

FILLONGLEY PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the Council: Mrs H A Badham, The Crooked Stile, St Mary's Road,
Fillongley, Warwickshire, CV7 8EY

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6th September 2024

Dear Councillors

Ref; *PAP/2023/0071 Land 800m South of Park House Farm, Meriden Road. Construction of a temporary Solar Farm providing 47.7MW output, to include the installation of ground-mounted solar panels together with associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure.*

Your Council may be aware of an application for a solar farm in our Parish that was recently refused by NWBC. It is on almost 150 acres of best and most versatile farmed arable land, in the Green Belt, highly visible from numerous properties, locations and roads in the Parish and contrary to a number of policies in our Fillongley Neighbourhood Plan. The applicant has appealed against the decision.

You may be asking what this has to do with you? We are seeking a seat at the table at the Appeal which is to be held in Atherstone on December 10th and 11th 2024 from 10am.

To enable this to happen, not only do we need support but we need funds. So why the letter? We need to raise around £15,000 to fight this appeal. Why you? NWBC believe that this is a strong case. Whilst the new Government have had a change in Policy to the old government, this is still a huge, highly visible site, on the best arable land and contrary to our Local Neighbourhood Plan. **The concern is, that if we lose this, the flood gates will be opened to developers looking to put more of these sites on our farmland in the green belt – this is not just a problem on our doorstep but could be coming to your Parish too.** Whilst we all appreciate the need for energy security, FPC do not believe it should be at the cost of our food security.

We have set up a Just Giving Page (<https://gofund.me/51aa341f>) or if you are able, any donation, however large or small can be made directly into our bank account (Fillongley Parish Council 60-83-01 20449612) and receipts will be issued to your Council.

If you are unable to financially support us, we would be grateful if you are able to write/email in support so that we can show the Inspector that Neighbourhood Plans shouldn't be ignored. You are also welcome to support by coming to the Appeal at the Council House in Atherstone on 10th and 11th December.

If you wish to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk. Thank you for your time, consideration and support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Pargetter".

CLlr A Robert Pargetter
Chairman of Fillongley Parish Council