



Social considerations

This scheme represents an important contribution to meeting the UK’s legally binding target under the Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended 2021) to achieve a ‘net zero’ carbon account by 2050. Renewable energy developments deliver both the local community and wider population a clean, secure source of electricity that is generated in the UK using natural resources. Solar power represents a ‘clean’ source of renewable energy as it doesn’t release any harmful emissions or pollutants.

Solar energy is also one of the cheapest forms of new renewable power generation in the UK, and consequently can contribute to controlling consumer’s energy bills into the future.

In addition, local benefits include:

- ◆ Local investment – we are committed to giving local businesses the opportunity to tender to provide services for the construction and operation of the solar farm. The proposed development will offer opportunities for local businesses such as construction services, accommodation providers, hire companies, fencing contractors, landscaping and tradesmen during the construction and operation of the project.
- ◆ Potential biodiversity enhancements including reinforcement of existing hedgerows and the planting of new hedgerows, native grasses and wild flowers within and adjacent to the solar farm itself.
- ◆ Improved recreational access: maintenance and enhancement of footpaths throughout the site.
- ◆ Annual Community Benefit Contribution – Oaklands Farm Solar Limited has volunteered to make an annual donation into a community benefit fund to support local initiatives, throughout the 40 year life of the project. We intend to consult with the local community and relevant organisations as to how best to organise this fund and feedback on local benefit opportunities is welcome. More detail about the level of funds, the initiatives to be supported, and administration of the fund will be available in the final application submission in Autumn 2022.

Through the consultation process, we are also keen to hear about any other potential local benefits that we could facilitate or deliver directly.

Protecting local rights of way

From early informal consultation, we understand that pedestrian links around and through the site are important. We have looked at how we can preserve and improve existing rights of way, and have also suggested an indicative route for a new permissive right of way across Oaklands Farm in the southern development area to provide a new link to the Cross Britain Way and on to Rosliston/Walton-on-Trent. This proposed route can be seen on the plan above. We’d be interested to know if you felt this was appropriate, or if you had any alternative suggestions for local access and rights of way.

Providing feedback

Formal Consultation

We would like the opportunity to understand the views of the local community on these proposals before we submit our application. We’d therefore like to invite you take part in the formal consultation on the proposals and provide your feedback by filling in a form.

The closing date for comments is 6th June 2022.

As part of the NSIP planning process, the Applicant is required to prepare and submit a Consultation Report detailing the consultation undertaken and how feedback has been taken into account for the project.

Let us know your views

You can get in touch with us and provide your feedback via:

- ◆ Project website – project documents and plans detailing the nature and location of the project are available at www.baywa-re.co.uk/en/solar/oaklands-solar-farm
- ◆ Email – written feedback can be provided utilising the project email address – info.oaklands-solarfarm@baywa-re.co.uk
- ◆ Feedback forms – available online via the project website and consultation events. Alternatively, get in touch to request a hard copy and we will post it to you
- ◆ Freepost – written feedback can be provided utilising the project freepost address
- ◆ FREEPOST TC CONSULTATION (no further address or stamp required) Freephone – 0800 699 0081 (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm excluding public holidays)