

Unfortunately, like many other working members of the local community I was unable to attend the majority of the open meetings. I have tried to read the transcripts on the planning inspectorates website but these are very garbled. I would hope that full legible transcripts can be made available and also written responses to particular points raised in our last submissions are made available. After this, then the interested parties should be allowed to make further written submissions to the planning inspectorate, after a suitable time, in response to the applicants comments.

Having attended the open meeting on 9th July, I would like to comment that I found the applicant's response to concerns raised by the local community extremely poor. The applicant seemed unable or unwilling to answer direct questions. In general I found that the applicant was only willing to provide the minimum information necessary to get their plans approved. They showed little or no concern for the effect that this huge industrial project would have on the local community. The impact on wellbeing and health during construction and long term running of this project has been totally ignored by the applicant. I believe an independent inquiry as to the effects of this proposed development on health and wellbeing on the local community during both construction and long term running should be carried out by the planning inspectorate.

Those who attended reiterated the poor standard of the public consultation with "experts" being unable to answer basic questions. This is representative of the very poor standard of the application, with the applicant only doing the bare minimum to address local concerns, whether it be impact on our landscape, impact on transport infrastructure, impact on nature, impact on heritage assets, impact on our wellbeing and numerous other negative impacts this project will have. The idea that a small community fund, probably only a few thousand pound per annum across all affected communities, could ever compensate for the immense negative impacts this project will have is unbelievable and shows the stark disregard that the applicant has for the local community. Should this decimating industrial development in our countryside be allowed, then substantial compensation per household, set by an independent panel, should be mandatory to compensate for the impact of the development on our lives and the significant devaluation of house prices.

I do not believe that the energy output of the plant compared to other options has been properly considered and something that the inspectorate should consider. I believe that an independent review of the possible energy output per acre of land should be carried out as part of the planning process. We can't possibly give a green light to all solar farms without due consideration to their efficiency when compared to land use. There also needs to be proper consideration of the best use of the Drax energy hub. Taking up part of the vital capacity of power handling of the Drax infrastructure with a very inefficient power generation system such as solar without battery storage cannot be seen as sensible option.