

Corley Solar Farm and Verticle Farming Unit Proposal and Local Community Objections

The proposal should it proceed and pass planning would have significant effects on the area and the local community. Will it set a precedent for more Solar Farms in the local area?

Below are some of the points we as a community have concerns about and would like them to be taken into consideration by the Parish Council and NWBC.

- Impact on the residents' health and wellbeing. Solar farms are a relatively new concept and the health implications are as yet unknown. Many of the solar farms in the UK we have looked at are not within 70 metres of local residents' front doors and we have found no farms currently in the UK that have a small community within such close proximity only single dwellings.
- There is no benefit to the local community, yet the community will have this on their doorstep
- Impact on the landscape and visual impact locally, the area has a large population of cyclists and ramblers which include local residents.
- Impact on the wildlife in the area and public rights of way.
- Great Lynes Wood has already been partially felled by the previous farmer and hedges have been removed more recently by the current farmer.
- Traffic and highway safety impacts during construction.
- Increased traffic flow- both Smorral Lane and Breach Oak Lane suffer with increased traffic since the Corley Services exit barrier has not been reinstated.
- There are also proposals for further housing developments in Bedworth at Hospital Lane and Woodlands along with the proposed housing in Keresley which will increase traffic flow along Breach Oak Lane/Smorral Lane and into the Corley Services.
- Yet more loss of green belt land that can never be recovered. Coventry are using the 2017 plan to give the go ahead to build on green belt land, even though the validity of the plan has been shown to be flawed. Warwickshire and Coventry border each so do they look at the area as a whole or just concern themselves with their own borough because now in this community green space is disappearing rapidly.
- The 24 -hour operation of the Hydroponic farming unit means constant activity, increased traffic throughout the 24 hour operation, lighting, noise and general disruption to local residents throughout the night.
- The panels will need regular maintenance and can be damaged in severe weather. Where would the council expect them to be disposed of as the glass is considered toxic and can't be recycled. This issue is being recognised worldwide as a potential future issue and is well documented.
- Fire safety is a concern. Hollow Oak Farm were granted planning for a bio digester against the objection of the local community. One of the objections was fire safety. The bio digester has not been built yet however July 2021 there was a barn fire requiring tenders from Bedworth and Nuneaton. The fire brigade struggled for water and water tenders were required, and the farm pond was too far away from the actual farm to be used as a water source. If the bio digester was built this could have been catastrophic.
- If there were to be an explosion of the lithium battery storage this would then release fluoride gas and local residents and schools within a 2 mile radius would be affected. As we have recently had the fire at Hollow oak farm these are very real concerns.
- We are in an area of concern around a protected water source, if there were to be a leak from the lithium battery storage it would contaminate the water source and the total area needed to protect the discharge is 500 meters this covers all the local housing immediately opposite the site. (see attached diagram)
- Houses on Breach Oak Lane comes under the low risk category hazard on the Shrink Swell Clay Hazard, however swelling clays can change volume due to

variation in ground moisture, this can cause movement particularly in the upper 2 meters of the ground that may affect foundations. Ground moisture can be related to a number of factors including weather variations, (Breach Oak Lane already suffers flooding during heavy rain which reaches the front of the houses, the last being in mid July), vegetation affects, particularly growth or removal of trees and more importantly **man-made activity**.

- Has the new substation at Corley Services been installed for the purpose of this solar farm? If so why, when this is still at the proposal stage and no planning has been applied for.

While these concerns are not meant to be exhaustive they are concerns that the local community have and we would appreciate the support of the Parish Council in opposing this Proposal.