

Below please find minutes from the meeting which was arranged by the Parish Council. This is a letter/minute about that meeting has been delivered to all the objectors and petition signatories

Dear Resident thank you for your interest, I Hope this goes someway to alleviate your concerns

Solar Panel Meeting on 24th September 2015-09-26

Representatives from Lower House Farm, Mulbrick, Green Cat Energy and the Residents and Halsall Parish Councillors

Roy Webster of Lower House Farm stated that the solar field is to be used to offset the 'Carbon Footprint' of Lower House Farm, fields and equipment. Large companies like Sainsbury require this from farmers to meet their companies 'Carbon Footprint' aims. Below are the Questions, Answers and solutions asked by Residents and answered by the farmer and solar panel experts at the above meeting.

Questions from residents

Q-Loss of prime agricultural land

A- The solar field would sit over the old Railway track and sidings where there are large amounts of stone ballast remaining; the field is classed by the farmer as poor quality for normal modern farming methods though it will be grazed by sheep under and around the panels if this is allowed to go ahead. The whole triangular field will be grassed over and is no longer to be used for either temporary or permanent buildings and equipment it will be used solely to bury the feeder cable then grassed over for grazing.

Q- A visual impact on the landscape.

A- The company and the Farmer will create screening where practical.

Q- Will the Wildlife Suffer?

A- No Stock fencing will surround the site with a wildlife gap underneath and shrubbery around

Q – Will the Sub-station be next to property in Shaws Garth?

A- It has been re-sited away from the property beside the Lower House Farm track.

Q- How will Shaws Garth be affected?

A- It has been agreed that the contractor will not use Shaws Garth to access the site apart the cable that will run along the farmers track and make good all damage to the well kept banking.

Q- What is happening with the small triangular field next to gardens of Shaws Garth?

A- It has been agreed with the company that there is no need to use this part of the site and it will remain pasture for grazing

Q- How will the heavy construction vehicles get to the site?

A- the farmer has agreed to let the company use his farmyard for access and storage

Q- Will large vehicles use the track by Glendene Farm?

A- The answer is no now the farmyard is being used there is no need, there will be the occasional small vehicle to maintain the site on a few occasions

Q- Is this the start of more solar fields on Lower House Farm?

A- The farmer said no this small field is to meet his reduction in the Carbon Footprint to offset the tractors and other plant that use of fossil fuels on the farm.

Please contact me if you have any further fears or comments

Yours sincerely Dave Corfield vice chairman Halsall Parish Council