project in a responsible and considerate way, including collaboration with other local developers.
- Provide opportunities for community involvement from an early stage.
- Ensure local landscape is central to the project's design.
- Provide opportunities for local communities and the local economy.

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## Tillbridge Solar

Tillbridge Solar would be located on land to the south, east and south-east of Gainsborough, north-west of Lincoln.

The electricity generated from the project would then connect to National Grid's Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire. Tillbridge Solar has secured a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA) with National Grid to allow 500MW of renewable energy to be transferred in to and out of their substation. We are now working to refine our proposals to ensure the project can generate as much energy as possible in line with this agreement.

As shown on the next page of this newsletter, we have identified initial preferred areas for development. These areas have been refined following our early-stage engagement and ongoing assessment and design work.

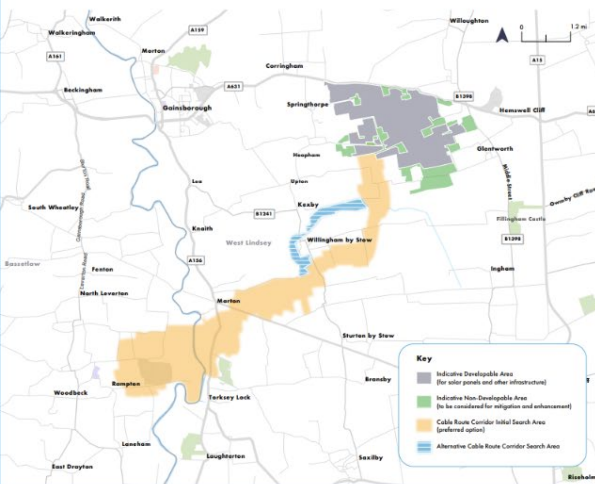
## What would the project involve?

At this early stage, the following areas have been identified:

- Developable areas**  
 These areas would be where all solar PV panels and associated infrastructure would be located. This area sits on approximately 1,000 hectares of predominantly agricultural land. An energy storage solution could also be located on site, which would provide an opportunity to store solar power which is not immediately required and then release it when it is needed.
- Cable corridor search area**  
 Our underground cable corridor would be approximately 16km in length and would connect Tillbridge Solar to National Grid's Cottam substation. This corridor typically varies in width (between 35m in some places to over 100m in others) and will be made narrower as the project progresses. The final trench would typically be 3.5m in width and 2m in depth. Land would be reinstated back to its previous condition once the cable is laid and we anticipate that farming activities will be able to continue.
- Non-developable areas**  
 These areas are being considered for mitigation and enhancement, such as tree planting and habitat creation, which would provide significant biodiversity net gain. This area amounts to an additional 400 hectares, with no permanent infrastructure planned in these areas.

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## The Project



Indicative map for illustrative purposes

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### The Development Process

Tillbridge Solar is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 as it is proposed to have a generating capacity exceeding 50MW. We will be applying for a Development Consent Order (DCO) through the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). The application will be determined by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Engagement with local planning authorities will continue to be integral in this process and they will be involved in further consultation activities, including a period of statutory consultation (planned for early 2023) and during the examination process following submission of our DCO application (planned for Q3 2023).



### Public consultation

It is our objective to deliver renewable energy generation in a way that respects the interests of local neighbours and the wider community. As our plans are still at an early stage, your ongoing engagement and local knowledge will be important in helping us to refine our plans further.

Our engagement and collaboration activities commenced in summer 2022, following an extensive period of site selection and assessment work dating back to 2020. Our engagement has included speaking with landowners and near neighbours to the project, statutory consultees (including local planning authorities), and wider local interest and environmental groups.

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### Collaboration workshops

As part of our early-stage engagement, we held a series of collaboration workshops in the area with elected representatives, such as local councillors and parish councils, along with environmental and community groups.

Our workshops allowed us to introduce our early-stage proposals. This engagement has helped shape the project and allowed members of the community and other stakeholders to discuss key aspects of our plans in more detail.

A full summary of our collaboration workshops, including the key issues and information discussed, can be found as a report on our website. This report also provides a summary of comments received during the workshops and how we are continuing to refine the project in response to these.

The map on the next page shows our high-level indicative masterplan for the project development site, which highlights some areas of the project we have developed in response to engagement during our workshops. It will continue to evolve as we refine our proposals.

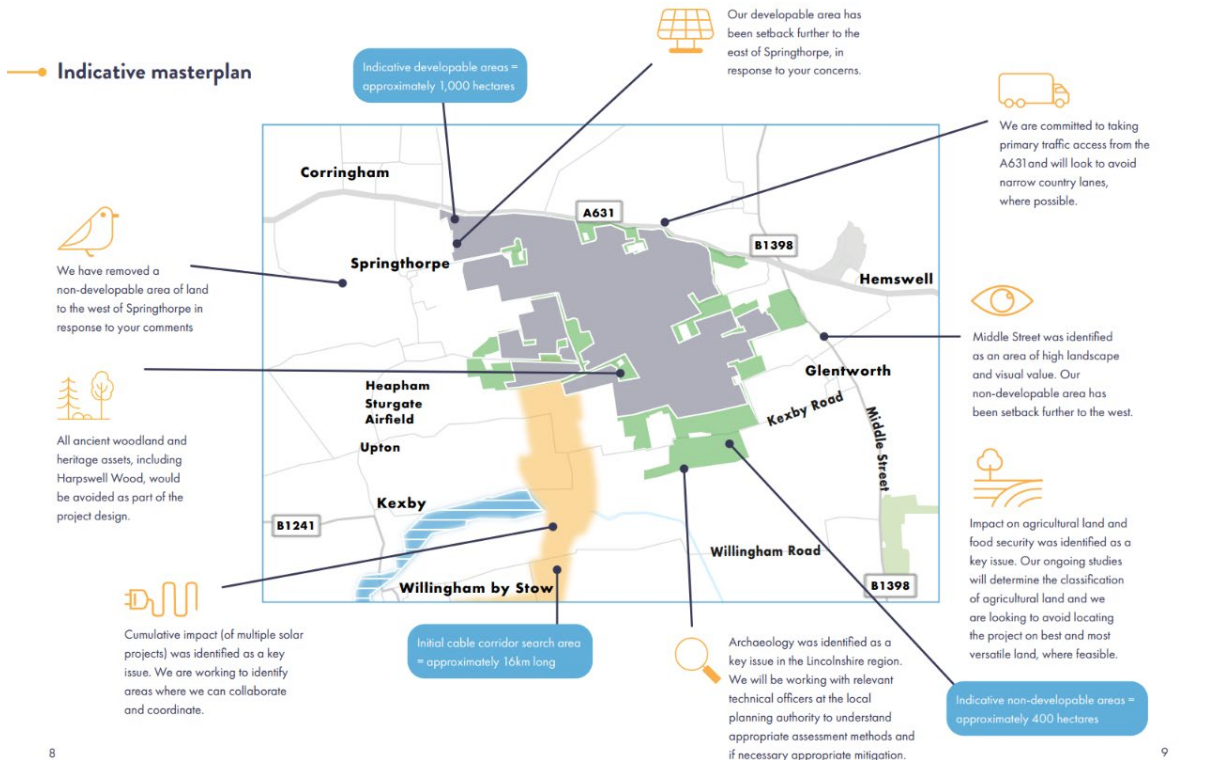
### Working with other developers

We are aware there are a number of other proposed solar developments in the area and understand the uncertainty around some of the impacts these projects could cumulatively have on local communities. We have been and will continue to work constructively with these other developers to ensure:

- People are easily able to engage with each of our consultation processes and have opportunities to get involved.
- All environmental effects are fully assessed, including any cumulative impacts.
- A common-sense approach to construction is taken in order to minimise disruption, including sharing infrastructure and construction timelines, where feasible.

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### Indicative masterplan



Indicative developable areas = approximately 1,000 hectares

Initial cable corridor search area = approximately 16km long

Indicative non-developable areas = approximately 400 hectares

Our developable area has been setback further to the east of Springthorpe, in response to your concerns.

We are committed to taking primary traffic access from the A631 and will look to avoid narrow country lanes, where possible.

Middle Street was identified as an area of high landscape and visual value. Our non-developable area has been setback further to the west.

Impact on agricultural land and food security was identified as a key issue. Our ongoing studies will determine the classification of agricultural land and we are looking to avoid locating the project on best and most versatile land, where feasible.

Archaeology was identified as a key issue in the Lincolnshire region. We will be working with relevant technical officers at the local planning authority to understand appropriate assessment methods and if necessary appropriate mitigation.

We have removed a non-developable area of land to the west of Springthorpe in response to your comments.

All ancient woodland and heritage assets, including Harpswell Wood, would be avoided as part of the project design.

Cumulative impact (of multiple solar projects) was identified as a key issue. We are working to identify areas where we can collaborate and coordinate.

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### Next steps

We would like to thank everyone who took part in our early-stage engagement, which has helped us build relationships with landowners, near neighbours and key local representatives. This engagement will be important as we continue to refine our plans.

We are planning to hold our statutory consultation at the start of next year, which will provide an opportunity for you to attend face-to-face consultation events\* and meet the project team.

At this point, we will be presenting our preliminary environmental information and further details about the project. We will also publish a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which will set out our proposed consultation methods.

If you have any questions about the project, or would like to meet with us before we hold our statutory consultation, please get in touch using the details on the back page of this newsletter.



### More Information – Scoping Report

We have also submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This presents our current proposals in more detail and describes how we will be assessing the environmental effects of the proposed development.

This is available from the Planning Inspectorate's website, or can be requested from us, using the details on the back cover. In due course the Secretary of State will publish a scoping opinion which will be used to take forward our environmental impact assessment.

\* Subject to any public health restrictions being in place.

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### Project timeline



- 2022 - Q3-Q4**  
Informal engagement and collaboration, and ongoing environmental assessment work.
- 2022 - Q3**  
EIA Scoping  
Request submitted to the PINS.
- 2023 - Q1**  
Publication of our Statement of SoCC and ongoing development of our EIA.
- 2023 - Q1**  
Statutory consultation and initial environmental findings presented.
- 2023 - Q2-Q3**  
Ongoing design refinement and environmental assessment work.
- 2023 - Q3**  
Submission of DCO application to PINS for public examination.
- 2023 - 2024**  
DCO examination and decision.
- 2025**  
Anticipated start of construction.

# Contact us

If you have any questions about Tillbridge Solar, please don't hesitate to contact the project team using the details below.



[www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)



[info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)



0800 046 9643



**FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR**

(please note that no stamp is required)

You can also sign-up for updates and contact us using our comment form on our website.

If you would like this document in large print, audio or braille formats, please contact us using the details above.

All graphics and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes.

## Appendix A-11: Electronic distribution list for community newsletter and post-collaboration workshop report (October 2022)

### Invitees to workshop #1 (Wednesday 20 July 2022)

Cllr Paul Howitt-Cowan	West Lindsey District Council
Cllr Roger Patterson	West Lindsey District Council
Cllr Tracey Coulson	West Lindsey District Council
Cllr Jane Ellis	West Lindsey District Council
Cllr Jesse Milne	West Lindsey District Council
Cllr James Naish	Bassetlaw District Council
Cllr Ante Coultate	Bassetlaw District Council
Cllr Colin Davie	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Richard Butroid	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Richard Davies	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Clio Perraton-Williams	Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Richard Butler	Nottinghamshire County Council
Cllr Neil Clarke	Nottinghamshire County Council
Cllr Ian Fleetwood	West Lindsey District Council
Cllr John Ogle	Nottinghamshire County Council

### Invitees to workshop #2 (Thursday 21 July 2022)

#### 'Host' Parish Councils

Corringham Parish Council
Springthorpe Parish Meeting
Heapham Parish Meeting
Harpwell and Hemswell Parish Council
Glentworth Parish Council
Fillingham Parish Meeting
Kexby Parish Council
Willingham by Stow Parish Council
Stow Parish Council
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council
Treswell with Cottam Parish Council
Rampton and Woodbeck Parish Council
Upton Parish Council
Torksey Parish Council
Brampton Parish Council

#### 'Neighbouring' Parish Councils

North Leverton With Hablesthorpe Parish Council
Ingham Parish Council



Pilham Parish Council
Blyborough Parish Council
Willoughton Parish Council
Hemswell Cliff Parish Council
Glentham Parish Council
Normanby by Spital Parish Council
Owmy-by-Spital Parish Council
Laneham Parish Council
Kettlethorpe Parish Council
Fenton Parish Council
Sturton by Stow Parish Council

## Local interest groups

The Ramblers Association
Active Lincolnshire
Lincolnshire Gliding Club
North Lincs Riding Club
Lincoln & District Angling Association (LDAA)
Sport England
Cycling UK Lincolnshire
Gainsborough Aegir Cycling Club
Spalding Cycling Club
Cycling UK Nottinghamshire
Lincolnshire Walking Group
Sustrans (East Midlands)
Lincs Inspire
Federation of Small Businesses
Lincolnshire Rural Support Network
Lincs Rural
Rural Business Network
Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership
RAF Ingham Heritage Centre
RAF Scampton
Nottinghamshire Local Access Forum
'Springline Parish,
St Andrew's Church,
Fillingham
'Glentworth St Michael's Church
'St Chad's Church Harpswell
The Ramblers (Nottinghamshire Representative)
Nottinghamshire Footpaths Preservation Society
British Horse Society (Nottinghamshire representative)
Lincoln Aero Club
Willingham by Stow Horticultural Society
Millhaven Canine Rehabilitation
Lincolnshire Rescue Kennels
National Farmers Union
Lincoln Golf Club

Country Land and Business Association
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### Invitees to workshop #3 (Friday 22 July 2022)

Natural England
Historic England
The Environment Agency
Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)
The Council for British Archaeology
Lincoln Archaeology Group
RSPB
Woodland Trust
The British Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership Society
Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology
National Trust
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust
Lincolnshire Rivers Trust
Walking in England
North Lincolnshire Local Access Forum
Scunthorpe & Gainsborough Water Management Board
Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board.
Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce
Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Lincolnshire Conservation Group

### Technical experts – local authorities

Graham Bowden (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Heather Stokes (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Jan Witko (Nottinghamshire County Council)
Richard Leonard (Lincolnshire County Council)
Kate Perceival (Lincolnshire County Council)
Ian George (Lincolnshire County Council)
Ian Field (Lincolnshire County Council)
Matthew Harrison (Lincolnshire County Council)
Chris Miller (Lincolnshire County Council)
Joanna Rhodes (Lincolnshire County Council)

### Additional stakeholders

### Members of Parliament

Rt Hon.	Edward	Leigh	MP
	Robert	Jenrick	MP
Mr	Brendan	Clarke-Smith	MP
Mr	Gareth	Davies	MP

Rt Hon.	John	Hayes	MP
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## Wider Councillors

Councillor	Martin John	Hill OBE	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor	Patricia Anne	Bradwell OBE	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor	Michael	Brookes	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor	Alison	Austin	Lincolnshire County Council
Ms	Debbie	Barnes OBE	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor	Ben	Bradley	Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor	Bruce	Laughton	Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor	Mike	Quigley MBE	Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor	Roger	Jackson	Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor	Anne	Welburn	West Lindsey District Council
Councillor	Steve	England	West Lindsey District Council
Councillor	Angela	Lawrence	West Lindsey District Council
Mr	Ian	Knowles	West Lindsey District Council
Councillor	Simon	Greaves	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Jo	White	Bassetlaw District Council
	David	Armiger	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Jack P	Bowker	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Madelaine	Richardson	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Robert	Waller	West Lindsey District Council
Councillor	David G	Pidwell	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Sybil	Fielding	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Lindsey Ann	Cawrey	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor	Susan	Woolley	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor	Keith	Girling	Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor	Tracey	Taylor	Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor	Liz	Clews	West Lindsey District Council
Councillor	Lewis	Stanniland	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Shirley	Isard	Bassetlaw District Council
Councillor	Jeff	Summers	West Lindsey District Council

## Additional local interest/seldom heard groups

Willingham by Stow Horticultural Society
Springline Parish, St Andrew's Church, Fillingham
Active Lincolnshire
Ramblers - Lincolnshire Area
Ramblers - Lincolnshire Area
Lincs Inspire
The Victorian Society
Churches Together in All Lincolnshire
Salvation Army
Christians Against Poverty
CARE



Islamic Association of Lincoln
Sleaford Islamic Centre
East Midlands Synod
Lincolnshire Jewish Community
The Jack Brunton Charitable Trust
The Principle Trust Children's Charity
Disability Lincs
Lincolnshire Youth and Community Development
Lincolnshire Young Farmers
Nottinghamshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs
SENSE Lincolnshire
Carers First Lincolnshire
Healthwatch Lincolnshire
LEAP - Housing Support Service
Lincolnshire Food Partnership
Gainsborough Local Access Programme
Lincolnshire Housing Partnership
Invest North East Lincolnshire
UK Alternative Energy
Business Lincolnshire
Lincolnshire Energy Centre
Confederation of British Industry
Lincoln Business Improvement Group
Team Lincolnshire
LTC – Beat It! Social Isolation
Lincolnshire Polish Society
Lincolnshire Gypsy Liaison Group
Friends, Families & Travellers
National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
Lincolnshire Travellers Initiative
Lincolnshire Pamoja
Nottingham Equal
Muslim Council of Britain
Young Lincolnshire
Lincolnshire Bird Club

## Appendix A-12: Community Newsletter (March 2024)

### A-12.1: Copy of Newsletter



## Introduction

**Tillbridge Solar Limited (referred to as “Tillbridge Solar”) is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage scheme (referred to as the “Scheme”) located to the east of Gainsborough and to the north of Lincoln. The Scheme will export and import electricity to the national electricity transmission network at the Cottam substation in Nottinghamshire.**

The Scheme is being brought forward by Tribus Clean Energy Ltd and Recurrent Energy (a subsidiary of Canadian Solar), who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects. They are being supported by a team of technical specialists.

Last year we held a public consultation, which ran for six weeks between 30 May and 11 July. This newsletter provides a summary of our consultation and the work we have carried out since then.

## Why is the Scheme needed?

**Our vision for the Scheme is to deliver cleaner, greener, and lower-cost energy, while also enhancing the local environment and ensuring that we are a responsible developer.**

The UK has set ambitious climate change targets to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and to ensure that the energy supply remains secure, reliable, and affordable. With legally binding commitments such as these, the government has further set out how the deployment of renewable technologies such

as wind, nuclear, solar and hydrogen will be accelerated in its latest Energy Security Strategy (published in 2022).

In this strategy, a key aim is to increase the UK’s solar capacity five-fold by 2035, which would increase the total generation capacity from 14 gigawatts (GW) today to around 70GW in the future. Tillbridge Solar would make a significant contribution towards achieving these targets and help provide a reliable source of affordable energy.



2





## —● Scheme location

Our proposals for the Scheme include a Principal Site, which comprises “developable” areas (where all solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, energy storage and associated infrastructure would be located) and “non-developable” areas (which are being considered for environmental mitigation and

enhancement measures), and a Cable Route Corridor. The Cable Route Corridor comprises a 400kV underground cable of approximately 16km in length connecting the Principal Site to the national electricity transmission network at National Grid’s Cottam Substation.



A more detailed plan showing developable and non-developable areas within the Principal Site can be found on pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter.

## — Consultation undertaken to date





As part of the early-stage engagement for the Scheme, in summer 2022 we held a series of collaboration workshops in the local area with elected representatives, as well as with environmental and community groups. A full summary of our collaboration workshops, including the key issues and information discussed, can be found in our workshop report on our website ([tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library](http://tillbridgesolar.com/documents-library)).

We then held our statutory consultation, which ran for six weeks from 30 May to 11 July 2023. As part of our consultation,

we provided information on our more developed proposals, including the proposed Principal Site layout and the refined Cable Route Corridor.




We produced a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) before our statutory consultation, which explained the consultation methods we would be using. We have also held an additional round of targeted statutory consultation between 14 December 2023 and 25 January 2024.

Our consultation implemented the actions set out in the SoCC and consisted of:

-  Engaging with political representatives and landowners.
-  Distributing newsletters to approximately 5,000 addresses, including additional communication with near neighbours to the Principal Site.
-  Holding six in-person consultation events and two public consultation webinar events.
-  Advertising our consultation in eight digital and print publications and on social media.

We would like to thank everybody who took part in our consultation, both at the in-person events and in the online sessions.

During our consultation we:

-  Received 57 feedback forms and 68 email feedback responses
-  Welcomed 173 people to our information events
-  Had 9680 visitors to our website

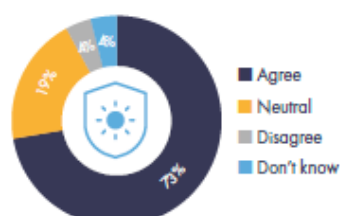
## — What you told us

The statutory consultation for Tillbridge Solar provided an opportunity for people to comment on our proposals. We would like to thank everyone for your comments, which have helped us to further understand the local area and develop our plans for the Scheme.

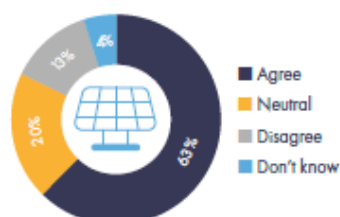
Your feedback to this consultation, combined with further assessments and engagement with other stakeholders, has allowed us to further refine our proposals for the Scheme.

We asked for feedback on the Scheme and asked for specific comments on our proposals for landscape and environmental design, operation and decommissioning and the conclusions of our preliminary environmental information report.

We also asked several questions about your general support for renewable energy and the Scheme, and the findings are shown here.



73% of respondents agreed that energy security is an important issue.



63% of respondents agreed that the UK needs more renewable energy.

## — The key consultation themes

The following pages summarise some of the key themes that came out of your feedback and what we're doing in response to these. A full breakdown of your feedback from the statutory consultation, and how your points have been addressed, will be provided in a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of our final Development Consent Order (DCO) application.

A number of changes to the Scheme's Principal Site can also be found on pages 8–9 of this newsletter and on our website. The updated design of the Scheme will also be available as part of our application for the DCO.

## — Visual impacts

### You said

The visual impact of the Scheme was one of the most frequently mentioned topics in the feedback we received. You raised concerns over the scale of the Scheme and the resulting change in the character and nature of the area.

### What we're doing

We acknowledge that solar schemes of this scale will result in a change to the character of the landscape. The relatively low profile of solar panels means that they are more easily screened by hedges and trees than other forms of renewable energy generation. We have focussed on reducing visual impacts through a design-led approach during which we have made changes following both consultation feedback and our survey findings.

Early design changes have included pulling back the panel areas from Springthorpe, Sturgate and nearby footpaths, as well as proposing areas of native woodland around sensitive locations such as houses. This has been informed by early discussions with residents close to the proposed Scheme boundary. Following statutory consultation, we removed solar panels from fields and introduced more ecological areas close to the former Harpswell Hall, which is the focus of walking routes and where views are available from the historic moat, reflected in the Neighbourhood Plan. We have also removed panels from a field to reduce visibility from Glentworth and properties on Kexby Road, and introduced more planting along the A631.

We recognise the value that many people place on views from Lincoln Cliff, and we have been working hard to balance proposals for new planting to screen the solar panels such as along Middle Street, while also seeking to maintain open views from Lincoln Cliff. We have avoided proposing solar panels close to the Cliff and within the Area of High Landscape Value from the earliest stages of design.

We feel it is important to note that although landscape and visual effects will arise, the Scheme offers an opportunity to create, enhance and reconnect landscapes and habitats that will result in a more extensive, varied and resilient 'green infrastructure' across the Scheme. This will include native species-rich grasslands, woodland, hedgerows, wetlands and trees.





## Cumulative impacts

### You said

You mentioned the impact of the multiple schemes in the area, including comments about wider changes in the landscape character beyond the Tillbridge Scheme.

### What we're doing

Since our initial engagement with Gate Burton Energy Park and Cottam and West Burton Solar Projects in 2022, we have continued to work extensively with the respective developers to fully assess and understand the cumulative impacts of all schemes together and how we can sensitively develop our proposals for Tillbridge Solar before we submit our DCO application.

Specifically, our work has focused on:

- Carrying out a detailed cumulative impact assessment, which will be available as part of our DCO application.
- Inputting to a Joint Report on the Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects with the other solar developers.
- Establishing cooperation between all developers, which has involved regular meetings and sharing of technical data and assessments (meaning new surveys do not need to be undertaken in many cases).
- Developing our mitigation proposals in more detail to reduce the cumulative impacts of all schemes, for example, sharing cable corridors and access locations where possible.

## Battery safety

### You said

Feedback was received about safety, particularly around Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and fires, with questions regarding mitigation. A number of people asked for risk assessments to consider the impact of accidental fires from the Principal Site on any nearby locations.

### What we're doing

Fire safety has been given thorough consideration and we can commit to the Scheme being constructed and operated in compliance with a battery fire safety plan. An outline of this

plan has been prepared by an industry-leading expert and has been informed by consultation with Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service (FRS). It will reflect the latest BESS safety codes and standards and each container would be isolated and would contain an automatic fire control system.

A detailed battery fire safety management plan will be prepared and approved by stakeholders once the detailed design of the Scheme has taken place, which will happen after granting of the DCO. We continue to engage with the Lincolnshire FRS to ensure all key stakeholders are satisfied that mitigation and safety requirements are agreed prior to construction.



## Community benefits

### You said

We received a number of comments about the desire to see more benefits for the local community as a result of the Scheme. We also received a number of suggestions for what community benefits are the most appropriate for the local area.

### What we're doing

We are committed to being good neighbours and understanding how best local communities can benefit from our proposals, in addition to providing clean green energy for households in the UK. We are looking at delivering community benefits through our work with Lincolnshire Community Foundation and Nottinghamshire Community Foundation, who continue to share

their local knowledge and experience in order to best identify funding opportunities and help maximise benefits for local communities. We are also working on a wider industry level with local planning authorities, other developers, and industry bodies to understand the best practice for community engagement and benefits for the Scheme, and where it may be possible to deliver joint long term benefits across the multiple projects in the region.

Our community benefit fund could consist of supporting local community infrastructure and amenities (such as village halls and sports facilities), education and apprenticeship opportunities and provision of electric vehicle charging points. We are working to develop our plans in more detail and will provide further information once we submit our DCO application.

## Agricultural land

### You said

We received many comments regarding the land's agricultural use, especially in the context of the current geopolitical situation. A number of individuals mentioned that they worry about fields not returning to agricultural uses once the Scheme has been decommissioned.

### What we're doing

Our DCO application is time limited with no permanent loss of agricultural land extent or quality. We will submit a

decommissioning plan for approval to the local planning authorities detailing how the Scheme will be decommissioned at the end of the Scheme's operating life. Furthermore, the vast majority of land within the Scheme can continue in agricultural production for the operational period, for example, grazing sheep when viable.

Research by the leading industry body, Solar Energy UK, shows that at a national scale, if we were to build five times as many solar farms as there are now to meet the government target, we would only use 0.5% of the UK's agricultural land<sup>1</sup>.

## Scheme location

### You said

We have received multiple comments regarding the location of the Scheme, including putting solar installations on rooftops. You also mentioned the lack of brownfield sites included in the Scheme.

### What we're doing

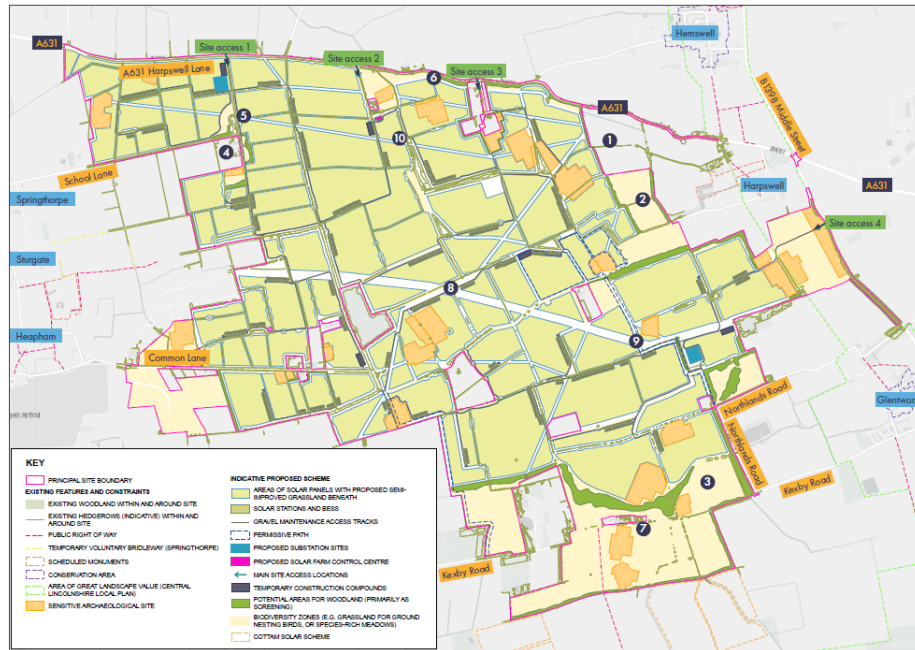
We have considered all available brownfield land within the area of search from the point of connection (at National Grid's Cottam substation) and did not identify any land of the size required to

achieve the scale of solar farm proposed. As the government has targeted 70GW of UK solar by 2035, up from a base of around 14GW today, rooftop solar alone will not meet the urgent need for solar. Large scale solar is, therefore, an essential part of the future electricity system and is recognised across national policy on energy security and the National Policy Statements.

<sup>1</sup>Solar Energy UK Briefing - Solar farms and food security: the facts - [https://solarenergyuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Briefing-Solar-Farms-Food-Security\\_The-Facts\\_Sept2022.pdf](https://solarenergyuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Briefing-Solar-Farms-Food-Security_The-Facts_Sept2022.pdf)

Indicative masterplan

The indicative site layout plan below shows our current proposals for the Tillbridge Solar Principal Site.



Changes from layout presented at the Statutory Consultation

- 1 Removal of panels from three fields at the northeastern corner of the Principal Site to mitigate heritage and landscape impacts.
- 2 Removal of solar infrastructure from the two fields immediately east of the Scheduled Monument to reduce impacts and reduce the presence of solar infrastructure close to permissive paths west of Harpswell.
- 3 Removal of solar infrastructure from a field north of Kexby Road, mitigating heritage impacts and reducing visibility along Kexby Road. The area is now proposed for biodiversity mitigation and enhancement.
- 4 Provision of woodland screening and an area of biodiversity enhancement south of Springthorpe Grange.
- 5 Amendments to the proposed woodland and biodiversity enhancement around the former orchard area north of Grange Cottages on School Lane, mainly to reflect great crested newts within the pond.
- 6 Extension to the biodiversity enhancement area into the field south of Hemswell Grange and Grange Cottage on the A631, to create a wider buffer with tree planting to limit residential view of panels.
- 7 Changes to proposed tree and hedge planting south of Kexby Road, in response to concerns from residents about loss of open views.
- 8 Enhancements to existing hedgerows running east-west through the site, to create more robust and continuous green infrastructure corridors, such as east of Harpswell Wood.
- 9 Provision of two permissive paths connecting Common Lane and Kexby Road, offering recreational access in an area where PkO/W are limited and also improving north-south off-road links.
- 10 Relocation of the operational site office and stores to a location south of Hemswell Grange.



## Next steps

Tillbridge Solar is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 as it is proposed to have a generating capacity exceeding 50MW. We will be applying to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Energy Security and NetZero for a DCO.

Following the close of the statutory consultation in July 2023, we have continued to analyse all comments received and feed these into the Scheme design. Engagement with key stakeholders, including local planning authorities (LPAs) and parish councils, continues to be integral in our ongoing consultation process. We will show how we have had regard to all of the issues raised in consultation responses in the Consultation Report that we will submit as part of our DCO application.

All of this work has meant that we will need additional time to finalise our application. We now anticipate submitting our application by the end of Q1 2024. The application will be submitted to the SoS via the Planning Inspectorate. Once the application is made, the SoS will have a period of 28 days to decide whether the application should be accepted for examination. If the application is accepted, the SoS will appoint an independent Examining Authority to examine the application and make a recommendation to the SoS who will make the decision on whether or not to grant development consent.

You will be able to get involved with the DCO process by registering as an Interested Party on our page on the Planning Inspectorate's website once the application for the DCO has been accepted.

## Targeted consultation

14 December 2023 to 25 January 2024

Following the statutory consultation, Tillbridge Solar carried out a further stage of targeted consultation on proposals for the Scheme in relation to a number of minor additions to the boundary. Due to the limited nature of the minor changes to the Scheme, we have focused the consultation on those directly affected by the changes.

These minor additions are a result of ongoing design evolution informed by an engineering review and collaborative working with the developers of other solar schemes in the area. This collaborative working will help minimise effects and impacts with respect to the Cable Route Corridor.

This consultation took place from Thursday 14 December to Thursday 25 January, and the relevant stakeholders identified – including landowners, LPAs and parish councils – were notified in writing about how to engage with us during this time. Our website ([tillbridgesolar.com](http://tillbridgesolar.com)) has also been updated with the latest information.

We are now carefully considering all comments and further refining the Scheme's design ahead of submitting our application for development consent by the end of Q1 2024.





## Contact us

If you have any questions about Tillbridge Solar, please don't hesitate to contact the project team using the details below.



[www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)



[info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)



0800 046 9643



**FREEPOST TILLBRIDGE SOLAR**  
(please note that no stamp is required)

You can also sign-up for updates and contact us using our comment form on our website.

If you would like this document in large print, audio or braille formats, please contact us using the details above.

All graphics and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes.



## A-12.2: Electronic mailing list of community newsletter

### Lincolnshire County Council

Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Martin John	Hill OBE
Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Patricia Anne	Bradwell OBE
Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Michael	Brookes
Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Alison	Austin
Lincolnshire County Council	Ms	Debbie	Barnes OBE

Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Richard	Butroid
Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Lindsey Ann	Cawrey
Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Colin John	Davie
Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Richard Graham	Davies
Lincolnshire County Council	Councillor	Susan	Woolley

### Nottinghamshire County Council

Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor	Ben	Bradley
Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor	Bruce	Laughton
Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor	Mike	Quigley MBE
Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor	Roger	Jackson

Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor	Richard	Butler
Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor	Neil	Clarke
Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor	John	Ogle

### West Lindsey District Council

West Lindsey District Council	Councillor	Owen	Bierley
West Lindsey District Council	Councillor	Anne	Welburn
West Lindsey District Council	Councillor	Angela	Lawrence
West Lindsey District Council	Councillor	Roger	Patterson
West Lindsey District Council	Mr	Ian	Knowles

West Lindsey District Council	Mr	Mark	Sturgess
West Lindsey District Council	Mr	Oliver	Fytche-Taylor
West Lindsey District Council	Councillor	Ian	Fleetwood

Hemswell ward	Ward Councillor	Paul	Howitt-Cowan
Scampton ward	Ward Councillor	Roger	Patterson
Stow ward	Ward Councillor	Lynda Marie	Mullally
Torksey ward	Ward Councillor	Roger Alan	Pilgrim
Lea ward	Ward Councillor	Emma Frances	Bailey

### Bassetlaw District Council

Bassetlaw District Council	Councillor	Simon	Greaves
Bassetlaw District Council	Councillor	Jo	White
Bassetlaw District Council	Councillor	Jack P	Bowker
Bassetlaw District Council	Councillor	Madelaine	Richardson

Bassetlaw District Council	David	Armiger
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Bassetlaw District Council	Councillor	David G	Pidwell
Bassetlaw District Council	Councillor	Sybil	Fielding

Sturton ward	Ward Councillor	James	Naish
Rampton ward	Ward Councillor	Ant	Coultate

### Relevant planning officers/local authority contacts

John Krawczyk	Bassetlaw District Council
Clare Cook	Bassetlaw District Council
Russell Clarkson	West Lindsey District Council
Rachel Hughes	West Lindsey District Council
Stephen Pointer	Nottinghamshire County Council
Neil McBride	Lincolnshire County Council

### Parish Councils (Host and Neighbouring)

Gainsborough Town Council
Northorpe Parish Council
Hemswell Cliff Parish Council
Normanby by Spital, Owmbly-by-Spital and Saxby Parish Councils
Ingham Parish Council
Lea Parish Council
Knaith Parish Council
Sturton Le Steeple Parish Council
Clarborough and Welham Parish Council
Headon cum Upton, Grove and Stokeham Parish Council
Fenton and Torksey Lock Parish Council
Torksey Parish Council
Sturton by Stow Parish Council
Cammeringham Parish Council
Harpwell and Hemswell Parish Council
Heapham Parish Council
Upton Parish Council
Springthorpe Parish Meeting
Stow Parish Council
Brampton Parish Council
Corringham Parish Council
Fillingham Parish Council
Glentworth Parish Council
Torksey Parish Council
Marton and Gate Burton Parish Council
Willingham by Stow Parish Council
Kexby Parish Council
Treswell with Cottam Parish Council

South Leverton Parish Council
North Leverton with Hablesthorpe Parish Council
Rampton and Woodbeck Parish Council

## **Members of Parliament**

Rt Hon. Edward Leigh MP  
Robert Jenrick MP  
Mr Brendan Clarke-Smith MP  
Mr Gareth Davies MP  
Rt Hon. John Hayes MP  
Ms Alicia Kearns MP

## **Environmental and Energy groups**

Natural England  
Historic England  
The Environment Agency  
Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)  
The Council for British Archaeology  
Lincoln Archaeology Group  
RSPB  
Woodland Trust  
The British Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership Society  
Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology  
National Trust  
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust  
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust  
Lincolnshire Rivers Trust  
North Lincolnshire Local Access Forum  
Scunthorpe & Gainsborough Water Management Board  
Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board  
Nottinghamshire Local Access Forum  
UK Alternative Energy  
Lincolnshire Energy Centre  
Lincolnshire Bird Club

## **Sports and Leisure groups**

Walking in England  
Active Lincolnshire  
Ramblers - Lincolnshire Area  
Lincs Inspire  
Lincoln & District Angling Association (LDAA)  
Sport England  
Cycling UK Lincolnshire  
Gainsborough Aegir Cycling Club  
Spalding Cycling Club  
Cycling UK Nottinghamshire  
Lincolnshire Walking Group  
Sustrans (East Midlands)  
The Ramblers (Nottinghamshire Representative)  
Nottinghamshire Footpaths Preservation Society



British Horse Society (Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire representative)  
The Ramblers Association  
Lincolnshire Gliding Club  
North Lincs Riding Club

**Economic and Business groups**

Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership  
Invest North East Lincolnshire  
Business Lincolnshire  
Confederation of British Industry  
Lincoln Business Improvement Group  
Team Lincolnshire

**Local groups and ‘near neighbours’**

Lincolnshire Conservation Group  
Willingham by Stow Horticultural Society  
Churches Together in All Lincolnshire  
Springline Parish (group of churches)  
St Andrew's Church  
Fillingham Church  
Glentworth St Michael's Church  
St Chad's Church Harpswell  
RAF Ingham Heritage Centre  
RAF Scampton  
Lincoln Aero Club  
Millhaven Canine Rehabilitation  
Lincolnshire Rescue Kennels  
Lincoln Golf Club

**Charitable organisations and religious groups**

The Victorian Society  
Salvation Army  
Christians Against Poverty  
CARE  
Islamic Association of Lincoln  
Sleaford Islamic Centre  
East Midlands Synod  
Lincolnshire Jewish Community  
The Jack Brunton Charitable Trust  
The Principle Trust Children's Charity  
Lincs Inspire  
SENSE Lincolnshire  
LTC – Beat It! Social Isolation  
Lincolnshire Polish Society  
Lincolnshire Pamoja  
Nottingham Equal  
Muslim Council of Britain

**Local business groups/wider representation**

Country Land and Business Association  
National Farmers Union  
Federation of Small Businesses  
Lincolnshire Rural Support Network  
Rural Business Network

## Lincs Rural

### **Seldom heard groups**

Age UK Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire  
Age UK Nottingham and Nottinghamshire  
Lincolnshire Traveller Initiative  
Lincolnshire Deaf Association  
Nottingham Deaf Society  
Lincolnshire Autistic Society  
Autistic Nottingham  
The WI Nottinghamshire Federation  
Disability Nottinghamshire  
Disability Lincs  
Lincolnshire Gypsy Liaison Group  
Friends, Families & Travellers  
Lincoln and Lindsey Blind Society  
Lincolnshire Pamoja  
National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups  
Lincolnshire Travellers Initiative

### **Youth and support groups**

Lincolnshire Youth and Community Development  
Lincolnshire Young Farmers  
Lincoln and West Lindsey Lincolnshire Young Farmers  
Nottinghamshire Federation of Young Farmers Clubs  
Lincolnshire Council For Voluntary Youth Services  
Carers First Lincolnshire  
Healthwatch Lincolnshire  
LEAP - Housing Support Service  
Lincolnshire Food Partnership  
Lincolnshire Housing Partnership  
Gainsborough Local Access Programme  
Young Lincolnshire  
Lincolnshire Youth Council  
Lincoln and West Lindsey Youth Workers Youth and Community Development  
Barnardo's  
Scouts Nottinghamshire  
Scouts Lincolnshire  
Girlguiding Lincolnshire North  
Girlguiding Nottinghamshire

### **Schools/education**

Ingham Primary School  
Hemswell Cliff Primary School  
Mayflower Specialist School Academy Trust  
The Marton Academy  
Sturton by Stow Primary School  
The Gainsborough Academy Lincolnshire  
Gainsborough College (UK)  
Lincoln College  
Lincoln University Technical College  
University of Lincoln

## A-12.3: Example emails sent to consultees – MPs

**From:** [Info Tillbridgesolar](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
**To:** [edward.leigh.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:edward.leigh.mp@parliament.uk)  
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024  
**Date:** 13 March 2024 17:04:35  
**Attachments:** [Tillbridge Solar Community Newsletter March 2024.pdf](#)

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### Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024

Dear Sir Edward Leigh,

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project which would involve the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire.

We are contacting you as an MP who may have an interest in the Scheme and has been previously engaged.

Please find attached a copy of our community newsletter, which provides a summary of our consultation undertaken to date and next steps to the project, including an updated indicative site layout plan. The newsletter also lists the key consultation themes and what we're doing in response to these. These include:

- Visual impacts
- Cumulative impacts
- Battery safety
- Community benefits
- Agricultural land
- Scheme location

A full breakdown of your feedback from the statutory consultation, and how your points have been addressed, will be provided in a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of our application for development consent.

We now anticipate submitting our application by the end of Q1 2024. The application will be submitted to the SoS via the Planning Inspectorate. More information can be found in the newsletter and on our website ([www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)).

If you have any questions about this newsletter, the project itself, or next steps, please contact the community relations team by responding by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or telephone (0800 046 9643).

Yours sincerely,



## A-12.4: Example emails sent to consultees – Councillors

From: [Info Tillbridgesolar](#)  
Bcc:   
Subject: Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024  
Date: 13 March 2024 17:30:30  
Attachments: [Tillbridge Solar Community Newsletter March 2024.pdf](#)

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### Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024

Dear Councillor,

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project which would involve the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire.

We are contacting you as a Councillor who may have an interest in the Scheme and has been previously engaged.

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## A-12.5: Example emails sent to consultees – Parish Councils

**From:** [Info.Tillbridgesolar](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
**Bcc:**   
**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024  
**Date:** 13 March 2024 17:38:27  
**Attachments:** [Tillbridge Solar Community Newsletter - March 2024.pdf](#)

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### Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024

Dear Parish Council

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project which would involve the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire.

We are contacting you as a Parish Council who may have an interest in the Scheme and has been previously engaged.

Please find attached a copy of our community newsletter, which provides a summary of our consultation undertaken to date and the next steps to the project, including an updated indicative site layout plan. The newsletter also lists the key consultation themes and what we're doing in response to these. These include:

- Visual impacts
- Cumulative impacts
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A full breakdown of your feedback from the statutory consultation, and how your points have been addressed, will be provided in a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of our application for development consent.

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If you have any questions about this newsletter, the project itself, or next steps, please contact the community relations team by responding by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or telephone (0800 046 9643).

Yours sincerely,

## A-12.6: Example emails sent to consultees – Land interests

From: [Info.Tillbridgesolar](mailto:Info.Tillbridgesolar)  
Bcc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024  
Date: 13 March 2024 17:46:07  
Attachments: [Tillbridge Solar Community Newsletter\\_March 2024.pdf](#)

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### Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project which would involve the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire.

We are contacting you as a land interest who may have an interest in the Scheme and has been previously engaged.

Please find attached a copy of our community newsletter, which provides a summary of our consultation undertaken to date and next steps to the project, including an updated indicative site layout plan. The newsletter also lists the key consultation themes and what we're doing in response to these. These include:

- Visual impacts
- Cumulative impacts
- Battery safety
- Community benefits
- Agricultural land
- Scheme location

A full breakdown of your feedback from the statutory consultation, and how your points have been addressed, will be provided in a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of our application for development consent.

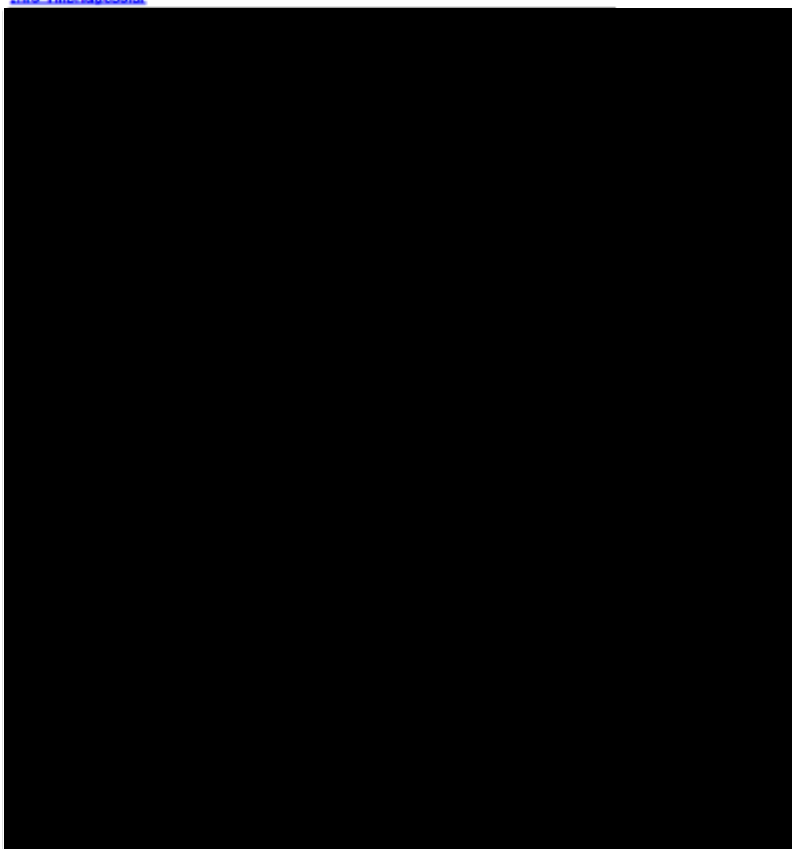
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If you have any questions about this newsletter, the project itself, or next steps, please contact the community relations team by responding by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or telephone (0800 046 9643).



## A-12.7: Example emails sent to consultees – Local interest/community groups

**From:** [Info Tillbridgesolar](#)  
**Bcc:**



**Subject:** Tillbridge Solar – Community newsletter March 2024  
**Date:** 13 March 2024 17:55:01  
**Attachments:** [Tillbridge Solar Community Newsletter\\_March 2024.pdf](#)

---

### Tillbridge Solar – Community Newsletter March 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Tillbridge Solar Limited is developing proposals for a new solar and energy storage project which would involve the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels and on-site energy storage facilities within Lincolnshire.

We are contacting you as a wider interest group/stakeholder who may have an interest in the Scheme and has been previously engaged.

Please find attached a copy of our community newsletter, which provides a summary of our consultation undertaken to date and next steps to the project, including an updated indicative site layout plan. The newsletter also lists the key consultation themes and what we're doing in response to these. These include:

- Visual impacts

- Cumulative impacts
- Battery safety
- Community benefits
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- Scheme location

A full breakdown of your feedback from the statutory consultation, and how your points have been addressed, will be provided in a Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of our application for development consent.

We now anticipate submitting our application by the end of Q1 2024. The application will be submitted to the SoS via the Planning Inspectorate. More information can be found in the newsletter and on our website ([www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)).

If you have any questions about this newsletter, the project itself, or next steps, please contact the community relations team by responding by email ([info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)) or telephone (0800 046 9643).

Yours sincerely,

Luke Murray  
Project Director  
Tillbridge Solar  
Email: [info@tillbridgesolar.com](mailto:info@tillbridgesolar.com)  
Freephone: 0800 046 9643  
Website: [www.tillbridgesolar.com](http://www.tillbridgesolar.com)