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29 October 2024

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
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Temple Quay Bristol
BS1 6PN

Sent by email to:

TillbridgeSolarProject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Planning Inspectorate reference: EN010142

Dear Mr Nicholas Ely,

APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR THE TILLBRIDGE SOLAR PROJECT

I am pleased to submit the Applicant's Deadline 1 submissions. They consist of the following documents:

Document	Reason
Updated Guide to the Application [EN010142/APP/1.2(Rev03)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Works Plans [EN010142.APP/2.3(Rev02)]	To ensure consistency between land falling outside of the Order limits coloured yellow in relation to the Land and Crown Land Plans as set out in the Applicant's Section 51 response letter dated 12 June 2024.
Updated Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plan [EN010142/APP/2.4(Rev03)]	To ensure consistency between land falling outside of the Order limits coloured yellow in relation to the Land and Crown Land Plans as set out in the Applicant's Section 51 response letter dated 12 June 2024.
Updated Traffic Regulation Measures Plan [EN010142/APP/2.5(Rev03)]	To ensure consistency between land falling outside of the Order limits coloured yellow in relation to the Land and Crown Land Plans as set out in the Applicant's Section 51 response letter dated 12 June 2024.

Document	Reason
Updated draft Development Consent Order [EN010142/APP/3.1(Rev03)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Explanatory Memorandum [EN010142/APP/3.2(Rev01)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Consents and Agreements Position Statement [EN010142/APP/3.3(Rev01)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Statement of Reasons [EN010142/APP/4.1(Rev02)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Book of Reference (Parts 1 to 5) [EN010142/APP/4.3(Rev02)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought [EN010142/APP/4.4(Rev02)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Environmental Statement Appendix 9-12: Habitat Regulations Assessment Report [EN010142/APP/6.2(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representation from Natural England.
Updated Environmental Statement Figure 3-12: Trenchless Crossing Cross Sections [EN010142/APP/6.3(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representation from the Environment Agency.
Updated Environmental Statement Figure 10-5: Watercourses, Flood Zones and Internal Drainage Boards [EN010142/APP/6.3(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representation from the Environment Agency.
Updated Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.8(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representation from the Environment Agency and Anglian Water, and further consultation with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.
Updated Framework Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.9(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representations and further communications from Anglian Water, Lincolnshire County Council, 7000 Acres, the Environment Agency and Natural England.

Document	Reason
Updated Framework Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.10(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representation from Lincolnshire Country Council, 7000 Acres and the Environment Agency.
Updated Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.11(Rev02)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representations received from Stow Parish Council and matters raised during the Issue Specific Hearing 1 by Lincolnshire County Council.
Updated Framework Soil Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.12(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Relevant Representation from Natural England.
Updated Framework Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.17(Rev02)]	Updated in response to the Relevant Representation from Lincolnshire County Council and matters discussed during Issue Specific Hearing 1.
Applicant's Response to Relevant Representations [EN010142/APP/9.1]	As required by the examination timetable.
Written Summary of Applicant's Oral Submissions at Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) [EN010142/APP/9.2]	As required by the examination timetable.
Written Summary of Applicant's Oral Submissions at Open Floor Hearing 1 (OFH1) [EN010142/APP/9.3]	As required by the examination timetable.
Statement of Commonality for Statements of Common Ground [EN101042/APP/9.4]	As required by the examination timetable.
Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) [EN010142/APP/9.5]	The AMS is submitted following consultation with Lincolnshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Historic England.
Schedule of Changes to the draft DCO [EN010142/APP/9.6]	As required by the examination timetable.
Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference [EN010142/APP/9.7]	As required by the examination timetable.
A total of sixteen Statements of Common Ground ("SoCGs") have been prepared and submitted as part of Deadline 1, which set	As required by the examination timetable.

Document	Reason
<p>out the current position of agreement on matters raised by the following parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) West Lindsey District Council SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.8] b) Lincolnshire County Council SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.9] c) Nottinghamshire Council SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.10] d) Bassetlaw District Council SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.11] e) Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board (IDB) SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.12] f) Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.13] g) Trent Valley IDB SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.14] h) Anglian Water SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.15] i) Environment Agency SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.16] j) Historic England SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.17] k) Natural England SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.18] l) Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.19] m) Canal and River Trust SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.20] n) Other Solar Developers SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.21] o) National Highways SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.22] p) Alison Wood and Nicholas Mapstone SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.23] 	

SoCGs

In addition to the SoCGs set out above, the ExA’s Rule 8 letter [PD-008] requested that the Applicant submits SoCGs with National Grid, Network Rail, Cadent Gas and 7000 Acres no later than Deadline 6. The Applicant wishes to clarify that, following continued due diligence and engagement with National Gas Transmission plc, and as noted by the Applicant at ISH1, it has been determined that they do not have an interest within the Order land. As such, the Applicant will seek to agree an SoCG with Cadent Gas Limited as the primary gas undertaker in respect of the apparatus that may be impacted by the Scheme.

While discussions between the Applicant and these parties remain ongoing, a draft SoCG has not yet been sufficiently progressed with each of these parties to submit at this deadline. The Applicant is continuing to liaise with these parties with a view to refining or resolving any outstanding issues and will look to submit SoCGs to capture these discussions at a subsequent deadline. For the purposes of Deadline 1, the Applicant can provide the following update:

- National Grid: NGET provided the Applicant with a copy of their standard protective provisions, which the Applicant is currently reviewing. The Applicant will provide NGET with our comments on their provisions in due course, with a view to refining and resolving issues as far as possible.
- Network Rail: Protective provisions have been agreed with Network Rail, however, the parties remain in discussion regarding separate agreements that will sit alongside these provisions (those agreements being private as between the parties).
- Cadent Gas: Discussions between the Applicant and Cadent are progressing well, with the protective provisions for inclusion in the draft DCO substantively agreed with the exception of a few outstanding matters. The parties are working to refine and resolve these matters, with a view to submitting an agreed set of protective provisions at Deadline 2 once agreement has been reached.
- 7000 Acres: The Applicant is currently liaising with 7000 Acres to set up an initial meeting to work through the issues to be covered in an SoCG between the parties.

Draft itinerary for Accompanied Site Inspection

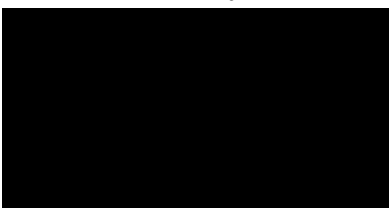
In accordance with the ExA's Rule 8 letter dated 24 October 2024 [PD-008], the Applicant has prepared a draft itinerary for an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) which is to take place during the week commencing 13 January 2025. This is attached to this cover letter as **Annex A**.

Comments on Additional Submissions

The Applicant has reviewed the additional submissions ("Additional Submissions") from other parties at and following Procedural Deadline A. The Applicant considers that the matters raised in the Additional Submissions are sufficiently addressed in the Applicant's Response to Relevant Representations [EN010142/APP/9.1].

If you have any questions about this letter or the Scheme, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the project team on info@tillbridgesolar.com or 0800 046 9643.

Yours sincerely,



Luke Murray
Project Director, Tillbridge Solar Limited

**Tillbridge Solar Project
EN010142**

**Volume 9
Applicant's draft itinerary for the ASI**

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

**October 2024
Revision Number: 00**

Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Purpose of this Document.....	1
2.	Draft Itinerary for the ASI	2
2.1	General Arrangements.....	2
	Route and Timings	2
	Bathroom provisions	2
	Transport	2
	Clothing.....	2
	Health and safety	3
2.2	Draft Itinerary for an ASI – Planned Route and Timings	4
	Appendix A – Figure showing inspection point in draft itinerary for an ASI	5
3.	References	6

Tables

Table 2-1.	Planned Route and Timings for an ASI.....	4
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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Document

- 1.1.1 An application (“the Application”) for the Tillbridge Solar Project (“the Scheme”) was made by Tillbridge Solar Limited (“the Applicant”) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (“the Secretary of State”) for a Development Consent Order (DCO) (“the Order”) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (“PA 2008”) (Ref. 1). The Application was accepted for examination on 8 May 2024.
- 1.1.2 On 17 September 2024 the Examining Authority (ExA) issued its Rule 6 letter **[PD-005]** which set out in Annex D a request for a draft itinerary for the Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) to be submitted by the Applicant at Deadline 1.
- 1.1.3 Annex F of the Rule 6 letter sets out that the draft itinerary for the ASI should include:
 - a. relevant locations referred to in the Relevant Representations received;
 - b. any other locations at which the Applicant has predicted likely significant environmental effects; and
 - c. the locations suggested by Interested Parties submitted by Procedural Deadline A.
- 1.1.4 On 24 October 2024 the ExA issued its Rule 8 letter **[PD-008]** which also sets out that the Applicants draft itinerary for an ASI should be submitted at Deadline 1 on 29 October 2024, and that time has been reserved in the Examination Timetable to undertake an ASI during the week commencing 13 January 2025.
- 1.1.5 The Rule 8 letter **[PD-008]** differs from the Rule 6 letter **[PD-005]** and states that the Applicant’s draft itinerary for an ASI is required for locations, if any, where accompanied access is required onto private land. There is only one proposed inspection point where accompanied access is required on private land, and therefore this document provides an itinerary for an ASI to this inspection point only.
- 1.1.6 The ExA will review comments received from Interested Parties at Deadline 1 and the draft itinerary (this document) and may make changes to it, and will publish their final itinerary for an ASI on the National Infrastructure Planning Tillbridge Solar Project webpage.

2. Draft Itinerary for the ASI

2.1 General Arrangements

Route and Timings

- 2.1.1 The Applicant suggests that a time period of 15 minutes is provided at the inspection point set out in **Table 2-1** below.
- 2.1.2 The Applicant has also included a 5-minute allowance for getting on and off the transport provided (see 2.1.7 below). The time taken to travel from the starting point to the inspection point and back again has also been considered in the route and timings provided within this document.
- 2.1.3 **Table 2-1. Planned Route and Timings for an ASI** **Table 2-1** below sets out the planned location for the ASI, approximate timing, and information relevant to the location. The location of the inspection point is shown on **Figure 2-1**, at **Appendix A** below. The timings provided below are approximate and will depend on factors such as traffic.
- 2.1.4 It is important to note that access to the inspection point on the ASI will be subject to the landowner's approval. While the Applicant has requested that such access be granted for the purpose of the ASI, it may not be possible to access this inspection point should the landowner's consent be withheld.
- 2.1.5 In the event that a request to access the inspection point proposed for the ASI is declined by the landowner, the Applicant will inform the ExA at the earliest opportunity and suggest alternative arrangements to replicate the routing as closely as practicable.

Bathroom provisions

- 2.1.6 Bathrooms will be available at Thonock Park Golf Course in the morning before departing for the ASI, and after the ASI.

Transport

- 2.1.7 The Applicant will provide transport for all attendees for the ASI. The meeting place to board the transport (and hence also the starting point for the ASI) will be Thonock Park Golf Course.
- 2.1.8 The transport provided by the Applicant will return to Thonock Park Golf Course at the conclusion of the ASI.
- 2.1.9 Attendees will need to make their own arrangements to get to and from Thonock Park Golf Course.

Clothing

- 2.1.10 The ASI may include some walking on uneven or wet ground. It is therefore advised that attendees bring sturdy footwear and wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather/conditions on the day.
- 2.1.11 Conditions in some areas and the weather on the day may require that wellington boots are required.

- 2.1.12 Foliage on PROWs and at field boundaries/entrances can be tall and overgrown. All attendees are requested to wear clothing that keeps their arms and legs covered at all times.

Health and safety

- 2.1.13 It will be necessary to wear a high visibility vest at all times during the ASI. The Applicant will provide a vest for use during the course of the ASI if attendees do not have their own high visibility vest.
- 2.1.14 The ASI will involve walking on terrain that may be uneven. Anyone who may find it challenging to walk in these conditions is advised to assess whether it is suitable for them to attend the ASI, either partially or in its entirety.
- 2.1.15 Some obstructions on public rights of way (PROWs) and at field entrances may require attendees to crouch down to pass.
- 2.1.16 A first aid kit will be provided on the transport for the ASI.
- 2.1.17 The Applicant will carry out a walk of the route ahead of the ASI to identify potential hazards in advance.
- 2.1.18 The Applicant will carry out a briefing ahead of the start of the ASI. The aim of this briefing will be to ensure that attendees are aware of any health and safety risks.

2.2 Draft Itinerary for an ASI – Planned Route and Timings

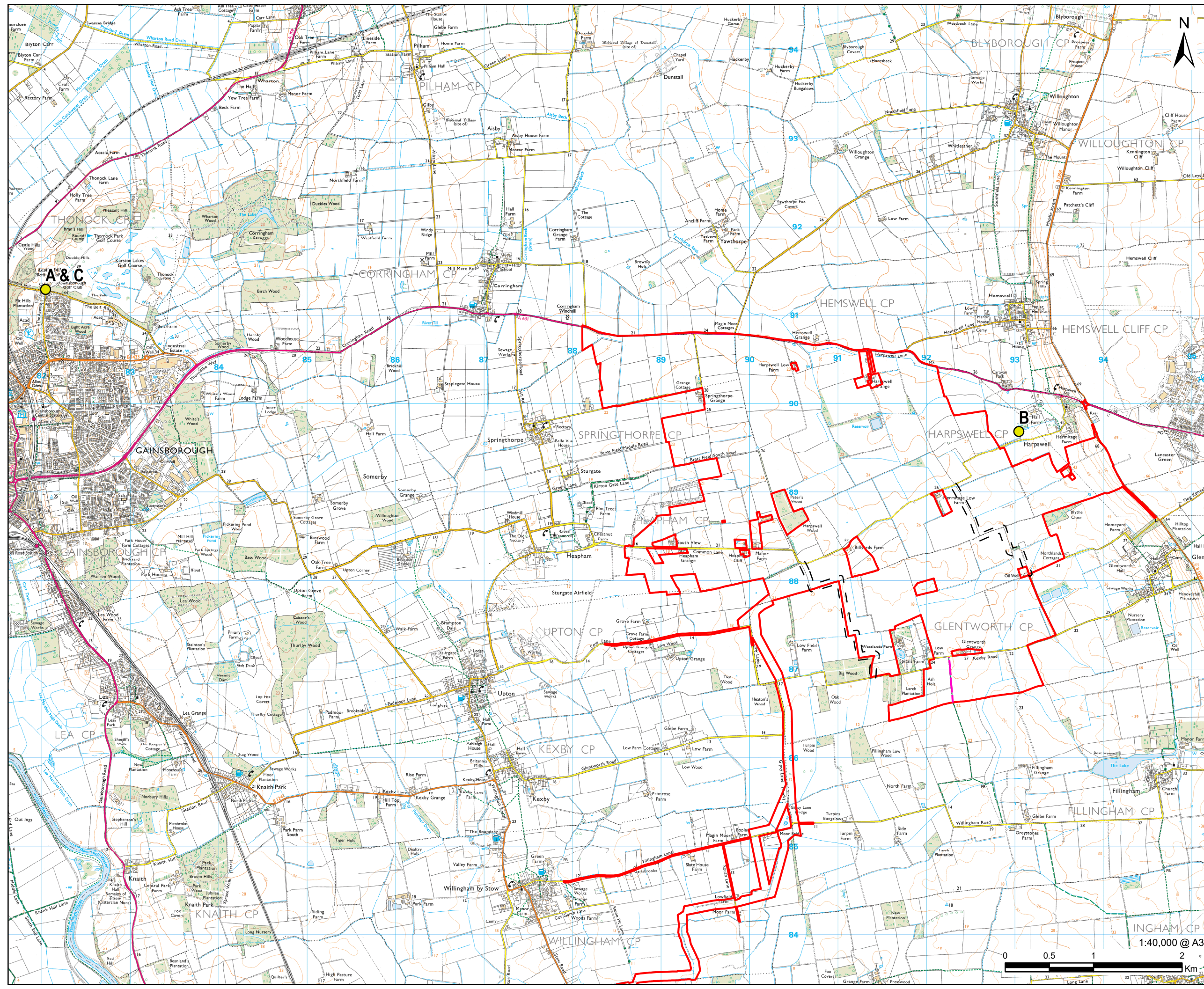
Table 2-1. Planned Route and Timings for an ASI

Inspection Point	Timings	Description (and special arrangements)	Purpose	Access
A	9.15am 9:30am	Meet at Thonock Park Golf Course for safety briefing from the Applicant and introduction by the ExA. Leave Thonock Park Golf Course	Safety briefing and introductions prior to the ASI and boarding of transport.	Can be accessed from public land
B	9.30am – 10.05am (35 minutes)	<i>Drive from:</i> Thonock Park Golf Course (<i>drive for 15 minutes</i>) <i>To:</i> Harpswell Moat (<i>stop for 15 minutes</i>) (+ 5 minutes buffer)	View from elevated western edge of moat (part of Scheduled Monument), with permissive access provided by Hall Farm.	Private land with no formal public access.
C	10.05am – 10.25am (20 minutes)	Depart Harpswell Moat and drive back to Thonock Park Golf Course (Inspection point A) (<i>drive for 15 minutes</i>) (+ 5 minutes buffer)	To head back to Thonock Park Golf Course for the end of the ASI.	
10.25am		Arrival at Thonock Park Golf Course and end of ASI.	End of the ASI.	

Appendix A – Figure showing inspection point in draft itinerary for an ASI

Figure 2-1. Inspection point in draft itinerary for an ASI

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- LEGEND**
- Order limits
 - Inspection Point
 - Public Rights of Way
 - Permissive Path

NOTES
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ISSUE PURPOSE
Applicants draft itinerary for the ASI

PROJECT NUMBER
60677969

FIGURE TITLE
Applicants draft itinerary for the ASI

FIGURE NUMBER
Annex A

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3. References

- Ref. 1 The Stationary Office (2008). Planning Act 2008. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents> [Accessed 01 November 2024]