

From: [Haywood, Ben](#)
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Cc: [Curley, Jane](#)
Subject: FW: Rownall Farm solar development concerns (Case Ref: KB44338) kab/jm
Date: 18 June 2022 12:23:20

From: karen.bradley.mp@parliament.uk <karen.bradley.mp@parliament.uk>
Sent: 31 May 2022 14:06
To: Stokes, Andrew <Andrew.Stokes@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk>; Atherton, Jenny
<jenny.atherton@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk>; Roberts, Paul (CLLR)
<Paul.Roberts@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk>
Subject: Rownall Farm solar development concerns (Case Ref: KB44338) kab/jm

Dear John, Jenny and Paul

**Miss Penny Dabell – Holly Grove Farm, Thorney Edge Road, Bagnall,
Staffordshire Moorlands, ST9 9LA**

I am emailing on behalf of my above constituent and have attached a copy of her consent form for your records and information.

Miss Dabell has contacted me with her concerns surrounding the proposed solar development at Rownall Farm. I have copied several of her emails below which outline her worries:-

"[sic] I am writing to you in the hope that you can shed some light on the attached information that was sent to me. I am amazed and quite frankly bewildered that this is even being contemplated on this beautiful greenbelt land. Not only that we run a Glamping site and from where the Farm is going to be positioned means it will affect our view and our guests too !! I have copied an email that was sent to the Bagnall Parish Council listing the reasons why we would object to this but fear that this will be approved no matter what !! Not only that I fear that if this goes ahead it will de value my property and our business too. Who will compensate us for this ?"

I have copied the email Miss Dabell sent to Bagnall Parish Council below:-

*"[sic] To who this may concern.
I am completely against the proposed plans for the installation of the above subject in our area and opposing land ST9 9LA. My answer to the plans is No.*

"Reason

- 1. History of explosion concerning Battery Storage.*
- 2. Extremely unsightly Solar Panels in opposing land opposite my property and surrounding area.*
- 3. The damage it would create to the natural beauty and nature of the area. Including animals, insects etc.*
- 4. The well-being of human beings.*

5. A complete eyesore and future damage for the visitors to our business.
(Glamping at Holly Grove Farm.)
6. The reduction and possible sale price of our Property and Business.

"These are just a few concerns that affect us, our Business, our visitors, Walkers, Cyclists, nature and our neighbours. It has been shown, that the Battery Storage Units, are sometimes unstable and could essentially damage, injure or even kill property, animals and personnel within a large radius of their position.

"The extremely large unsightly amount of panels in the proposed area would decimate the natural beauty, animal and insect survival and would be seen from, My property, My neighbours property, the road and tracks used daily by walkers, cyclists and horse riders. We are a relatively new business bringing visitors to the area which in turn helps the economy within the Staffordshire Moorlands. Personnel always comment on the beautiful views and surrounding areas of our campsite. If these plans go ahead, this could jeopardise future visitors to our business and the Staffordshire Moorlands. A lot of our visitors come here, as it is so tranquil and quite, it helps with their well-being and health.

"The main reason we moved here, was because of the beautiful area surrounding our property. After 38 years in the Military, I have come home to retire and to enjoy our property and the natural beauty of our surrounding area. If this installation goes ahead myself and my neighbours could consider moving to a different area, with this in mind our properties and businesses could be reduced, significantly in price due to this project going ahead.

"In summary. There is 100% no need for theses plans to be passed for our area. We are all very lucky, to live in an area of so much natural beauty. Look around the city, we have areas that are becoming derelict, defaced and forgotten. Areas that cannot be seen from properties and by pedestrians. Use these areas. We do not need more and more expansion onto our beautiful, stunning, natural countryside to delete what we will all regret. I oppose these plans."

I have copied her most recent email below:-

"I am a resident at Holly Grove Farm, Thorney Edge, Bagnall ST9 9LA and I am writing to yourselves as I am both bemused and angry at the proposed development at Newfields Farm for Battery Storage units and also further possible plans for Solar Farms at Rownall Farm by BayWa r.e !! And god knows how many more Solar Farms will emerge once one gets the go ahead ?. I have been informed that you are the cabinet and make decisions about such things. I would like to appeal to your better nature on this matter.

"This is an area of natural beauty and tranquility and we run a Glamping Site here where people come to relax and unwind. We are a new business of 2 years and still building a reputation. We already get some buzzing and humming noises from the Electricity Station over the way, which is liveable but fear that with all the extra Battery Storage and Solar Farms this peace will be shattered. Our views could well be jeopardised also, not only that but it could ruin our business and devalue our property as well !! Whilst I am aware of the need to go Carbon Neutral should it really be at the expense of tearing up Greenbelt land and peoples quiet living ?

Does this not defeat the object ?

"Can I ask how many of you live in this vicinity ? Of course if you do not live here it will not affect you at all !! I moved here back in 2006 for a quiet peaceful life, but feel this will probably now be in serious jeopardy.

"There is also the safety aspect of these Battery Storage units, if not run correctly and they over heat they can explode and decimate a large area within a mile radius !! Please see attached info.

"I cannot for the life of me think why anyone would want to agree to these applications. Who will compensate us for loss of business and a drop in our house value ? I am seriously considering going to the press about this and I will not stop until these proposals are stopped."

I would therefore be very grateful if Miss Dabell's concerns could be looked into and a response provided in a form I can share directly with her.

Many thanks in advance and best wishes,

The Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP (Staffordshire Moorlands)
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