

Email: Bottisham Parish Council Support for Kingsway Solar Opposition
From: Sam as Bottisham Parish Council Clerk
To: Chairs & Clerks of local Parishes with letter attached
CC: Kingsway Action Group. BPC Chair Nadene and BPC Planning Lead Maria
Enc: Letter sent to Planning Inspectorate

Dear Fellow Parish Councillors and Kingsway Action Group

Bottisham Parish Council stands in full solidarity with all objections to the proposed Kingsway Solar Farm development and has therefore urged the Planning Inspectorate to reject this application.

Following our October Full Council meeting, we unanimously resolved to support the objections raised by neighbouring parishes regarding this unprecedented industrial-scale development. Our formal objection letter has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, with copies sent to Kingsway Solar and our regional MPs.

We share deep concerns about the scale, location, and impact of this project, which would industrialise over 3,000 acres (1,246 hectares) of productive farmland across South Cambridgeshire - an area larger than Heathrow Airport and greater than any other solar development in the UK. The proposed solar farm threatens to irreversibly alter the rural character of our region, disrupt heritage landscapes, and undermine local biodiversity. This extraordinary proposal would fundamentally transform the countryside surrounding Balsham, West Wratting, Weston Colville, Willingham Green, Carlton, Brinkley, Six Mile Bottom, and Bottisham.

Our shared concerns include:

- **Visual and Landscape Devastation:** The development would dominate views across the countryside, irreversibly altering the historic landscape that defines our area's identity and natural beauty.
- **Agricultural Land Loss:** The conversion of highly productive farmland to solar infrastructure undermines both food security and the rural economy, with minimal evidence of true, demonstrable, and meaningful local benefit to offset this loss.
- **Ecological Disruption:** The massive scale of land clearance poses serious threats to wildlife habitats, biodiversity corridors, and established ecosystems.
- **Infrastructure Impact:** The proposed 15km grid connection corridor, likely using overhead pylons up to 50 metres high, would cause long-term visual and environmental disruption across our rural communities.
- **Inappropriate Scale and Location:** While we support the transition to renewable energy in principle, this proposal is wholly disproportionate and poorly sited for our rural setting.

We have urged the **Planning Inspectorate and the Secretary of State** to **refuse the Development Consent Order (DCO)** for the Kingsway Solar Farm in its current form. We have emphasised that renewable energy development should prioritise **rooftop solar, brownfield land, and smaller-scale, sensitively located projects** that work with, rather than against, rural communities.

We have also written to our **District and County Councillors** requesting their full support in opposing this scheme. Bottisham Parish Council has reserved the right to make further detailed representations when the full application is submitted and the formal examination takes place.

United, we stand stronger. Our coordinated opposition demonstrates the widespread concern shared across all affected communities. Please let us know if there are further ways we can collaborate or contribute to the collective campaign.

Yours in solidarity,

Bottisham Parish Council

Encl. Letter to Planning Inspectorate

Email: Bottisham Parish Council Support for Kingsway Solar Opposition
From: Sam as Bottisham Parish Council Clerk
To: Charlotte, Jonny and John
CC: Kingsway Action Group.
Enc: Letter sent to Planning Inspectorate

Dear Charlotte, Jonny, and John,

Bottisham Parish Council formally objects to the proposed Kingsway Solar Farm development and respectfully requests your immediate support and intervention.

Please find attached our comprehensive objection letter submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, outlining our serious concerns about this unprecedented, industrial-scale project that would cover over 3,000 acres (1,246 hectares) of productive countryside — an area larger than Heathrow Airport.

We are deeply concerned about the scale and impact of this proposal on our local landscape, heritage, environment, and community wellbeing. The development poses significant threats to:

- Rural landscape character and heritage settings
- High-quality agricultural land essential for food security
- Local biodiversity and wildlife corridors
- Community wellbeing through visual and noise and construction impacts
- The precedent this sets for future large-scale industrial developments

This is not just about Bottisham - the cumulative impact affects numerous parishes across South and East Cambridgeshire. As you know the consultation period closes on 29 October 2025, making immediate action essential.

We urgently request your support through the following:

- **Charlotte:** Apply parliamentary pressure by raising concerns in Parliament, writing to the Secretary of State, and ensuring local voices are heard within this Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) process.
- **Jonny & John:** Represent our parish and neighbouring communities at district and county levels to ensure our concerns are fully recorded in council responses and planning consultations.

We strongly believe that **renewable energy development should prioritise rooftop solar, brownfield land, and smaller-scale projects** that work with, rather than against, local communities. Local voices and democratic accountability must remain central to this process. While this is a nationally significant project, it is our communities that will bear the environmental and social costs.

We would welcome the opportunity to coordinate our opposition efforts with you. Your support is vital to ensuring that the perspectives of local residents and parishes are properly represented throughout the examination process.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter and for your continued support for Bottisham Parish and the wider affected communities.

Yours faithfully

Sam Chambers-Turner