

17 November 2021

Ms Marianna Hall  
Planning Officer  
West Suffolk House,  
Western Way,  
Bury St Edmunds , IP33 3YU

Dear Ms Hall

**DC/21/0968/FUL Planning application - solar farm with ancillary development and vehicular access. Land To The East Of Breach Farm Ness Road Burwell East Cambridgeshire CB25 0DB**

Thank you for consulting the Suffolk Preservation Society (SPS) on additional material including an amended site layout for the proposed 49.9MW solar farm at Landswade.

This response should be read in conjunction with our previous response (dated 14 June 2021) in which SPS strongly recommended that the layout be amended to set the solar panels back from the perimeter and buffer strips of grasses and wild flowers be provided, as well as increased hedge planting/ infilling and tree planting. The amended layout which includes hedge gap filling and woodland planting to the SE corner and western edge of the site is therefore welcomed. The depth of this planting will need to be 5-6m in order to provide meaningful screening throughout the year.

As previously stated, SPS is in full support of renewable energy projects done well, suitably located, scaled, assessed, mitigated and where necessary compensated. Regrettably, notwithstanding the amendments to the proposed landscaping, due to the loss of a significant amount of prime agricultural land and the cumulative impacts of extant, consented and emerging solar farm proposals, which will result in a fundamental shift in landscape character, we continue to urge that this application is resisted.

Yours sincerely,

**Fiona Cairns IHBC MRTPI**

**Director**