

Proposed Solar Farm To The West Of Berrington, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
APP/L3245/W/23/3332543
23/03207/REF

My name is Tre, I'm 43 years old and my favourite colour is green, it's the greenness of Cantlop, the Cound Brook valley and Shropshire that drew us to move here. To explain why, I need to provide some context.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These involved leaving our small town and striking out into the green, into the countryside, so I could see trees, hills, birds and fields. To provide space, and far views and big skies. We decided to move to a house that had green countryside, big skies and far reaching views, so that those drives would no longer be needed.

When I saw the house at Cantlop listed on rightmove, I gasped. Convinced it would go before we got a look in. However when we sold ours, it was still available, then when our offer was accepted, up until moving day I could not believe that something as good as this house would happen to me. Waking up for the first day to that big sky, far reaching view and all that green was amazing, and has been amazing every day since. From those windows, on the proposed site, I have seen Kites and buzzards soaring over the fields, hovering kestrels and small groups of deer. I don't drive, so to be able to walk our dog, Maude, in the open countryside without anyone taking me there has been a blessing. We had an allotment in our old town, here we have the most beautiful garden where we will raise vegetables and flowers [REDACTED]

Hearing about the solar farm was a gut punch. As a biologist I am completely aware of the need for green energy, but I'm also critical enough to know that not everything labelled as green is good.

[REDACTED], and reading through the original application for the solar farm, and the appeal paperwork has been very uncomfortable. Being involved in local discourse has been uncomfortable. The way the community benefits were discussed with different groups has raised divisions, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The ecology survey seems lacking, the number of surveys seemed low, the time of year seemed inappropriate. The impact on the development on local residents seems to have been downplayed. The glint and glare survey does not account for any view above ground level. The development being on a slope, facing Cantlop means no option for normal mitigation screening. All of this is acceptable to the developer. The paperwork contains omissions. Survey of skylark mitigation land, impact of decommissioning, landscape views other than a few carefully chosen sites. Some of the documents feel like obfuscation, Section 8 of the planning summary was particularly uncomfortable. The concerns about the glint and glare survey being inadequate goes beyond it being a desktop study, the concerns about the letters of support were around them being a petition, not about the location. This feels unfair.

I moved here for peace and space and green. The human eye determines more shades of green than any other colour. The reason so many waiting rooms, hospitals and schools use the colour is because psychology suggests it is restful, calming and increases creativity. Since moving here I have spent more time outdoors, walking or gardening or just being. I've picked up much loved hobbies [REDACTED]

To have the visual amenity of the soft green valley replaced with the grey angular rows of solar panels will change the entire context of Cantlop and the Cound Brook Valley. The view from the closest public right of way will be altered for a generation. To live with knowing that the valid concerns of normal people mean little compared to the potential income for some company will be worse. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] For these reasons I hope the appeal upholds the council's original decision to disallow this development.