

## Camblesforth Parish Council

### Summary points from a meeting between Camblesforth Parish Council and Representatives of the proposed Solar Farm off Camela Lane at the Parish Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> July.

---

Cllrs welcomed Sarah Clinch from Lanpro Services (Agents for the Project) Phillip Elbourne from P3P (the Developer for the project) and Lesley Giles from Island Green Power (Company advising / providing the solar panels).

The meeting took the form of a question and answer session with a number of questions provided by Cllrs to the representatives.

---

#### **1 Will there be any re-routing of any public rights of way.**

Cllrs were advised that there would be no re-routing or changes to public rights of way during and after the construction period. In-fact, the developer will be increasing countryside access with the introduction of new woodland and meadow areas and trails / walks which will enhance and build upon existing countryside access. The developer was keen to ensure existing rights of way were maintained and that the development would be an opportunity to improve 'green recreational' facilities for the community.

#### **2 What if any provisions will be put in place for the deer and the wildlife that cross the land to be used.**

The project had appointed an ecologist team and a number of measures would be implemented to not only support existing wildlife, but also encourage the introduction of new wildlife, by the creation of suitable and sustainable environments as part of the development – new woodland and meadows would be linked by 'green corridors' for wildlife such as deer which will encourage them to avoid roads and built-up areas and it was proposed the new woodland areas would be linked to existing nature reserves / green areas by walking paths and trails for the public.

There will be special fencing around the solar farm to prevent deer from accessing the site and injuring themselves.

Other measures include creating habitat and wildflower areas for nesting birds such as skylarks as well as bird and bat boxes.

**3 Will access to Camela Lane be minimised during the construction. What routes will be used to access the site during construction and what plans are there to minimise disruption to the village. There are already serious traffic concerns in the village (volume and speeding) as well as the condition of the roads, so HGV and construction traffic will arguably aggravate this. Camela Lane off Brigg Lane is unsuitable for large vehicles.**

Cllrs were advised that there would be no restrictions to access of Camela Lane and that construction traffic will not access or leave the site via the village (Brigg Lane entrance). The actual construction period is estimated to be six months with a number of months remaining with regard to consultation and construction will only take place during the day at specific times – construction traffic will avoid peak road times (such as rush hour).

Post construction vehicles accessing the site will be small (such as quad bikes) for the purposes of maintenance

The developers were asked to ensure construction vehicles did not block up the road whilst waiting for access to the site, a problem seen elsewhere.

In addition developers were asked to liaise with Highways with regard to speed issues / dangerous overtaking on the A645 ('Cammie Straight') as Cllrs were concerned re: this existing problem which had resulted in numerous accidents and maybe aggravated by an increase of HGVs on the roads around the proposed site. Effective road sign warnings would need to be implemented as a minimum.

Questions were asked with regard to noise from the solar farm once up and running and Cllrs were advised that full noise nuisance assessments had been carried out as part of the project and there will be no / minimal noise from the panels once operating.

Cllrs asked if it was proposed that any other buildings would be built on the site – it was advised that there would only be a small 'utility' type building on the site.

**4 Concerning the maintenance of the site once completed, will this include the grass verges on Camela Lane & the hedge row that you intend to plant.**

Cllrs were advised that the site will be fully maintained once constructed – sheep will also be allowed to roam around the panels and experience had show at similar sites, this was an effective way of keeping the grass maintained.

Cllrs were advised that although P3P will retain an interest in the site and overall responsibility for maintenance etc, another organisation may manage the day to day running of the site – it was confirmed the Parish Council would be provided with contact details for any matters which needed raising.

The lease of the land was currently for 40 years, after which there were a number of options including an extended lease or returning the land to agricultural use

**5 What type of solar system will be used. Stationary panels or tilt panels.**

The solar panels would be tilting and will rotate east to west – it was calculated that the panels would power up to 15,000 homes per days.

**6 Can you give early indications of the level of CIL money which will be provided to the village / What if any benefits (financially, socially & recreationally) will there be for the community of Camblesforth.**

Cllrs were advised that as CIL only applied to residential development this was not applicable, however the developers were keen to support community projects for the village and asked Cllrs to provide ideas which they felt would benefit the Camblesforth community – Cllrs agreed to consider possible projects and forward to the Clerk who would collate for discussion at the August / September meetings.