The Consultation period regarding the proposed Whitestone 2 Solar Farm has been extended until January 31st 2025. Following on from the village meeting to discuss the proposal the Parish Council has agreed and sent its response. However, at the meeting we were asked to produce an outline response to help concerned residents develop and submit their own responses. At this stage this is only a consultation period, not part of the formal planning process and we expect that there will be further public meetings with the Whitestone developers over the next year or so.

Points you might like to include in your comments:

Your concerns about the size and scale of the proposal and its impact on our rural community, its impact on the Conservation Area and on our Listed Buildings.

Your concerns that this proposal does not take account of the planned Common Lane solar farm (between Brampton and Dinnington), or the proposed Piper Lane solar farm (Aston).

Your concerns about changing the nature and character of a rural village that can trace its origins back to the Doomsday book.

Your concerns about the impact on the Green Belt – why are they building on greenbelt, why are they planning to use land used for food production, why are they seeking to industrialise the greenbelt. Why are they not looking to use brown field sites?

Your concerns about the impact on your home and the way you live –will you see it, will it be close to the boundary of your property, will it impact on the rural setting of your property?

Your concerns about how the proposed farm will look. It will completely altar the nature of the countryside, the hills surrounding us will be covered in glass, the roads will run through a changed landscape, there may be problems with glint and glare from reflections.

Your concerns about battery storage facilities and cable runs – these should not be near housing or close to villages.

Your concerns about the impact on our wildlife. We are fortunate to have such a diversity of wildlife on our doorstep including deer and hares, ground nesting birds such as Plovers and SkyLarks, hunting birds such as Buzzards, Owls, Sparrow Hawks, Kestrels and Kites. All these species need wide open spaces to thrive.

Your concerns about the impact on our Bridal Ways, Public Footpaths and Green Lanes and all those who use them. These paths will be fenced off from the solar panels by Deer fencing at least 10ft high. Will people still be able to walk their dogs, ride, run, walk?

Your concerns about local tenant farmers and the loss of livelihood.

Your comments can be submitted on line: info@whitestonesolarfarm.co.uk

Or in writing: Whitestone Solar Farm, Freepost SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL.

 (no stamp is needed)

It would be helpful if you could also let Ulley Parish Council have a copy of your response. Please send to Clerk.ulleypc@outlook.com or post through the village hall door.