



## Hearing Transcript

<b>Project:</b>	East Yorkshire Solar Farm
<b>Hearing:</b>	Open Floor Hearing (OFH)
<b>Date:</b>	9 July 2024

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The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

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00:00

All right,

00:06

it's just about six o'clock. So we'll make a start. Welcome to this open floor hearing for the East Yorkshire solar farm project. Can I just check that everyone can hear me at the back? Seems like I'm a long way away from everybody. Can I check that the streaming recording is going, my name is Simon border, I'm appointed by the Secretary of State as the single examining inspector for this application. And you'll also hear me refer to as the examining authority. A few housekeeping points for those who weren't here this afternoon. If you could please switch off mobile phones or any other devices, or at least put them to silent, you probably noticed that the toilets are away to our left through the lobby if you need them. There was no fire drill expected this afternoon. So the fire escape if all that if the alarm does go off, the fire escape is through the doors behind us to the right here, around the building to the front by the flag poles where hopefully, member of staff will be able to assist us. The meeting today is conducted in a hybrid fashion, which means obviously, as well as the people in the room, there are some people who may join us virtually using Microsoft Teams, they'll try to make sure that I give everyone a fair opportunity to participate as we go along. There will be a recording of the hearing. And that will be made available on the project section of the national infrastructure planning website as soon as the hearing is finished within reason. With this in mind, please ensure that you do speak into a microphone, and you state your name and who you're representing each time before you speak. The table microphones do have on and off buttons. But I would suggest that you turn the microphone off if you're not involved at that particular time. Another point that I need to make is that there was a link to the planning inspector, it's privacy notice in the notification for the hearing. And I'm going to proceed on the basis that everyone is familiar with that. Because it sets out the way in which personal data is handled in accordance with the principles and the data protection laws. If you have any concerns on that front, Matthew Shepard is the person to speak to about it. Now, because this is an open floor hearing, there's no formal agenda, because the purpose is to hear the representations from interested parties who is registered enough to speak this evening. As there's not a huge number of people who are registered to speak, I think the simplest thing would be to take people in alphabetical order. So the purpose is simply to give you an opportunity to raise anything directly that you feel is relevant and important. And you think I should know about and consider. It's not specific to any location or topic, the subject matter is up to you. There again, because there are a relatively small number of people who wish to speak, I'm not going to set a strict time limit for speaking. But I think in everyone's interests, and perhaps if you could make sure that your submissions are fairly concise to the point and importantly don't repeat points which may have been made by others beforehand. As a rule of thumb, I would ask people to try and keep their submissions to no more than 10 minutes. Once you've spoken I might have some questions and the applicant will have the opportunity to respond. I would suggest that we will you

respond on just looking at the applicant respond at the end of the session rather than after each individual person I think it will be make the hearing golden but more smoothly if we do it that way. Before I do ask people to to come up perhaps I could ask the applicants to to come up to the table. I don't think there were roving microphones this evening. So just to introduce yourself.

04:53

Thank you, sir. Yes, my name is Amy Sterling. I'm a Senior Associate Solicitor at Pinsent masons and I will be representing each Capture silver found limited or the applicant for this scheme.

05:04

Thank you so now we move on to the parties who have given notice to speak if you could come up to the table when you speak and make sure the microphone is turned on before you start as I say, I think we'll go in alphabetical order here. I had Sir David Davis down to to speak but I understand that he's not present this evening or indeed on Microsoft Teams, so we'll move on from that. The next person on the list would therefore be David field. It's Mr. fielder here and safe. And I can't see him on the team's feed either. Moving on, Mr. Humphrey, would you like to come up? Thank you

06:20

Okay,

06:22

I can hear you. Yes, I can people behind.

06:25

Okay. All right. So I'm Emma Humphrey, I live at crossroad cottage will it off. The they said scheme that is proposed is literally going to be 10 metres from my back door, not my property, perimeter. And that's on both sides. The boom, as I've had discussions with them, have said that there'll be screening put up, but I will never see the benefit of that screen in in my lifetime. So that is no benefit to my uninterrupted views that I have at present, especially with the high security fencing and cameras they're planning to put around this said scheme and the height of the solar panels. We have seen wildlife where we live, that is part of the pleasure of living where we do apart from it being a quiet countryside location. I've lived there for 24 years. It's a beautiful, tranquil piece of East Yorkshire countryside. In one of my sort of thoughts, really, they told me that the roads wouldn't be used for if the it goes ahead, they will use farm tracks and the farm vehicles. Now, reading in between that afterwards. I'm not sure that's happening. If it goes ahead. Because of the roads or single track, if you use a bus, you have to reverse. If you meet a car, you have to get off the road. They the roadsides have deep roots, they're not maintained roads so that it's unsuitable for it does tractors that's about it. If you've got an Arctic, you've got no chance you have to reverse at least half a mile. As I say we live on the crossroads. So I see quite often. There's also Rumor has it that obviously the goods have to be removed after 40 years. I'd like to know if this is correct as in removed as in the pile driving the concrete in the ground to turn it back to agricultural land. Again, I probably won't see this in my lifetime. But it would, it's a question that I have is the land if it goes ahead, going to be put back to purpose even though there'll be no nutrition in the land. We have, apart from the wind turbines that we've accumulated where we live, we have an anaerobic digester. This will pass planning on the vision that the anaerobic product was put on the local farmland. So if it

goes on to the local farmland, but the farmland is turned into solar, where does it go? That is that was signed up by all the local farmers, predominantly three quarters of which are in this agreement

09:32

that is on Spalding to an airfield. Again, that's something that it needs answering. See what else I've got, they've said about the miles.

09:50

We have, we are a community. We live where we do the farmers that have put this proposal forward along with boom it's part From one, it's not on their doorstep. If it's such a viable good thing, why aren't they have it in their back garden? And that might be nimbyism, but they haven't got it near them. They're not surrounded by it. We are. It's going to change the look of our era forever. Might be for two years. But I say in our lifetime, no disrespect to my colleagues behind me. But that's forever for us. So as to say I'm totally against it. It just seems a money making scheme and as I say, the can't call this myself farmers anymore. They're going into being business people, not farmers, as a farmer is provides food for the land, the millions of bread loaves that can be produced from the good quality London it is. It's just going to be wasted. And then it's just begun to come. Industrialized fields. Thank you.

10:59

Thank you very much.

11:14

Next on my list was Alison, Paul Taylor. Just Alison. Okay. Perhaps you'd like to come up

11:33

shouldn't be your button on the right, you can hear me? Yes, I've got quite a loud voice. So you should be fine. Right? Could I just explain that although Emma has mentioned some things that are in mind, but I want to read the whole thing because I've prepared it and so rather than trying to cut bits out, I shall read it if that's okay. My presentation is an addition to and following on from my previous submissions, where I have explained how badly affected we are many other residents will be. In this I want to highlight some of the many failures in the applicant's communication with the local community, thus, exacerbating the feeling of hopelessness that we all feel. Our situation has recently been described in the press as a David and Goliath battle. Our Georgian homes some wood house in Spalding mountain, we have lovingly restored over the past 22 years, and it will become an island in between two huge fields of solar panels. To give an idea of the proximity, the field to f is just 10 meters from our front gate, and 35 meters from our house. Every view from the house will be a sea of solar panels, there will be no escape. We will be part of a huge industrial power plants as we have already got five industrial wind turbines just 1000 meters away, plus an ad plants further to the west. We invited the applicants to come to our property so that we could show them how affected we will be but they refused. The cumulative effect of this development will be devastating. Because of the sheer numbers of applications in East West and North Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire already in the system. The development is far too close to residential properties. The long term effects of solar farms are still unknown. Issues such as noise, including the construction possibly using pile driving, and the noise from the motors and cooling fans once the panels are installed. Radiation and electromagnetic fields

fire risk creation of microclimates flood risk by filling the fields with concrete, light pollution, health risks, both mental and physical, and toxic runoff are all under investigated and dismissed as insignificant by the applicant. There has been a piecemeal approach to this no logical consistency to what land is to be used. Only land that has been offered by local landowners is being used instead of the developer researching the most appropriate land which they are supposed to do as part of the planning process. They must prove that there isn't more suitable land available, they have not done this, because if they had much of the land in these plans would have been dismissed because of the proximity to homes. If this had been broken down into several smaller applications, some of it would almost certainly have been refused on the cumulative effect. There has been a lack of consideration given to adequate buffer zones. The plans are inconsistent in that some properties have been given significant buffer zones and others have not. There is no logic to this at all. It is worth noting, however, that none of the landowners involved were being paid for the use of their land have any fields adjoining their homes, but it seems it's okay for the rest of us to be surrounded by them and receive absolutely no compensation at all for the disruption And the inevitable reduction in the value of our properties. All the land in the application is arable land ideal for growing cereal crops. We are told by the applicant that it is largely grade four or three B, but we only have their word on this. There should have been independent surveys done taken across all of the land not just filled margins. But this hasn't been done to our knowledge as they have been done by so analysts appointed by the applicant, the government or the last government have said independent soil assessments must be carried out for all applications. It is far too easy to just dismiss the land as poor when in fact two years ago the local wheat yields were at a record level. In these uncertain Global Times, we should be concentrating on retaining all of our food producing land, not using it to cover in metal and plastic for the next 40 years. Once that land has gone and become Brownfield, it will never be farmed again. Despite what the proponents of solar farms will tell you to the contrary. Solar panels should be on all new warehousing factories carparks a new build houses, not on farmland. Wildlife is abundant in this area, ground nesting birds that just skylark oystercatcher and lapwing all nest and fly over these fields. Rodia, a prolific small herds living and breathing all around the area. We have a little herd that rests in our paddocks at night moving out to graze during the day, brown hair as seen regularly in the fields to the north and south of our property, along with our resident pair of barn owls that breed here every year, and tons over our paddocks and out into the fields to the northwest and south and roost in our field shelter at night. We also have little owls and tawny owls. There are a bunch of set from several of the designated field boundaries. We have several species of bats. We had to have extensive bat surveys done when we put in for planning for our business and now have bat boxes all around our property. Has the applicant done this. We had one request to come on our property ages ago, but we never replied because their attentions was intentions were very unclear at the time. And they have never asked again despite the fact that we have invited them to come and see for themselves how badly affected we will be. And the attitude about wildlife demonstrated by the applicant's representatives at the consultations was breathtaking in its utter ignorance and arrogance. Most of the roads involved in the plans are single track with passing places and many are already in a poor state of repair. These roads were originally built for horses and carts they've subsequently struggle to cope with increasing numbers of vehicles, including modern farming machinery. How will these roads that the local community depend on cope with hundreds and hundreds of extra lorry movements for at least two years of construction. A huge amount of damage was done when the wind farm on Spaulding to an airfield was built with expected traffic traffic for the solar farm will be on a whole new level. Our rural community has no public transport at all. So these small roads are our only

means of getting from A to B. In addition to this most of our utilities are under the verges water, telephone, broadband and electricity. We have been told by the applicant that we must expect road closures and traffic control measures throughout the construction period for up to two years. The inspector should know that the applicant failed to notify the whole community about these traffic control measures and only wrote to those directly living on the access routes. They should have notified all residents living in a local community. In fact, I believe that the applicant has been extremely negligent in its dealings with the local community to the point of dismissiveness. For example, many residents have complained that they have never received any acknowledgement from the applicants their emails, completed forms or general queries. The applicant failed to respond at all in many cases. And when they did, they failed in most cases to answer genuine concerns, simply sending back generic responses, which in a massive proposal like this should have been responded to on an individual basis. I was told that they hadn't sent out individual individual responses because of the number of communications they'd received. Another issue became apparent at all the consultations as all the maps that we used were very misleading because the applicant effectively removed all dwellings and buildings this giving the impression that very few if any people actually were going to be affected by the developments. They also used out of date OS maps. Finally, there is a very real risk of crime. The police in some areas of the country have expressed concern about the potential for gangs traveling to solar farms to steal copper and other components. This will mean higher stronger fencing, not simple deer fencing, but chain link prison staff fencing with CCTV cameras on poles and security lighting. This is a quiet, tranquil rural area in some solar farms under construction and those already constructed. The risk of factors meant that there are people with guard dogs patrolling at night with all sorts of implications, loss of privacy, dogs barking or PIR Lights being triggered all night. The worry of being burgled will make our predicament even worse. It is a dystopian nightmare. We would challenge anyone accusing us of nimbyism, these things should not be in anyone's backyard

20:23

thank you for that

20:32

that's the list of people I had who notified them wish to speak but I can see Mrs. Beckett you'd also like to speak. Would you like to come up and say your piece

20:53

read this one still on the

20:55

lights on so it should be yes.

21:01

First thing I just wanted to mention is I'm going to just read a little paragraph out of this Yorkshire solar farm statutory public consultation brochure in May 2023. We are committed to being a good neighbor. Therefore our proposed design aims to minimize the impact on the landscape wildlife, the local community on all who enjoy this beautiful corner of East Yorkshire. Something that I would like yourself

to see is this document it's East Riding of Yorkshire Council. It's a very large nature reserve and it is bring Lane and I would like you to have this document if at all possible.

21:59

Okay, when there will be another opportunity to make submissions later in the month if you want to submit that that stage then suddenly Yeah.

22:12

Okay, thank you. I just gave back a little bit of what I was speaking this morning, but if the applicant compulsory acquires Burgess hedges and trees, some of which have preservation orders on them, Does this mean the applicant can remove those hedges and pull down those trees to the edges in all of the site area gets soft when there is heavy or consistent rain or snow lanes or single track and vehicles must drive onto those verges to pass vehicles coming in the opposite direction. heavy vehicles lead deep furrows on the verge. When the applicant has dug up those verges to lay their cables, there is a greater risk of vehicles sinking onto the soft soil of the trench in the verge. Has the applicant made themselves so aware of the location of local residents water supplies, meters and other services located within those couples required merges the applicant should be required to reassure every household within which, with services in the verges that they're supplied to their homes will be safeguarded? How does the applicant propose to protect the residence leave it living in close proximity to the solar panels in the event of a fire spreading across the site. The land that these solar panels are going to be on are on a high water table. So unless they put tracks onto those lands, then no firefighting vehicle will be able to access the panel's. Lady earlier was talking about a cumulative impact of several major projects linked to drought Pat Drax power station I've got a list of different solar farms and applications that have been put in and as Ken Campbell spreads and hears Courtney, another one at Canvas verse Easter escrip Read More skip West that was cancelled. Driffield Elgin that was elven energy bomb near Beverly saw a solar farm and ask God be Selby and that's just a few. They are obviously all in within like 1520 miles of this area. I'll send that one in as well. Yes. Okay. All right. Thank you for listening

25:00

Thank you, Mrs. Becker

25:11

does anyone else wish to speak? I see Mr. fielder isn't. I saw? Did I see your hand go up? Yes. Please come to the?

25:38

Yeah, hi, my name is Peter Aqsa. I was mentioned by my brother was mentioned there was actually Matthew acts up earlier. The competition. Yes. And also I'm here on behalf of the DB Hudson Co. They're my uncle's farm with the corridor. And I've got no issue. So it's is what it is we all need greener energy. So that's, I want to say to start with, but it's just more the, how they've gone around people. And it's again, like Mrs. Beckett, you said the scheme's too large and not appropriate for the area. And then it's like, as a land a land area, 1445 hectares, we've now gone, we've now increased it. So that was their consultation, but and then it's just constantly been quite similar. We didn't have a real good

dialogue with Josh Johnson DMJ until I put that complaint on my voice in our My brother did and but now, I did admit you said we have been progressing. So it's just one way, the more reactive than proactive and on a scheme, this size. It's very funny to think how laps have been. And also, I'm more here for the local community. My grandma, Margaret Hunt is and lived in for 70 years. And I know because it's a massive infrastructure projects, it goes by different powers of local planning. But if this was a general housing developments, if it was like individual solar farms, the amount of section 106 agreements and payments to local parks and funds, I just hadn't seen anything mentioned what the local people are actually going to get out of this other than disturbance. And I know the wind turbines provided 2000 pound a Gilbert aid for the scouts. Just little things have never been asking when I've been to the consultations are the ones that just have no Amin and are in our don't know, we'll see. And so I've no one's actually given me, this is what we're going to do for local area. You've come here you're doing this, but you're not being as mentioned for them. And as I say it's probably because it's different power laws and planning regulations to normal section 106 is, but we put two chickenshit poultry units in and we had to spend 5% On passing places down brinly Lane. And that was just 5% of art for small company nevermind of tip to chicken sheds, nevermind the size of this. So it's more just to voice the concern of if it all goes head what local people might get from this because the be the sole, they're not gonna get cheaper electricity, like the national or local people aren't gonna get anything for having this round then. So that's my big issue with it. It's just for the local people that should benefit from somehow. Thank you.

28:51

Thank you very much

29:01

anyone else wish to speak in the room? Mr. fielder, I think he's now on the Microsoft Teams and whether you can hear me Mr. fielder, is there anything you want to say at this stage?

29:19

Can you hear me? Hello?

29:23

Hello. Yes, we can hear you but we can't see you.

29:29

I don't know we sort of rectify that one. That all it was basically I've said most of what I've said in the written representations. And I understand that you visited our property tomorrow as part of the site visit. I'd just like to point out that major concerns other than the Magic community impact on the area particularly concerned about an access point on the blind corner next to our old got particularly which I'd like the opportunity to point out to you tomorrow, if that's possible. And basically, just invite you to our property to see the impact on us directly. And that's about it. Okay,

30:13

when you say tomorrow, we're having the Thursday. Yeah. Okay, sorry. Sorry, Thursday, sir. Right? Well, in that case, could I ask you to get in touch with the case team and just explain where your



property is. And don't do it now, because we don't want to reveal any secrets in public, but just speak to the case team. And we'll find out where your property isn't if we can incorporate that into the site visit and if it's not already on the itinerary,

30:45

it is already on my agenda for the site visits.

30:49

It is okay. In that case? Yes. Yeah.

30:53

So I'll get the opportunity to point out to the blind next as part of that, what we went back to like my mom's purse, like, Okay, I've dealt with it and get reps.

31:04

Okay. Thank you for that. We'll, we'll take a look on Thursday. That's

31:09

right, cancer.

31:10

Thank you. Right, if that's everyone who wishes to speak against the scheme, Sterling, is there anything you want to say in response to what we've heard?

31:35

Thank you, sir. Amy Sterling on behalf of the applicant. Firstly, just to thank everyone for attending this evening, we do appreciate the time that it takes for people to come along and the effort it takes to prepare in advance and turn up and speak. So thank you very much for your time. So I'm trying to look into directions, which isn't that easy. There are quite a lot of detail points raised sir over sort of a broad range of topics, we will respond to them all in detail and nervous in submission. So just by way of sort of bringing it all together, I think from knowing my oral submissions, I mean, the applicant has bring forward a scheme for which there is a designated national need. We don't dispute the results of the need, for example, for solar, for rooftop solar on warehouses, etc. But there is a need also for large scale ground mounted solar which the applicant is bringing forward. In doing so the applicant has sought to bring forward a sensitive scheme, one which is sensitive to the landscape, which is sensitive to the environment and sensitive to the local community. As part of that the plugin has put forward a whole host of mitigations through its management plans, which will it will be legally obliged to deliver and which will also be subjected to detailed design and approval by the relevant local planning authorities who will have control of the discharge of conditions stage and the ultimate shape of the skin act that includes provision for trend traffic and transport management, landscape management, and indeed the requirement to set up a communities and grip throughout construction to ensure that all the issues which any issues which the local community may have and appropriately dealt with at that time. So there are various other detailed points, I think it's probably best given the range of them that they

come back in meeting and some of them are also covered earlier today, for example, the utilities in the verges

33:26

okay. Just listening to people speak this evening, then two things jumped out, in addition to the specific points that have been made to consistent themes seem to be the lack of consultation or the lack of response to consultation and the absence of any offer of benefits for the local community. I wonder if you could perhaps just address yourself to those two points this evening.

34:04

And you're standing on behalf of the applicant? Yes, sir. I mean, the applicant has carried out rounds of statutory consultation prior to making the DCO application, which it was legally obliged to do that includes rounds of community and stakeholder events, as I've been referred to multiple rounds of newspaper notes, these writing to people and indeed taking account of all that feedback and compiling a consultation report which was ultimately submitted well alongside the DCU application, and found to be a sufficient standard. Hence why the DCO application was accepted. Not only that the applicant is obviously now taking through the DCU application through a six month examination process, where there are multiple rounds of written questions and deadlines and hearings, which allow the local community to participate. So not only has the African Metis legal obligations and respect of the pre application consultation, there are no continued opportunities, the African is more than willing to discuss outside of the formal hearing process any specific concerns that the local community has?

35:13

And is that dialogue ongoing with the people who have expressed concerns? I don't think there's Well, I would be hesitant to say that you haven't complied with the statutory requirements. I think it seems to be more a question of the the quality or the what shall I say the engagement level of engagement in terms of the responses to that process?

35:46

Me standing on behalf of the applicant, I am told that engagement is ongoing. I obviously have my clients out by me by handle the engagement as ongoing, if it's not being ongoing to know I'm more than happy to engage, including after this hearing. Okay.

36:03

And the second point, recurring point seems to be the whether or not there are benefits for the local community,

36:12

me standing on behalf of the applicant. There is, as I'm sure you're aware, so a community benefit fund is not a planning matter, which should determine whether or not consent is granted. The applicant has carried out a range of environmental assessments and including socio economic assessments and impacts on local services and found that there are no significant effects which have to be mitigated. For example, there are no additional impacts or constraints on services, which would want for example, a section 106 review, which is normally what a section one reflexive event will have to deal with, in terms

of just a broad community benefit fund. I understand that it's something that is considered by the applicant that is not offered and shouldn't be relied upon within the planning process, because it's not required to make the development acceptable in planning terms.

37:07

I understand the technical point about the community benefit fund, but is that is that going on in parallel to the formal planning consent process?

37:30

Hello, sir Jacksboro on behalf of the African head of planning to empower so to address the question about community benefit funds. As Amy, as Mr. Ling pointed out, through the statutory consultation process and the non statutory consultation process, we we sought feedback from local community with regard to a community benefit fund, we're bringing forward as part of the scheme. However, as Mr. Ling referenced, that community benefit fund does not it doesn't doesn't form something that needs to be taken into consideration as part of the planning process. That fund was coming forward as part of the scheme. We got meaningful feedback during statutory consultation. And as this game progresses, as the you know, once the DCO should the PCAOB, granted, then the committee will come forward taking on board the suggestions and input that we received from the local community and stakeholders during the statutory consultation period. Okay.

38:32

I'm, if it's not part of the formal process, then that's fine. But just from a public relations point of view, it seems that there are a lot of people in the room who weren't aware of this plan and what it might entail. So I'll leave that with you. So

38:51

I can guarantee Jacksboro impact of that, but not guarantee, you know, it was within, you know, all of the statutory conservation material that went out and appreciate, you know, it was it I certainly spent a lot of time speaking to people at the conservation events about about that matter. So you have appreciate that, you know, like, say doesn't form part of the planning process, but you know, we're open we've been listening and it will come forward as part of the scheme. Okay. There

39:15

was a hand went up briefly at the back just to come forward and.

39:31

Pray right, can you hear me?

39:32

I can hear you. Yes. And

39:37

because I think it's very important that we do come here. I'm interested.

39:42

Can we somebody's name? Oh, I

39:44

think your full name is John Graham stone and I live in Gribble, which is the village that the applicants didn't know exist, existed on the first consultation I remember it well going to that consultation and showing on the maps where we live. And, and there was a look of horror on the people who said, Oh, people live there. So when they say they've made very careful examinations, I take that with a with her. Without swearing, I will I'll move on. I'm interested to know who you have consulted with over benefits if this scheme is is, is accepted and goes forward. You're quite right. We have discussed at several meetings, at which point you were the environmental person where you're not. Yeah, oh, well, maybe I'm wrong. And it seems to me that there has been no formal issues with actually asking people what they would want if this scheme weren't went ahead. In an an environment where you've got lots of people going to see what's happening, to say that you have taken feedback from the people lay, but then haven't actually passed it on to anybody. Seems a bit bizarre at the very least.

41:26

I stopped I'm sorry. Yes. That's the point is that you're saying that you've, you've you've consulted on what benefits that might be? My view, and a lot of people I know, aren't interested in benefits at this stage. We're interested in trying to get this scheme. Not to go ahead. And I say this saying that I am not against green energy by any means. What I am against is a 3600 acres worth of solar panels in and around the village that I live in, completely destroying what I came to live for. And I think the second speaker, who read out her statement touched upon all the points that I would have liked to have said as well. And I thought she did it very well. So thank you. Unless you want to

42:21

know I think you've made your points clearly.

42:31

Night looks like it's turned off. Is there anything the applicant wants to say in response to that final comment?

42:39

Anything on behalf of the applicant? Just a further clarifications are just to confirm that question 15 of the statutory consultation feedback form, which I believe is an appendix to the consultation report, but we will go to the appropriate reference and the hearing summary specifically refers to the provision of a community benefit fund and six views from statutory consultees, which included the local community these feedback forms were available at the consultation events and available on napkins website as to the causes of the community benefit fund may fund.

43:17

Mrs Beckett's.

43:28

I can vouch that room did do that. But having spoken to all of the people here, if you didn't pick up that form, then you obviously didn't get that information. And it was number 15 on the feedback form. As part of the scheme, we are exploring the use of a community benefit fund. And our aim is to work with organizations that will spend the money to support the project to benefit the local community. We would like to under we would like to understand what causes are important to you please indicate which causes you feel the benefit funds should support please take as many boxes as you needed. Environment, community health care, wildlife, combating climate change, education and other please specify and I remember footing training the local fire service to to fight fires in solar farms. I obviously did pick up the phone. Thank you

44:43

Well, at the risk of battling this backwards and forwards all evening, is there anything further that the applicant wishes to

44:52

add at this stage?

44:53

You're selling on behalf of the applicant? No. So nothing further.

44:57

Thank you. Well in that case unless there are any other final points, we'll bring matters to a close there. Thank you very much for attending. And for those who've made contributions, they will be taken into account as, as I consider the application. As I'm sure you're aware, there is an issue specific hearing on environmental matters tomorrow starting at 10 o'clock and I daresay some people will be well, we'll see you again then. But if not, thank you very much and goodbye for this evening.