Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm Appeal Scheme with Amendments April 2023

For and on behalf of

Statkraft UK





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AW0143-PL-003 Proposed Mitigation, Landscape & Ecology enhancements – Appeal Site

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Addendum

1.1.1. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was prepared in February 2022 to accompany the planning application 22/501335/FULL for the proposed development on Land north of Little Cheveney Farm, Sheephurst Lane, Marden, Kent.

Planning Application Number	22/501335/FULL
Site Name	Land north of Little Cheveney Farm, Sheephurst Lane, Marden, Kent
Description of Proposal	Installation of a renewable energy led generating station comprising of ground-mounted PV solar arrays, associated electricity generation infrastructure and other ancillary equipment comprising of storage containers, access tracks, fencing, gates and CCTV together with the creation of woodland and biodiversity enhancements.

- 1.1.2. This addendum has been prepared to support the changes to the Proposed Development following consultee comments. It considers the comments made by the Heritage and Design Consultee in August 2022, the Conservation Officer consultee in October 2022, and committee report and other comments received in response to the further consultation on the Proposed Development. This addendum refers specifically to the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments.
- 1.1.3. The same methodology has been used in this LVIA as that which supported the Proposed Development. The landscape sensitivity assessment derived for the submitted LVIA with respect to the Proposed Development was specific to the site. It made reference to the sensitivity of the entire landscape character types of the Maidstone Landscape Character Assessment and assessed the site and immediate setting with respect to its sensitivity to this form of development. The sensitivity will remain as assessed within the LVIA (Section 5, Paragraph 5.6).

2. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT WITH APPEAL AMENDMENTS AND REASONS FOR ALTERATIONS

2.1. Solar array layout

- 2.1.1. The solar panels have been removed to the west of 8 Sheephurst Cottages to improve the visual amenity from this dwelling. The HV compound has been relocated further away from 8 Sheephurst Cottages to reduce potential visual effects and amenity.
- 2.1.2. Several solar arrays have been removed from the southern boundary north west of Little Cheveney Farm, to improve the visual amenity from dwellings along Sheephurst Lane.



2.1.3. Solar arrays have been removed in proximity to Willow Cottage and Willow Barn to create a minimum of 35m between the Barn and the solar arrays. Distance between the solar arrays and the listed buildings in Little Cheveney Farm and Sheephurst Farm has been increased thus reducing any impacts on the setting of these listed buildings.

2.2. Mitigation planting

- 2.2.1. Mitigation woodland planting has been increased in depth along the boundaries between these dwellings and the site. Additional woodland planting has been provided to the south of the relocated HV compound to reduce visual effects from the road. (See drawing AW0143-PL-003).
- 2.2.2. Woodland has been removed from the land outside of the red line boundary.
- 2.2.3. The woodland species mix has been revised to take into account the species mix within the Maidstone Landscape Character Guidelines. The amended species mix provides a combination of those identified in the landscape guidelines and those already prevalent on the site.

2.3. Reasons for Design Changes

- 2.3.1. The design changes were made for the following reasons:
 - To improve visual amenity from the residential dwellings closest to the solar farm;
 - To improve visual amenity and landscape setting of the listing buildings to the south of the site;
 - To improve visual amenity from Sheephurst Lane;
 - To provide fast growing, dense layering of high quality mitigation planting that is in character with the local area using as a reference the Maidstone Landscape Character Guidelines;
 - To incorporate the mitigation planting within the red line boundary in response to concern raised in the Officer Report around the deliverability of mitigation planting outside of the red line boundary.

3. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY & ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

3.1. The Methodology

3.1.1. The assessment methodology for the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments is consistent with the methodology used in the LVIA for Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm (Appendix A Assessment Methodology for LVIA).

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3.2. Receptors Reassessed and Additional Viewpoints

- 3.2.1. In response to the consultation comments on the Proposed Development with respect to the visual amenity of a number of dwellings to the south of the site, a site visit was conducted on 27th February 2023 to obtain greater depth of the visibility from these dwellings from publicly accessible locations.
- 3.2.2. Access was not available to the private road at Little Cheveney Farm in order to assess the visual impact on Willow Cottage, Willow Barn, and the Grade II Listed buildings, Oast House 60m NE of Little Cheveney Farm House, Little Cheveney Farm, Oast House 15m SW of Little Cheveney Farm House, and a Barn 15m South West of Little Cheveney Farm House. Therefore additional contextual views were taken from the Public Right of Way (PROW) to the south east of these dwellings to provide contextual understanding of the outlook from the listed buildings and dwellings and their proximity to the site. These contextual views can be appreciated in Appendix C. Viewpoint 1 was updated to consider the changes associated with this location, as seen in Appendix B, Figures 1-5).
- 3.2.3. Further assessment of Burtons Lane was undertaken to determine the extent of visibility, particularly from Little Long End (Grade II Listed building). However, no views were possible through the dense hedgerow to the south of this road.
- 3.2.4. An additional viewpoint and montage was taken to the west of Viewpoint 10 (8 Sheephurst Cottages) (Plate G within the LVIA for proposed development). This was in response to consultation comments with respect to the visual amenity of 8 Sheephurst Cottages. This new viewpoint (Viewpoint 12) shows the new layout and woodland buffer and how it impacts this location (Appendix B, Figures 19-23).
- 3.2.5. Where the BESS barn has been removed, Viewpoints 2 and 3 have been updated to show these changes (Appendix B, Figures 6-10 and Fig 11).
- 3.2.6. Where the access track to the north west off Burtons Lane has been removed, Viewpoint 8 has been updated to show these amendments. This has no material effect on the visual amenity of this location (Appendix B, Figures 12-16).
- 3.2.7. Viewpoints 4, 5, 6, and 7 have not been amended as there are no changes to these viewpoints.
- 3.2.8. An additional viewpoint and montage was taken from the Greensand Ridge, further to consultation comments relating to intervisibility of the site with the Ridge. This new viewpoint (Viewpoint 12) shows the panoramic view from the Greensand Ridge (Appendix B, Figures 24-28).

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4. ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

4.1. Assessment

- 4.1.1. The effects on the landscape by the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments are determined by the sensitivity of the landscape receptor and the magnitude of effect.
- 4.1.2. The Landscape Character Types of Laddingford and Teise Valley have been identified in the Maidstone Landscape Capacity Study: Sensitivity Assessment, 2015 as moderate and high sensitivity, respectively. However in accordance with the GLVIA (pp 89, paras 5.41 & 5.42), the Site has been independently assessed on its sensitivity to this form of development.

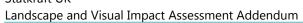
4.1.3. Sensitivity is determined by defining

- Susceptibility of the landscape element to change, and
- Value of the landscape element.
- 4.1.4. The susceptibility of the landscape to change of the Site and its immediate setting was identified in the LVIA for Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, paragraph 5.4 and has not changed. Overall susceptibility to changes remains Medium.
- 4.1.5. The value of the landscape is based on the characteristics and qualities of the Site and their level of importance within the landscape. This was identified in the LVIA for Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, paragraph 5.5 and has not changed. The value of the landscape remains as **Medium**.
- 4.1.6. The sensitivity of the landscape is determined by landscape elements that affect susceptibility to change (**medium**) and landscape value (**medium**). The overall sensitivity of the landscape to this type of development has not altered and remains **medium** (paragraph 5.6 of the LVIA for Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm).

4.2. Changes to Landscape Effects

- 4.2.1. The species mix of mitigation woodland has been revised to reflect the Maidstone Landscape Guidelines. Due to the presence of species such as Willow, Alder and Birch, the woodland is notably faster growing, and as such the magnitude of change would be more noticeable after 5-10 years. The depth of woodland planting has increased as a result of a reduction in the land take of the solar arrays to the west and north of 8 Sheephurst Cottages, and to the north of Willow Cottage and Willow Barn.
- 4.2.2. As such, the magnitude of landscape effects at completion and following 5-10 years of maturation have been reassessed for the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments. These are identified in Tables 1a and 1b below:

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Landscape components	Landscape components Size and scale Geographical extent of Duration and Magnitude of effective of					
	0.20 0.10 000.0	the effect	reversibility	within Study Area		
Introduction of solar arrays with associated fencing and access tracks. Moved further away from southern boundaries.	The solar panels are 3m in height and set in rows (arrays) across the majority of 7 fields avoiding tree lines and belts, the far west, south west and south east of the Site. Solar arrays follow the contours of the landscape. Tracks are visible to the edge of development.	Visible from PROW adjacent, but less visible beyond 300m of the Site. Extent of effect diminishes significantly beyond 800m.	Temporary (up to 37year lifespan) and reversible	Medium-High Adverse (This is associated with the size of the Site, buthe limited extent a which this affect the wider landscape)		
	Fencing is deer fence style.					
Introduction of electrical infrastructure	The HV compound has been relocated from the boundary and is set within the solar arrays to the west of the Site and near to existing pylons. BESS barn to the east is	Partial visibility of the HV compound from south of the Site through gaps in vegetation. Otherwise not visible within the landscape.	Temporary as above	Low-Medium Adverse		
	removed					
Retention of all vegetation within the Site boundary	Existing size and scale of vegetation	Localised and regional	Permanent	Medium-High beneficia		
Planting of trees, new faster growing species mix of woodland, gapping up hedgerows and river vegetation and introduction of meadow. Providing east to west connections between existing fields and providing deep landscape buffers to dwellings.	New hedgerows along all fencelines with fast growing mitigation tree and shrub planting around structures. Existing hedgerows gapped up and additional trees planted to provide new structure of trees within the hedgerows over time. Deep woodland belts planted to the south of the site.	Localised within the Site.	Permanent	Negligible (due to lack of maturity of vegetation)		
Permissive path that connects the south eastern PROW to the existing PROW north of the Site, and passes through the western biodiversity area back to Sheephurst Lane.	Informal but managed path network that extends the PROWS to the east, north and west of the Site	Visible locally within the Site	Permanent	Medium Beneficial		
	Low-Medium Adverse					



Landscape components	Size and scale	Geographical extent of	Duration and	Magnitude of effect
		the effect	reversibility	within Study Area
Solar arrays with associated fencing and access tracks. Moved further away from	The solar panels are 3m in height and set in rows (arrays) across the majority of 7 fields	Mostly screened from PROW adjacent and within 800m of the Site. Extent of effect	Temporary (upto 37year lifespan) and reversible	Medium Adverse (This is associated with the size of the Site, but
southern boundaries.	avoiding tree lines and belts, the far west, south west and south east of the Site.	diminishes with intervening vegetation. Grassland matured under solar arrays and around the Site		the limited extent at which this affects the wider landscape, as well as the assimilation of the arrays within the
	Solar arrays follow the contours of the landscape. Tracks are visible to the edge of development.			landscape due to maturation of vegetation)
	Fencing is deer fence style.			
Introduction of electrical infrastructure	The HV compound has been moved from the boundary and is set	HV compound screened from the south of the Site. Otherwise not	Temporary as above	Negligible (Although the size
	within the solar arrays to the west of the Site.	visible within the landscape.		remains, the infrastructure has assimilated within the
	BESS barn to the east is removed			landscape due to maturation of vegetation)
Retention of all vegetation within the Site boundary	Existing size and scale of vegetation	Localised and regional	Permanent	Medium-High beneficial
Maturing trees, new faster growing species mix of woodland, gapped up hedgerows and river vegetation with established meadow. Deep woodland belts from east to west with hedgerow connections between existing fields and providing landscape buffers to dwellings.	Hedgerows along all fencelines with fast grown mitigation tree and shrub planting around structures. Existing hedgerows gapped up and additional trees maturing to provide new structure of trees within the hedgerows over time. Deep woodland belts to the south of the site.	Visible within the Site and within 1km of the Site boundary where views are present.	Permanent	High beneficial
Permissive path that connects the south eastern PROW to the existing PROW north of the Site, and passes through the western biodiversity area back to Sheephurst Lane.	Informal but managed path network that extends to the east, north and west of the Site	Visible locally within the Site	Permanent	Medium Beneficial
	Low-Medium Beneficial			



4.2.3. The significance of landscape effects is the combination of the sensitivity of the landscape and the magnitude of change. Table 2 below identifies the significance of effect upon completion and within 5-10 years of the Appeal design:

Table 2: Significance of effect upon completion of Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments					
Sensitivity of landscape Elements	Sensitivity of landscape Elements Magnitude of Landscape Effects Significance of Effect on Landscape				
Medium	Low-Medium Adverse	Slight-Moderate Adverse			

Table 2: Significance of effect after 5-10 years of Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments				
Sensitivity of Landscape Magnitude of Landscape Effects Significance of Effect on Landscape with 5-10 yrs 5-10 yrs				
Medium	Low-Medium Beneficial	Slight-Moderate Beneficial		

4.2.4. The significance of effect on the landscape of the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments would be **Slight-Moderate Adverse** upon completion improving to **Slight-Moderate Beneficial** after 5-10 years within the Study Area.

4.3. Differences between the Proposed Development and the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments

- 4.3.1. The landscape effects of the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments would be noticeable within 5-10 years as opposed to 10 years of the Proposed Development due to the faster growing species mix as directed by the Maidstone Landscape Guidelines.
- 4.3.2. With the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments, the solar arrays have less effect on the southern aspect of the landscape character, thus respecting the landscape character of the settings of the listed buildings of Little Cheveney Farm.
- 4.3.3. The woodland blocks are deeper in size than the Proposed Development reflecting the size and character of woodland blocks within the local landscape and providing high quality woodland connections. It creates a structure within the landscape that has been lost over the last 50 years with agricultural intensification.



5. ASSESSMENT OF VISUAL EFFECTS

5.1. Viewpoints reassessed

- 5.1.1. The following viewpoints have been reassessed for the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments:
 - Viewpoint 1 PROW south east of Little Cheveney Farm complex
 - Viewpoint 2 PROW within south eastern site boundary
 - Viewpoint 3 PROW to east of site
 - Viewpoint 8 PROW north west within site boundary
 - Viewpoint 9 road/PROW south west of site
 - Viewpoint 10 8 Sheephurst Cottages to south of site
- 5.1.2. The remaining viewpoints have not been revisited as the changes that have been made would not affect the views from these locations.
- 5.1.3. The woodland planting mix has been amended to be in line with local species mix to include. faster growing species.

5.2. Additional Viewpoints

5.2.1. Two additional viewpoints have been included, Viewpoint 12, from Sheephurst Lane, through a field gate and Viewpoint 13 from the Greensand Ridge. These additional viewpoints have been included following concerns raised within the committee report.

Viewpoint 1 (Appendix B, Figures 1-5) – Public Right of Way looking north. South of and 190m to visible Site boundary (although 30m to the rear of viewpoint). A high sensitivity receptor.

- 5.3. Photomontages prepared for this viewpoint are included in Appendix B, Figures1-5.
- 5.4. The changes with the respect to this viewpoint are that the solar arrays and fence line are located further away from the receptor and the woodland buffer is at a greater depth between the receptor and the solar arrays. This is summarised in the table below.



Viewpoint 1				
Description	Proposed Development	Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments	Appeal Amendment Assessment	
Solar arrays	190m from receptor	273m from receptor	83m further away from Proposed Development	
Fenceline	150m from receptor (to north)	264m from receptor (to north)	114m further away from Proposed Development (to north)	
Woodland planting	17m depth	57m depth	40m more woodland	

- 5.5. The magnitude of change during construction and upon completion would reduce to medium. However, combined with a high sensitivity receptor the significance of effect would initially be Substantial Adverse.
- 5.6. After 1 year of vegetative growth, the magnitude of change would reduce to low-medium with a moderate-substantial adverse significance of effect.
- 5.7. With the new woodland mix, the magnitude of change would reduce significantly between years 5-10. By 10 years the magnitude of change would be medium beneficial. The significance of effect at 10 years would be Substantial Beneficial as the woodland would fully screen the view.
- 5.8. The contextual views included within Appendix C identify that the principal elevations of the Oast Houses are facing east and not towards the north. Only a small number of upstairs windows of these dwellings face north reducing the visibility of the site from these dwellings to only a small number of windows. To the east existing vegetation provides screening towards the solar arrays further east.
- 5.9. The contextual views also the sparse vegetation of field boundaries that would have originally limited visual openness of this location.

Viewpoint 2 (Appendix B, Figures 6-10) – from PROW. Looking north, within the Site boundary. High sensitivity receptor.

- 5.10. Photomontages prepared for this viewpoint are included in Appendix A, Figures 6-10.
- 5.11. An assessment of the impact of the removal of the BESS and reconfiguration of the fenceline, hedgerow, and any woodland around the barn as shown on drawing AW0143-PL-003 was not submitted to the planning authority. The impact of this change is assessed below.

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5.12. The roofline of the BESS barn would no longer be visible. However, there would be minimal change to this viewpoint. The magnitude of change during construction and upon completion would remain high. Combined with a high sensitivity receptor the significance of effect would initially be Substantial Adverse.

Viewpoint 2			
Item	Planning application drawing 27899/050 RevE		
Solar arrays	Distance of solar arrays north of receptor: 48m		
Fenceline	Distance of fenceline north of receptor: 40m		
Woodland	Distance of woodland north of receptor: Adjacent		

- 5.13. After 1 year of vegetative growth of the woodland buffer with hedgerow, the magnitude of change would reduce to medium-high with a substantial adverse significance of effect.
- 5.14. With the new woodland mix, the magnitude of change would reduce significantly between years 5-10. From 5 years the effects would reduce negligible-low beneficial and at 10 years would be medium-high beneficial. The significance of effect at 10 years would be Substantial Beneficial as the boundary hedgerow matures and new woodland screens the view of the solar arrays and fenceline.

Viewpoint 3 (Appendix B, Figure 11) – from PROW. Looking north west. East of and 80m to the Site. High sensitivity receptor

- 5.15. There are no photomontages associated with this viewpoint.
- 5.16. The BESS barn would no longer be visible through the gap in vegetation, replaced by solar arrays further from the receptor through the gap in vegetation. The magnitude of change would reduce to medium with substantial adverse significance of effect upon completion.

Viewpoint 3				
Item changed	Planning application drawing 27899/050 RevE			
Solar arrays	c. 79m west from receptor			
Fenceline	c. 75m north and west from receptor			
Woodland	Hedgerow only and gapping up of river embankment			



- 5.17. With the gapping up of the field boundary vegetation with willow, poplar and alder (fast growing species) as well as a hedgerow that follows the fence line within 5-10 years the solar arrays would be substantially screened. The magnitude of change would improve to Medium beneficial with a Substantial Beneficial significance of effect.
 - Viewpoint 8 (Appendix B, Figures 12-16) from PROW. Looking east. North and within the Site boundary. High sensitivity receptor
- 5.18. Photomontages prepared for this viewpoint are included in Appendix B, Figures 12-16.
- 5.19. Changes to this view are the removal of the access track. There are no other alterations to the site.

Viewpoint 8				
Description	Proposed Development	Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments	Appeal Amendment Assessment	
Solar arrays	c. 100m from receptor	c. 100m from receptor	No change	
Fenceline	c. 90m from receptor	c. 90m from receptor	No change	
Track	Track to access north of site	Track removed	Track no longer visible within location	
Woodland planting	c. 40m from receptor	c. 40m from receptor	No change	

- 5.20. The magnitude of change during and upon completion would be high and combined with a high sensitivity receptor would have a substantial adverse significance of effect.
- 5.21. After 1 year of vegetative growth of the hedgerow and woodland with a meadow landscape, the magnitude of change would reduce to medium-high with a substantial adverse significance of effect.
- 5.22. With the new woodland mix, the magnitude of change would reduce significantly between years 5-10. Within 5-10 years the solar arrays and fence would be fully screened from view, the magnitude of change would reduce to low-medium beneficial with a Moderate-Substantial Beneficial significance of effect.

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Viewpoint 9 (Appendix B, Figure 17) – from road (Sheephurst Lane). Looking east. 40m W of the Site.

- 5.23. This viewpoint is located at approximately 20.2m AOD along Sheephurst Lane. It is representative of a 50mph road. Mature managed hedgerows and hedgerow trees line the road on either side with glimpses of views over the hedgerow where the land dips slightly. The viewpoint is located in close proximity to the proposed entrance to the Site. The sensitivity of the receptor is medium.
- 5.24. The access track entrance would be visible from this viewpoint. As the solar arrays are further away from the road, there would be no views of the solar arrays beyond the hedgerow.

Viewpoint 9				
Description	Proposed Development	Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments	Appeal Amendment Assessment	
Solar arrays	c. 120m from receptor	c. 220m from receptor	c. 100m further north from receptor	
Fenceline	c. 115m from receptor	c. 160m from receptor	c.45m further north east from receptor	
Access from road	c. 40m east from receptor	c. 40m east from receptor	No change	
HV compound	c.240m east from receptor	c. 200m north east from receptor	HV compound 40m closer to receptor	
Woodland planting	c. 230m east from receptor	c. 150m east from receptor	Woodland closer to receptor	

5.25. Despite the HV compound moving closer to the receptor, this is screened by intervening hedgerows and trees. The magnitude of change would remain negligible with a negligible significance of effect. Woodland mitigation planting would be visible but would not alter the magnitude of change. This would be the same after 10 years.



Viewpoint 10 (Appendix B, Figure 18) – from driveway to dwelling on Sheephurst Lane. Looking north. C.25-30m E of the Site. High sensitivity from ground floor. Medium sensitivity from upstairs floors.

5.26. This viewpoint is representative of 8 Sheephurst Cottages. Within the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments, the solar arrays and HV compound have been relocated. The HV compound is no longer near to the hedgeline.

Viewpoint 10					
Description	Proposed Development	Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments	Appeal Amendment Assessment		
Solar arrays	c. 64m from corner of dwelling (67m from receptor)	c. 240m from corner of dwelling (c.245m from receptor)	Arrays c. 176m further north from dwelling		
Fenceline	c. 34m west from corner of dwelling (c.29m from receptor)	c. 177m north from corner of dwelling (c.185m from receptor)	Fenceline c.143m further north from dwelling		
HV compound	c.119m north west from corner of dwelling (c.126m from receptor)	c. 190m north west from corner of dwelling (c.195m from receptor)	HV compound c.71m further north from dwelling		
Woodland planting	c. 31m west from receptor (c.24m west of receptor) 7m strip of woodland belt along boundary with woodland block around the HV compound	c. 27m west from corner of house (c.21m west of receptor) West of house 75m woodland block narrowing to c.33m to north at its narrowest part	Woodland closer and significantly deeper to receptor, providing a multilayer of woodland planting.		

- 5.27. The HV compound, arrays and fenceline would be located much further away from the receptor and dwellings. A substantial depth of woodland mitigation planting would be extended along the length of the western boundary to the house and along the central southern section of the site. Woodland planting would also be planted to the south of the HV compound.
- 5.28. The magnitude of change from ground floor would be negligible-nil during construction and upon completion. From the upstairs windows the magnitude of change would be low-medium



- during construction and upon completion. With a medium sensitivity receptor this would be Slight-Moderate Adverse during construction and upon completion.
- 5.29. After 1 year there would be minimal change to the magnitude of change from the dwelling.
- 5.30. With the new woodland mix, the magnitude of change would reduce significantly between years 5-10. Over this period the trees would provide a substantial buffer and screen any views of the solar arrays and HV compound. The magnitude of change from ground floor would be nil and reduce to negligible-nil from the upstairs windows with a negligible-nil significance of effect.

Viewpoint 12 (formerly Plate G, Appendix B, Figs 19-23) from Sheephurst Lane. Looking north. Adj S of the Site.

- 5.31. This is a new viewpoint (formerly Plate G) with montages (Appendix B, Fig 19-23) and is west of 8 Sheephurst Cottages. The site is visible through a field gate along Sheephurst Lane. The road is a 50mph road with fast moving traffic and the view would be a transient, oblique view (the viewpoint is a direct view). The sensitivity of the receptor is classed as medium.
- 5.32. During construction the Proposed Development Appeal Amendments would be transiently visible through the gate, as would the solar arrays upon completion. The magnitude of change would be low with a Slight Adverse significance of effect.
- 5.33. 75m depth of woodland planting would be undertaken upon completion. After 1 year, the magnitude of change would remain low with a Slight Adverse significance of effect.
- 5.34. With the new woodland mix, the magnitude of change after 5-10 years would be medium beneficial with a Moderate Beneficial Significance of effect. Views of the site would be fully screened.

Viewpoint 13 (Appendix B, Figs 24-28) from Greensand Ridge PROW. Looking south. c.5.8kmN of the Site.

- 5.35. This is a new viewpoint with montages (Appendix B, Fig 24-28) and taken from The Greensand Ridge. This viewpoint is taken from a PROW identified within the ZTV as having a potential view of the site. It is a high sensitivity receptor.
- 5.36. The Greensand Ridge is visible from parts of the site. However, this view was the only available view from this PROW between extensive rows of orchard trees. The image below is typical of the view from Greensand Ridge.

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Typical view from Greensand Ridge

- 5.37. The magnitude of change during construction and upon completion would be negligible-nil with a negligible-nil significance of effect.
- 5.38. After 5-10 years the new woodland mix would provide a mix of cover within the landscape, but would not significantly alter the view. The magnitude of change would remain negligible-nil with a negligible-nil significance of effect.

Listed Buildings within 500m of Site boundary

- 5.39. Little Long End (Grade II) along Burtons Lane has no views of the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments. The only views of the site from dwellings along Burtons Lane were from the dwelling to the far east along Burtons Lane with upstairs views.
- 5.40. An existing large and mature hedgerow with hedgerow trees lies to the southern side of Burtons Lane between Little Long End and the site. The visual envelope of this dwelling is associated with its immediate proximity which is the lane and the land immediately surrounding the west, north and east of this dwelling which is visible and intrinsic to its character. There are no views between Little Long End and the fields to the south of this hedgerow.

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Transport routes

- 5.41. Burtons Road and Sheephurst Lane were both reassessed for the potential visibility of the site. It was determined that there would be no changes to the visual effects from Burtons Road.
- 5.42. Sheephurst Lane was reassessed from Viewpoint 9 and also through the field gate at Viewpoint 12. Visibility of the solar arrays from this road particularly in proximity to Sheephurst Cottages will be reduced as the solar arrays and HV compound have been moved back away from the road. However in reassessing the full length of this road, the hedgerows are tall with few gaps and there would be no other views afforded of the solar arrays from this road.
- 5.43. There are no changes to the visual effects from the railway line.

Villages with potential views

5.44. There would be no changes to any views from Marden Village.

<u>Summary</u>

5.45. It is evident from the Site visit that the effects of the proposed development would only affect a small number of receptors within 800m of the Site. These are mainly from public rights of way and residential dwellings in close proximity to the Site. Beyond 800m the visual effects are negligible. These are summarised below in Table 5:

Viewpoint & Sensitivity	Year	Proposed Development		Proposed Development with Amendments	
		Magnitude of Change	Significance of effect on completion	Magnitude of change	Significance of effect
1 – PROW High	Construction/ completion	Medium-H igh	Substantial Adverse	Medium	Substantial Adverse
	Post 10yrs	Low-Med Beneficial	Moderate Beneficial	Medium Beneficial	Substantial Beneficial
2-PROW High	Construction/ completion	High	Substantial Adverse	High	Substantial Adverse
	Post 10yrs	Low beneficial	Moderate Beneficial	Low-Medium Beneficial	Moderate- Substantial Beneficial



Viewpoint & Sensitivity	Year	Proposed Development		Proposed Development with Amendments	
		Magnitude of Change	Significance of effect on completion	Magnitude of change	Significance of effect
3 – PROW High	Construction/ completion	High	Substantial Adverse	Medium	Substantial Adverse
	Post 10yrs	Low beneficial	Moderate Beneficial	Low-Medium Beneficial	Moderate- Substantial Adverse
8 – PROW High	Construction/ completion	High	Substantial Adverse	High	Substantial Adverse
	Post 10yrs	Low beneficial	Moderate Beneficial	Low-medium beneficial	Moderate- Substantial Beneficial
10 – Dwelling High (downstairs) Medium (Upstairs)	Construction/ completion	Negligible- Low (downstairs)	Slight Adverse (downstairs)	Negligible-Nil (downstairs)	Negligible-Nil (downstairs)
		Medium (upstairs)	Moderate Adverse (upstairs)	Low-Medium (upstairs)	Slight- Moderate Adverse (upstairs)
	Post 10yrs	Nil(downstairs)	Nil (downstairs)	Nil (downstairs)	Nil (downstairs)
		Negligible (upstairs)	Negligible (upstairs)	Negligible-Nil (upstairs	Negligible-Nil (upstairs)
12 – Sheephurst Lane	Construction/ completion	Medium	Moderate Adverse	Low	Slight Adverse
Medium	Post 10yrs	Negligible	Negligible	Medium beneficial	Moderate Beneficial
13 – PROW Greensand Ridge	Construction/ completion	Negligible-Nil	Negligible-Nil	Negligible-Nil	Negligible-Nil
High	Post 10yrs	Negligible-Nil	Negligible-Nil	Negligible-Nil	Negligible-Nil
Willow Cottage Little Cheveney Farm	Construction/ completion	Medium-High	Substantial Adverse	Medium	Substantial Adverse
(downstairs) High	Post 10yrs	Medium beneficial	Substantial Beneficial	High Beneficial	Substantial Beneficial



Table 5: Summary of Visual Effects					
Viewpoint & Sensitivity	Year	Proposed Development		Proposed Development with Amendments	
		Magnitude of Change	Significance of effect on completion	Magnitude of change	Significance of effect
Oast House dwellings @ Little Cheveney Farm and Great Sheephurst Farm (upstairs) Medium (upstairs)	Construction/ completion	Medium	Moderate Adverse	Low-Medium	Slight- Moderate Adverse
	Post 10yrs	Medium beneficial	Moderate Beneficial	Medium-High	Substantial Beneficial
Dwellings @ Little Sheephurst Farm (upstairs)	Construction/ completion	Medium	Moderate- Adverse	Low-Medium	Slight- Moderate Adverse
Medium (upstairs)	Post 10yrs	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible-Nil	Negligible-Nil
Little Long End (Burtons Lane) Grade II Listed	Construction/ Completion Post 10yrs	Nil No change	Nil No change	Nil No change	Nil No change

6. MITIGATION

6.1. Changes to mitigation planting have been covered in Section 2.3 above. These changes are shown on drawing AW0143-PL-003.

7. **CUMULATIVE EFFECTS**

7.1. There would be no change to the cumulative effects.

8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1. The Proposed Development on land west of Marden in Kent was refused planning permission on 20 October 2023.
- 8.2. The Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments with respect to landscape mitigation (AW0143-PL-003) has been revised to address the consultation comments received prior to the



Committee decision. The amendments improve the visual amenity of 8 Sheephurst Cottages, dwellings along Sheephurst Lane, Willow Cottage, Willow Barn and listed buildings within Little Cheveney Farm.

- 8.3. This was achieved by removing the solar arrays to the west and north of these dwellings and moving the HV compound further away from dwellings.
- 8.4. Further amendments included changes to the species mix of the mitigation woodland planting in line with the Maidstone Landscape Guidelines, and provision of a deeper woodland buffer between the dwellings and the site.
- 8.5. The amendments improve the visual amenity of residents and the setting of the listed buildings by creating a greater distance between the buildings and the Proposed Development with Amendments.
- 8.6. The value of the landscape and the susceptibility of the landscape to change remains Medium within the study area.
- 8.7. The magnitude of change of the landscape effects improve under the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments in both time and also effect with a Slight to Moderate Beneficial Significance of Effect after 5-10 years.
- 8.8. The reassessment of the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments with respect to the impact on visual amenity from Viewpoints 1-3, 8-10, and from the additional viewpoints 12 and 13, clearly demonstrate that the magnitude of change would reduce for most receptors, and the significance of effect although in some instances would remain the same initially, would improve greatly in a shorter period of time.
- 8.9. It is considered that the Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments complies with the Development Plan.

APPENDIX A

Assessment Methodology for LVIA



Assessment Methodology for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

This LVIA has been undertaken following the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA), 3rd Edition, by Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment.

There are two components of an LVIA which are:

- 1. Assessment of landscape effects: assessing effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right;
- 2. Assessment of visual effects: assessing effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.

This report dealt with both and made clear the difference between them.

The initial stage was to identify the baseline landscape and visual conditions. The study area for this LVIA was taken to be upto 5km radius from the site. Perception of the development outside 2km was considered to be imperceptible within the landscape.

Landscape characteristics and Assessment methodology

A desk-based study was undertaken to determine the baseline characteristics of the landscape. This involved assessing:

- Ordnance survey maps of 1:50000 and 1:25000 scales;
- Aerial photography of the site and surrounding area;
- MAGIC website, identifying statutory and non-statutory land based designations, historic
 designations, and ecological designations (where these are of landscape interest) contributing
 to evaluating the value of the landscape;
- National and Local Planning policy; and
- National, Regional and Local Landscape Character Assessments.

This identified the constituent elements of the landscape characteristics which were verified during a site visit, to ensure that they were a true representation of the characteristics of the site and surrounding area.

Visual Assessment Methodology

A ZTV was prepared using LIDAR data that used the topographical survey and series of points from the ultimate build height. Viewpoints were identified that provided a range of views and visual amenity from different locations, directions and distances within the visual envelope. These were taken from publicly accessible locations to provide a representation of views, but were not exhaustive.

These were verified with a site visit to the site, and any further locations that were visible from the site, were included within the assessment.

Each viewpoint was photographed following the Technical Guidance Note 06/19 from the Landscape Institute: Visual Representation of Development Proposals (17th September 2019). The Methodology for Verified Views and Photomontages is included within Appendix B.



Assessing the Landscape Effects

The effects on the landscape as a result of the proposed development, required assessment of the sensitivity of the landscape receptor and the magnitude of effect of the proposed development on the existing landscape.

Sensitivity of the landscape receptors

Sensitivity of a landscape receptor was assessed by combining judgements of their susceptibility to the proposed development and the value attached to the landscape. These may vary depending on the element assessed.

The susceptibility to change means the ability of a landscape receptor to accommodate the proposed development without undue consequences to the baseline situation and/or achieving landscape policies/strategies.

Each individual landscape element was assessed on its susceptibility to change, and recorded on a scale of high, medium and low, as below:

High	Landscape elements that are distinctive or have valued features. These					
	areas may be more sensitive to small change.					
Medium	Landscape elements that are moderately distinctive with some valued					
	features, but have suffered degradation. These areas may tolerate some					
	change.					
Low	Landscape elements that are weak in character and have few or no					
	distinctive features of value. These areas are potentially tolerant of					
	significant change.					

The value of the landscape receptor generally reflects the landscape designation and their level of importance as follows:

Very High	Internationally valued landscapes
High	Nationally valued landscapes (National Parks, AONBs)
Medium	Locally Valued Landscapes
Low	Landscapes not nationally or locally designated

However, it was noted that within GLVIA3 it indicates that despite designations it is important to treat each area individually for development and assess the criteria for a valued landscape based on the characteristics and qualities of the landscape within its setting.

Magnitude of change for landscape elements

The effect on the landscape receptor was assessed in terms of the size/scale of development, geographical extent, and the duration and reversibility of the development. Professional judgement has been used to determine the magnitude of effect on landscape character as follows:



Negligible	Very minor alteration to landscape elements, with very small scale, small				
	geographical extent over short or long term period				
Low	Minor alteration to landscape elements, with small scale, small geographical				
	extent over a short or long term period				
Medium	Partial alteration to landscape elements, with medium scale, medium				
	geographical extent over a short or long term period				
High	Major alteration to landscape elements, with large scale, large geographical				
	extent over a short or long term period				

Assessing the visual effects

A series of representative viewpoints were used to identify different visual receptors at varying distances and directions based on the results of the desk based assessment. Visual receptors may include people living in the area, people working there, people passing through on road, or other modes of transport, people visiting promoted landscapes, people engaged in recreational activity.

Sensitivity of visual receptors

Sensitivity of visual receptors is assessed in terms of their susceptibility to change in visual amenity, and the value attached to that particular view. Visual receptors most susceptible to change include:

- Residents at home;
- People engaged in outdoor recreation i.e. using public rights of way whose interest is focused on the landscape and on particular views
- Visitors to heritage assets
- Communities where views contribute to the landscape setting enjoyed by residents

Travellers are generally on a moderate susceptibility to change. People engaged in sport and people at their place of work are generally less sensitive to change.

Magnitude of change of visual effects

The effect on the visual receptor was assessed in terms of the size/scale of development, geographical extent, and the duration and reversibility of the development. The criteria is as follows:

Negligible	Negligible change with no notable change in the view
Low	Minimal change in the view, with the proposal not prominent in the view or few visual receptors affected
Medium	Moderate change in the view that is visible within but is not the defining feature in that view
High	Major change in the view, that substantially alters the view with many visual receptors affected.



The overall significance of effect

Significance of effect can generally be followed using the following table:

Magnitude of Change					
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Landscape and visual	High	Very substantial	Substantial	Moderate	Negligible
sensitivity	Medium	Substantial	Moderate	Slight- Moderate	Negligible
	Low	Moderate	Slight- Moderate	Slight	Negligible

This overall significance applies to both landscape and visual effects.

APPENDIX B

Photography, Verified Views and Methodology, Views 1-3, 8-10, 12 & 13, Figures 1-28

Photography, Verified Views and Methodology

Appeal Scheme with Amendments



Overview

A verified photomontage is a visual representation of a proposed development that is as accurate as it is possible to be within the limits of the technology used and the available data. Although it is not possible to achieve 100% perfect accuracy due to minor errors in survey work, environmental variables and photographic distortion, the careful implementation of a best practise method will result in only a negligible error.

The photomontage images represent how the proposed development would be perceived from a number of locations surrounding the site. These locations were chosen as the result of a detailed consideration of sensitive viewpoints.

The methods described in this document are based on current best practise and follow recommendations from 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd edition' (GLVIA3), Landscape Institute and IEMA (2013), alongside the Landscape Institute technical guidance note, 'Visual Representation of Development Proposals, (LI 06/19)

Methodology

Photography

During the field study, a photographic record was made to represent the full range of potential views towards the site from available viewpoints within the study area. These locations are mapped, the visual receptor types recorded and viewpoint context described. All photographs have been taken from publicly accessible locations; no private access was needed. The methodology ensures that the combination of camera and lens recreates as close as possible what can be seen by the human eye.

Equipment:

The aim of a verified photomontage is to illustrate what a proposed development may look like to a person standing at a specified photographic viewpoint. In order to create this effect, all photographs are taken with a camera and lens combination, resulting in a 'standard' focal length (equivalent to the cone of human vision). A standard focal length is usually considered to be in the range 45mm to 55mm on a traditional 35mm film camera. On digital cameras, where the image sensor is often smaller than the recorded image on traditional film cameras, the focal length of the lens used must compensate for the effective magnification resulting from the smaller sensor.

A Canon 5D Mark IV full frame sensor camera was used for all viewpoints in conjunction with a Canon 50mm prime lens (35mm format equivalent), which is within the 'standard' focal length range. The full frame sensor in the Canon 5D therefore, results in no magnification. To eliminate the parallax error that occurs when taking panoramic images, a sliding plate on the tripod head was employed allowing the camera to be moved back along the line of sight so that the nodal point of the lens was positioned directly over the axis of rotation.

Image capture: The camera was mounted on a tripod using a Nodal Ninja Panoramic tripod head

at 1.6m above ground level to simulate the view at eye level.

The orientation of the camera was adjusted so that the optical axis and the horizontal axis were aligned with the horizon. This is the 'astronomical' horizon as set by a gravity governed bubble level.

Images were captured in the camera's maximum quality jpeg mode, with a RAW image processed as a backup. Camera settings were chosen carefully for each viewpoint; the camera was set to aperture priority mode, a small aperture of f/11 was used and the focus distance selected specifically to render all parts of the scene in focus whilst retaining image quality.

Panoramas were deemed essential to show the maximum extent of the proposed development and so frames were taken at 20-degree intervals to allow for overlap (discussed below).

Post Production: The panoramas were stitched together using PT Gui Pro specialist panorama creation software, with each photograph being cropped to take only the central portion of each image. These precautions minimise the small amount of optical distortion effect caused by the camera lens. Images were imported as jpeg files and minor tonal and colour adjustments were made which aim to replicate the scene as honestly as possible as it was perceived by the photographer at the time of capture. The stitched cylindrical panorama was then cropped to 90° for use as a baseline 'existing' view.

Survey

Precise surveying was essential to gain accurate information of the camera and control point positions. GPS readings were taken from the central tripod position that the camera was placed using a Spectra Precision SP60 GNSS Receiver, which achieved a 25mm degree of tolerance.

Control Points:

Control points are surveyed points/objects that can clearly be identified on the photograph. Since they are included in the 3D model, they can be visually matched with the corresponding points on the photograph.

Control points were identified within each photograph and marked for the survey team to take measurements. A minimum of three control points were chosen, and five where possible of fixed features such as lamp-posts, fences and sign posts. Occasionally if available, control points taken from another viewpoint were also used for even more accurate positioning of the 3D model within the photograph. Due to the rural nature of many of the viewpoint locations, survey poles were used as temporary control points. These control points were then created within the 3D program in the precise positions.

Control points were taken using the aforementioned Spectra Precision GPS device.

All survey measurements were supplied in CAD format for use in the 3D model.

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Drawing Title Methodology

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3D Model

3D models were created which were then aligned within 3DS Max using the site masterplan to determine the X and Y position. Finished floor levels were then used to accurately position the 3D model vertically AOD (above ordnance datum).

Camera Matching and Rendering

The process of camera matching (i.e. correctly assembling the perspective views within the 3D program to match those photographs taken on site) needs meticulous attention to detail. The details of the Ordnance Survey co-ordinates for each viewpoint, and the angle of each view were also checked as part of the verification process.

The survey information was added into the 3D model and aligned precisely with the OS coordinate system. '3D' Cameras (or perspective views) were then created within 3DS Max at each of the viewpoint locations and raised by 1.6m to match the position at eye-level that was achieved during photography.

3D control points were created to match those visible in each of the panoramas and positioned according to the survey data. Any atmospheric conditions experienced at the time of taking the photograph were added to the model. For example, haze or reflected sunlight.

Using the '3D' camera each 90° cylindrical panorama was used as a backdrop and rendered using a VRay camera option that mirrors the distortion exhibited in a cylindrical panorama. Adjustments were then made to the camera angle to align the 3D control points with the real-life equivalents shown in each panorama, thus creating a 'photo-matched' viewpoint with the model aligned at the correct scale and angle.

A daylight system was then created within 3DS Max using the geographic location and time zone, then setting the correct time that the viewpoint was captured. This allows for the accurate creation of shadows as at the time of taking the photograph. For viewpoints taken in full cloud, a High Dynamic Range Image (HDRI) was mapped as a 'dome light' within 3DS Max and used as the main light source. An HDRI is an image format that contains a large amount of shadow and highlight information and can be used to illuminate a 3D scene, providing a good representation of conditions on a cloudy day.

Post production

Care was taken in Adobe Photoshop to mask out elements of the 3D model that may be obscured by foreground objects to produce the final visualisations.

The final visualisations were then taken back into PT Gui Pro and converted to 53.5° rectilinear (or planar) panoramas. These panoramas were aligned according to the latest LI and SNH guidance

and presented at A3 and A1 page width, which allows for a comfortable arm's length viewing distance.

Caveats

- i. A photomontage can never be considered as a 100% accurate representation of what would be seen due to the large number of variables affecting the images from the photography to the limitations of the 3D programs. They should be used as an aid to the decision making process.
- ii. Photomontages have been presented at 90° cylindrical panoramas as well as 53.5° 150% magnified views to allow an overview of the context in the viewpoints due to the proximity and scale of the site.
- iii. 3D vegetation was used to control the vegetation height shown at Year 1 and Year 10. Whilst it is not possible to accurately predict vegetation height at a given age due to site conditions/ weather we can offer an 'average' growth height based on the stock that has been proposed.

References

All photomontages were created in accordance with recommendations given in the following publications:

Landscape Institute and IEMA (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd edition (GLVIA3).

Landscape Institute:

Note 06/19 - Visual Representation of Development Proposals

Note 07/19 - Visual Representation of Development Proposals: Glossary and Abbreviations

Note 08/19 - Visual Representation of Development Proposals: Camera Auto Settings

Scottish Natural Heritage (2017) Visual representation of windfarms: good practice guidance. ('SNH 2017')

Client

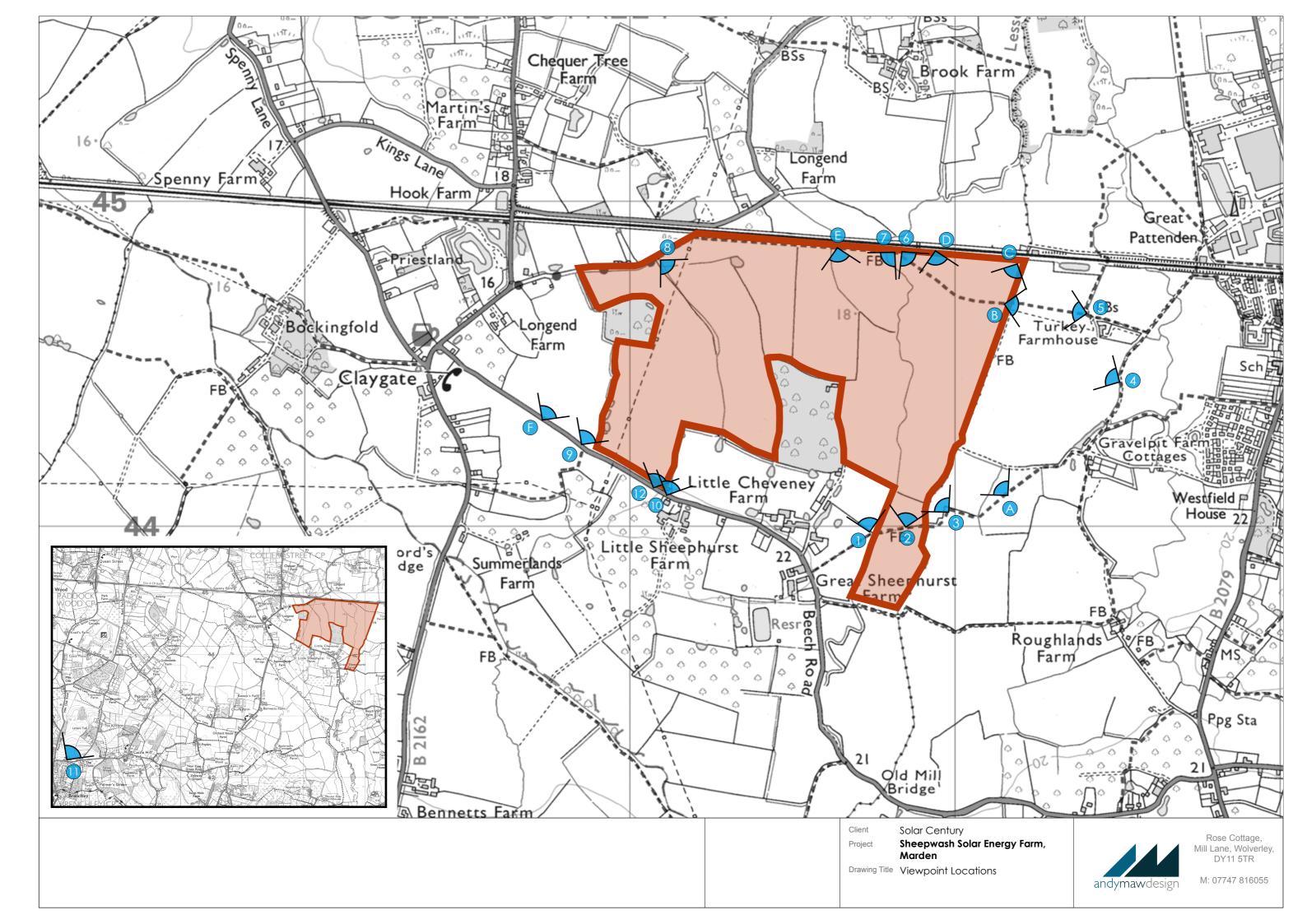
Solar Century

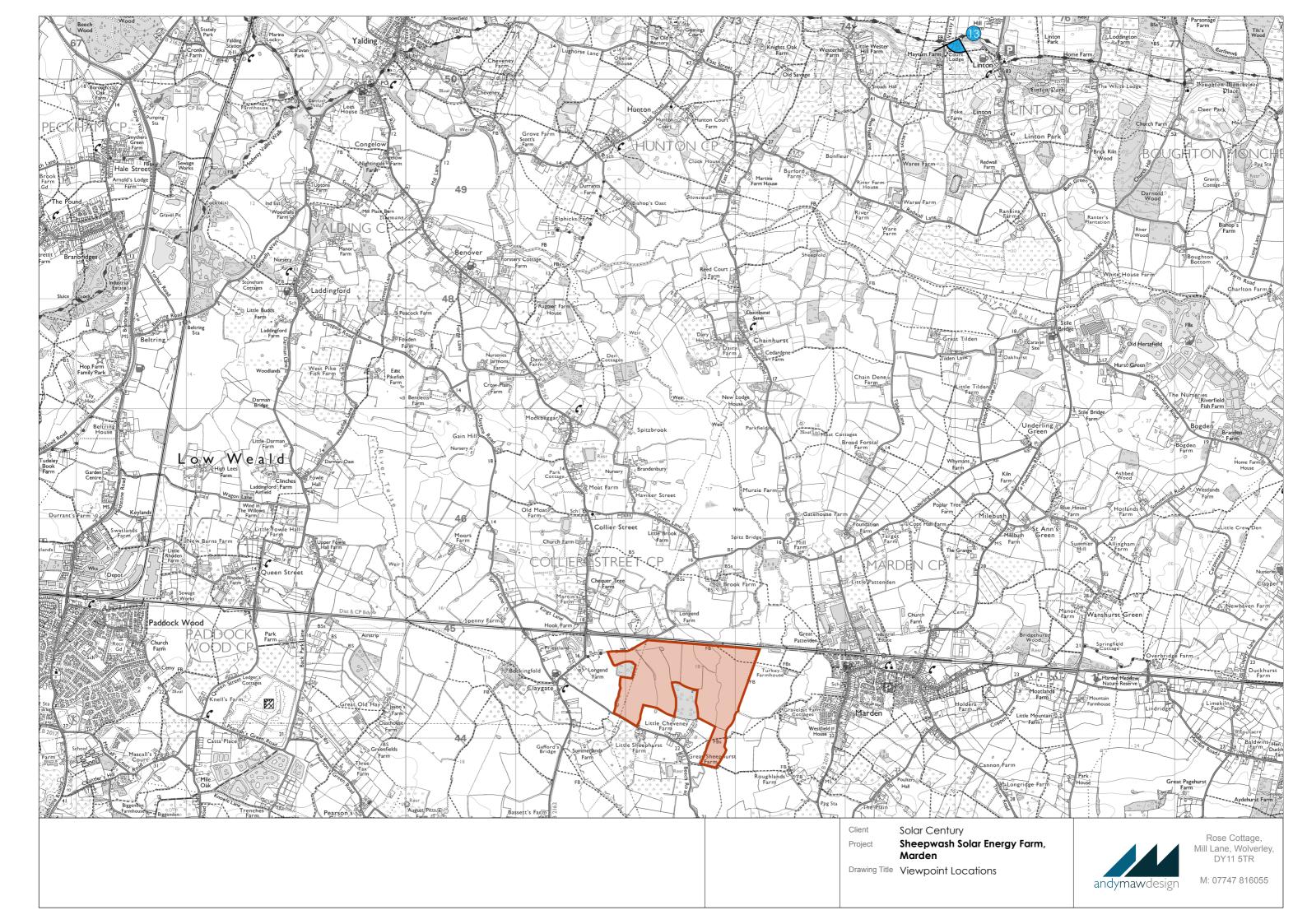
Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm,

Marden

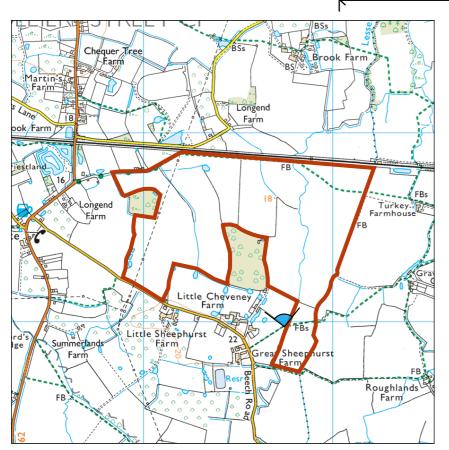
Drawing Title Methodology

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Extent of 53.5° planar panorama

Viewpoint Location

Distance to nearest PV panel: 115m 345°

Bearing to site centre: 572739.043 E 143964.767 N Viewpoint grid reference: Viewpoint ground height: 19.70m

Camera Height (AGL)

90° (Cylindrical Projection) Horizontal Field of View:

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

08/07/2021 10:34 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 1

Client

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Drawing Title Viewpoint 1 - Existing

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90° cylindrical projection in the above panorama showing the existing view. For context purposes

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR

M: 07747 816055

Scale: LI Image Type: Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

AM

Rev:

Fig





Distance to nearest PV panel: 115m

Bearing to sife centre: 345°
Viewpoint grid reference: 572739.043 E 143964.767 N
Viewpoint ground height: 19.70m

Viewpoint ground height: 19 Camera Height (AGL) 1.

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

08/07/2021 10:34 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 4

Rev: - Scale: -

Scale: Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Client Solar Century

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Drawing Title Viewpoint 1 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 1

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Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR

M: 07747 816055





Distance to nearest PV panel: 115m 345°

Bearing to site centre: Viewpoint grid reference: 572739.043 E 143964.767 N 19.70m

Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL)

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera:

08/07/2021 10:34 Canon 5D MkIV Lens, FL, max aperture: Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L LI Image Type: Type 4

Rev: Scale: Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size:

A3 Landscape

Client Solar Century

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm,

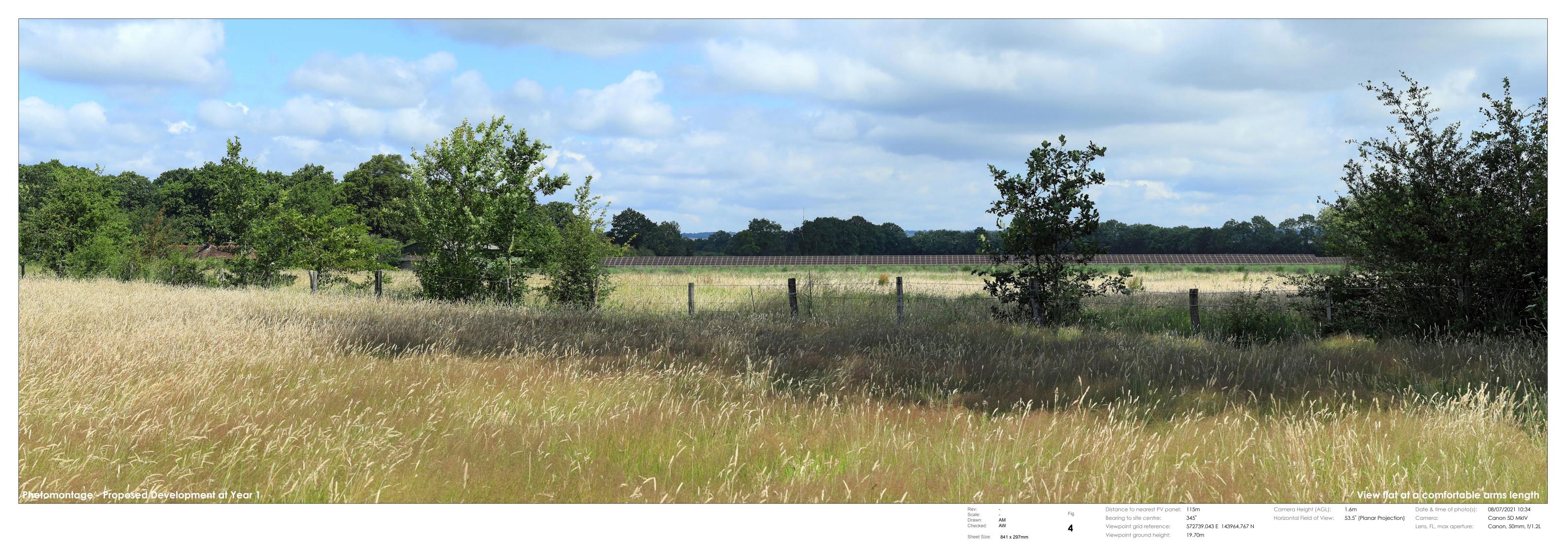
Marden

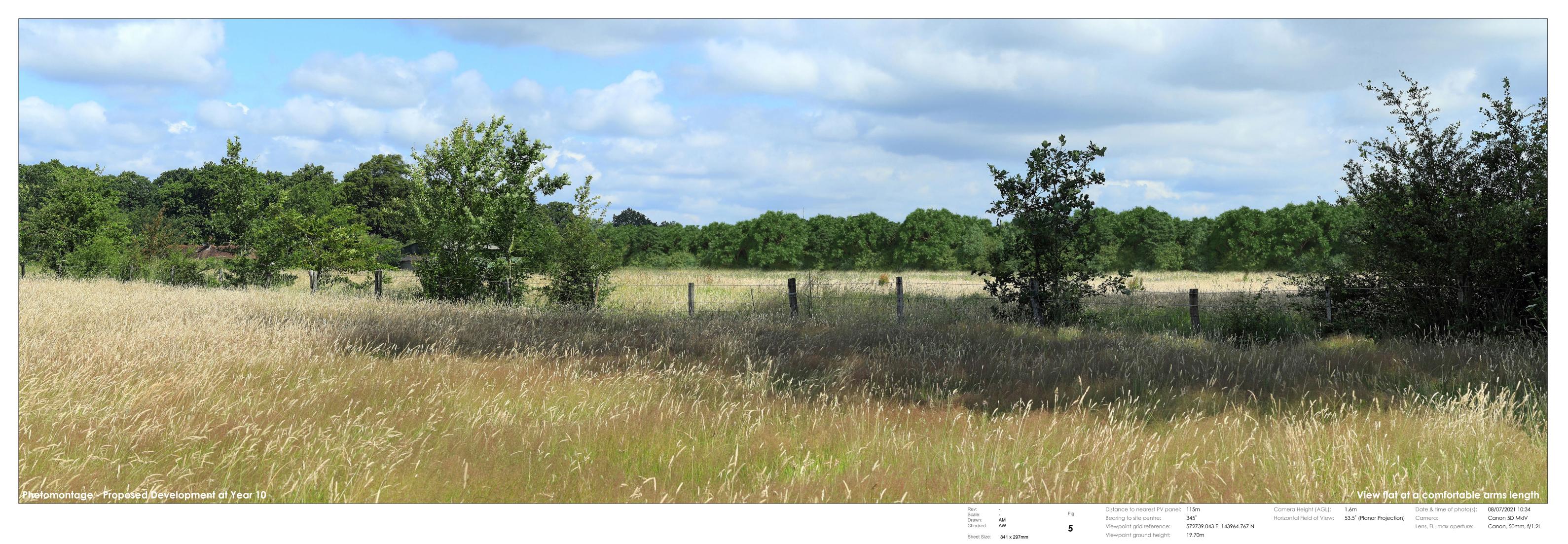
Drawing Title Viewpoint 1 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 10

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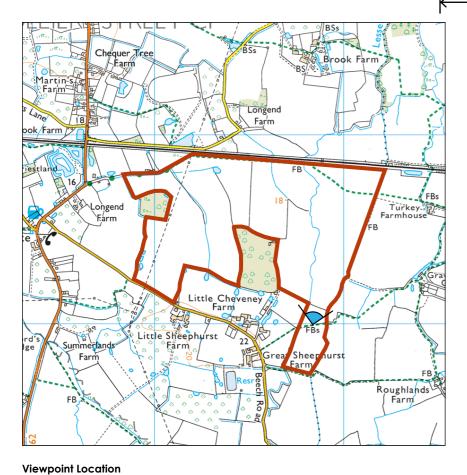
Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR

M: 07747 816055









Extent of 53.5° planar panorama

Notes: 90° cylindrical projection in the above panorama showing the existing view. For context purposes only.

Distance to nearest PV panel: 50m Bearing to site centre: 337°

Bearing to site centre: 337° Viewpoint grid reference: 572809.5 Viewpoint ground height: 19.09m

Camera Height (AGL) Horizontal Field of View:

337° 572809.573 E 143991.04 N

1.6m 90° (Cylindrical Projection) Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

08/07/2021 10:55 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 1

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Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

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Drawing Title Viewpoint 2 - Existing

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Distance to nearest PV panel: 50m Bearing to site centre: 337°

Bearing to site centre: Viewpoint grid reference: 572809.573 E 143991.04 N

Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL) 19.09m

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

08/07/2021 10:55 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 4

Scale:

Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Client

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden Drawing Title Viewpoint 2 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 1

Solar Century

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Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR





Distance to nearest PV panel: 50m Bearing to site centre: 337°

Bearing to site centre: Viewpoint grid reference: 572809.573 E 143991.04 N 19.09m

Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL) Horizontal Field of View:

90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

08/07/2021 10:55 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 4

Scale: Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Client

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden Drawing Title Viewpoint 2 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 10

Solar Century

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Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR







Viewpoint grid reference: Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture: LI Image Type:

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Scale: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

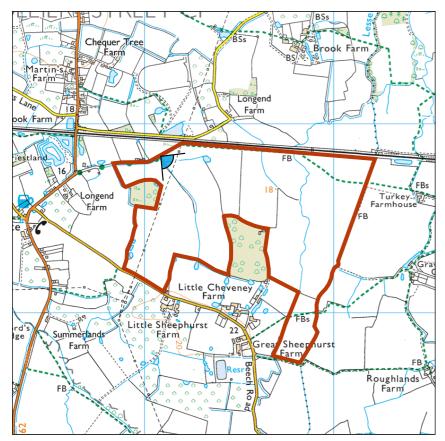
Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 3 - Photograph Fig andymawdesign

11

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Viewpoint Location

Distance to nearest PV panel: 105m 123° Bearing to site centre:

572088.775 E 144826.646 N Viewpoint grid reference: Viewpoint ground height: 16.37m

Camera Height (AGL)

1.6m 90° (Cylindrical Projection) Horizontal Field of View:

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

08/07/2021 13:39 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 1

Rev: Scale: AM Drawn:

Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Client Solar Century

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm,

Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 8 - Existing

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Fig

12

Notes: 90° cylindrical projection in the above panorama showing the existing view. For context purposes

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR





Distance to nearest PV panel: 105m
Bearing to site centre: 123°
Viewpoint grid reference: 572088.775 E 144826.646 N Bearing to site centre: Viewpoint grid reference: 16.37m

Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL)

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera:

08/07/2021 13:39 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Lens, FL, max aperture: LI Image Type: Type 4

Rev: Scale: Drawn:

Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Client

Solar Century Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 8 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 1

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Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR





Distance to nearest PV panel: 105m

Bearing to site centre: Viewpoint grid reference: 123° 572088.775 E 144826.646 N 16.37m

Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL)

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera:

08/07/2021 13:39 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Lens, FL, max aperture: LI Image Type: Type 4

Rev: Scale: Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Client Solar Century

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 8 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 10

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Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR







Viewpoint grid reference: Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture: LI Image Type:

571857 E 144250 N 08/07/2021 14:59 Canon EOS 500D Sigma, 30mm, f/1.4 Type 1

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Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

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Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 9 - Photograph

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Fig

17

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR



Viewpoint grid reference: Date & time of photo(s): Lens, FL, max aperture: LI Image Type:

572100 E 144111 N 08/07/2021 15:08 Canon EOS 500D Sigma, 30mm, f/1.4

Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 10 - Photograph

andymawdesign

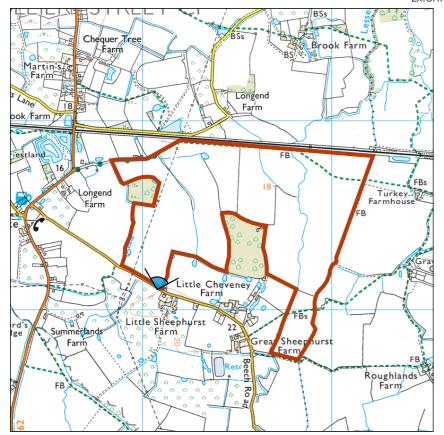
Fig

18

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR







Viewpoint Location

Distance to nearest PV panel: 232m Bearing to site centre: 054° Bearing to site centre:

572077.964 E 144128.463 N Viewpoint grid reference: Viewpoint ground height: 20.02m

Camera Height (AGL)

90° (Cylindrical Projection) Horizontal Field of View:

Date & time of photo(s): Camera:

Lens, FL, max aperture: LI Image Type: Type 1

27/02/2023 10:19 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L

AM Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Rev:

Scale:

Client Solar Century

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm,

Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 12 - Existing

andymawdesign

Fig

19

90° cylindrical projection in the above panorama showing the existing view. For context purposes

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR





Horizontal Field of View:

Distance to nearest PV panel: 232m
Bearing to site centre: 054°
Viewpoint grid reference: 572077.964 E 144128.463 N Bearing to site centre: Viewpoint grid reference: Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL) 20.02m

90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

27/02/2023 10:19 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 4

Scale: Drawn: Checked:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Solar Century Client

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, . Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 12 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 1 Prigram

andymawdesign

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR





Distance to nearest PV panel: 232m

Bearing to site centre: 054°

Viewpoint grid reference: 572077.964 E 144128.463 N Viewpoint ground height: 20.02m

Camera Height (AGL)

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

27/02/2023 10:19 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 4

Scale: Drawn: Checked:

Rev:

Sheet Size: A3 Landscape

Solar Century Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 12 - Existing baseline Fig photograph - Proposed development at Year 10

andymawdesign

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR







Extent of 53.5° planar panorama

Viewpoint Location

Distance to nearest PV panel: 6km 203° Bearing to site centre: Viewpoint grid reference:

Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL) Horizontal Field of View:

575062.775 E 150378.371 N 106.92m

90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture: LI Image Type:

27/02/2023 08:50 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 1

Client

Solar Century

Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm,

Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 13 - Existing

andymawdesign

90° cylindrical projection in the above panorama showing the existing view. For context purposes

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR

M: 07747 816055

Scale: Drawn: Checked:

A3 Landscape

24

Fig





Distance to nearest PV panel: 6km 203° Bearing to site centre:

Viewpoint grid reference: Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL)

575062.775 E 150378.371 N 106.92m

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

27/02/2023 08:50 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 4

Rev: Scale: AM Drawn:

Checked:

A3 Landscape

Solar Century Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm,

Marden Drawing Title Viewpoint 13 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 1

andymawdesign

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR





Distance to nearest PV panel: 6km Bearing to site centre:

Viewpoint grid reference: Viewpoint ground height: Camera Height (AGL)

203° 575062.775 E 150378.371 N 106.92m

Horizontal Field of View: 90° (Cylindrical Projection)

Date & time of photo(s): Camera: Lens, FL, max aperture:

LI Image Type:

27/02/2023 08:50 Canon 5D MkIV Canon, 50mm, f/1.2L Type 4

Rev: Scale: AM Drawn:

Checked:

A3 Landscape

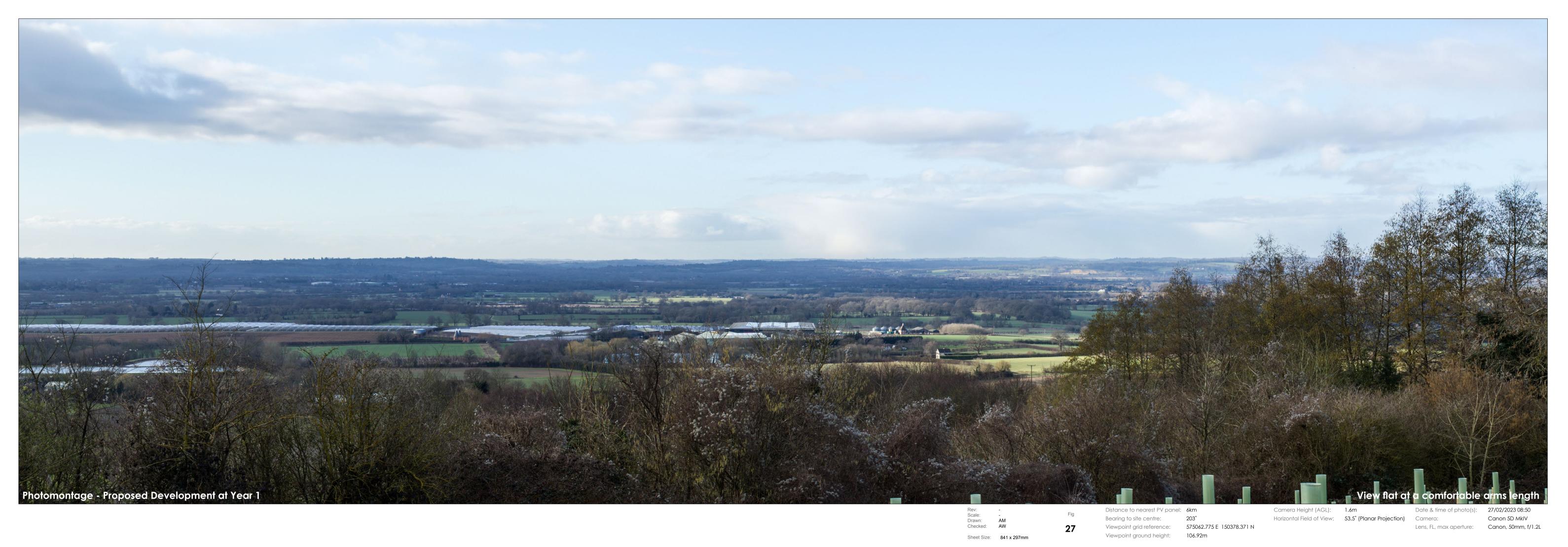
Solar Century

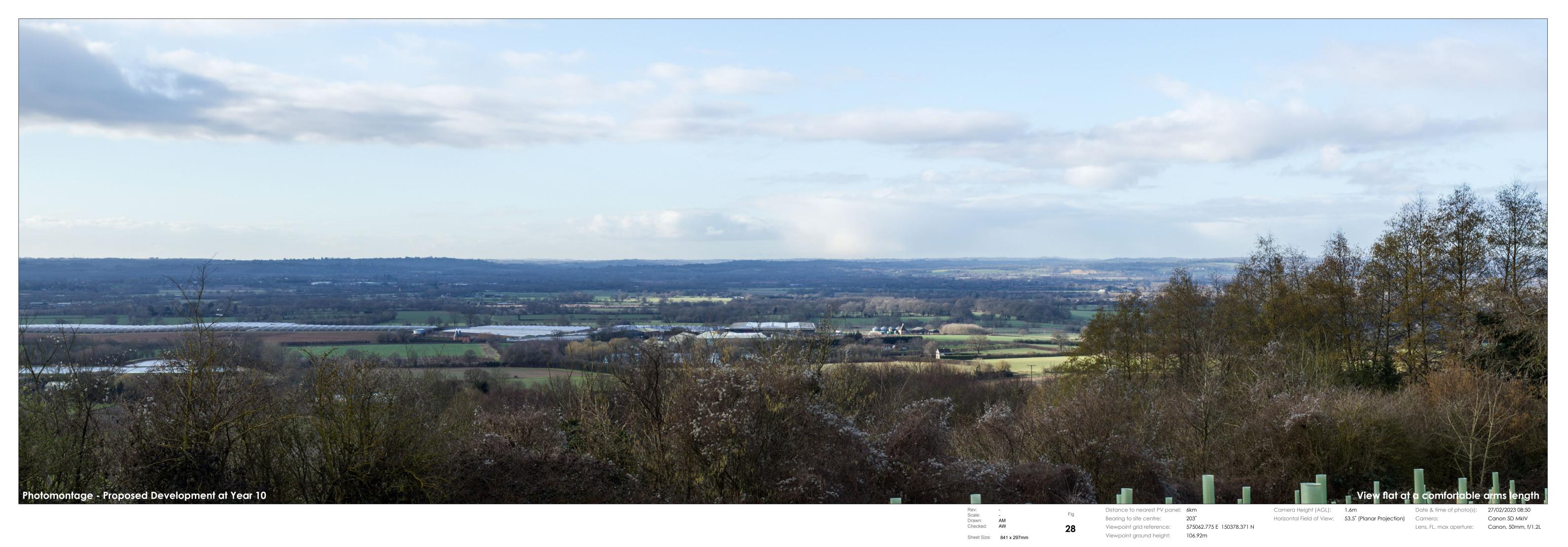
Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Drawing Title Viewpoint 13 - Existing baseline photograph - Proposed development at Year 10

andymawdesign

Rose Cottage, Mill Lane, Wolverley, DY11 5TR





APPENDIX C

Contextual Views

Sheepwash LVIA Report Proposed Development with Appeal Amendments

Contextual Views



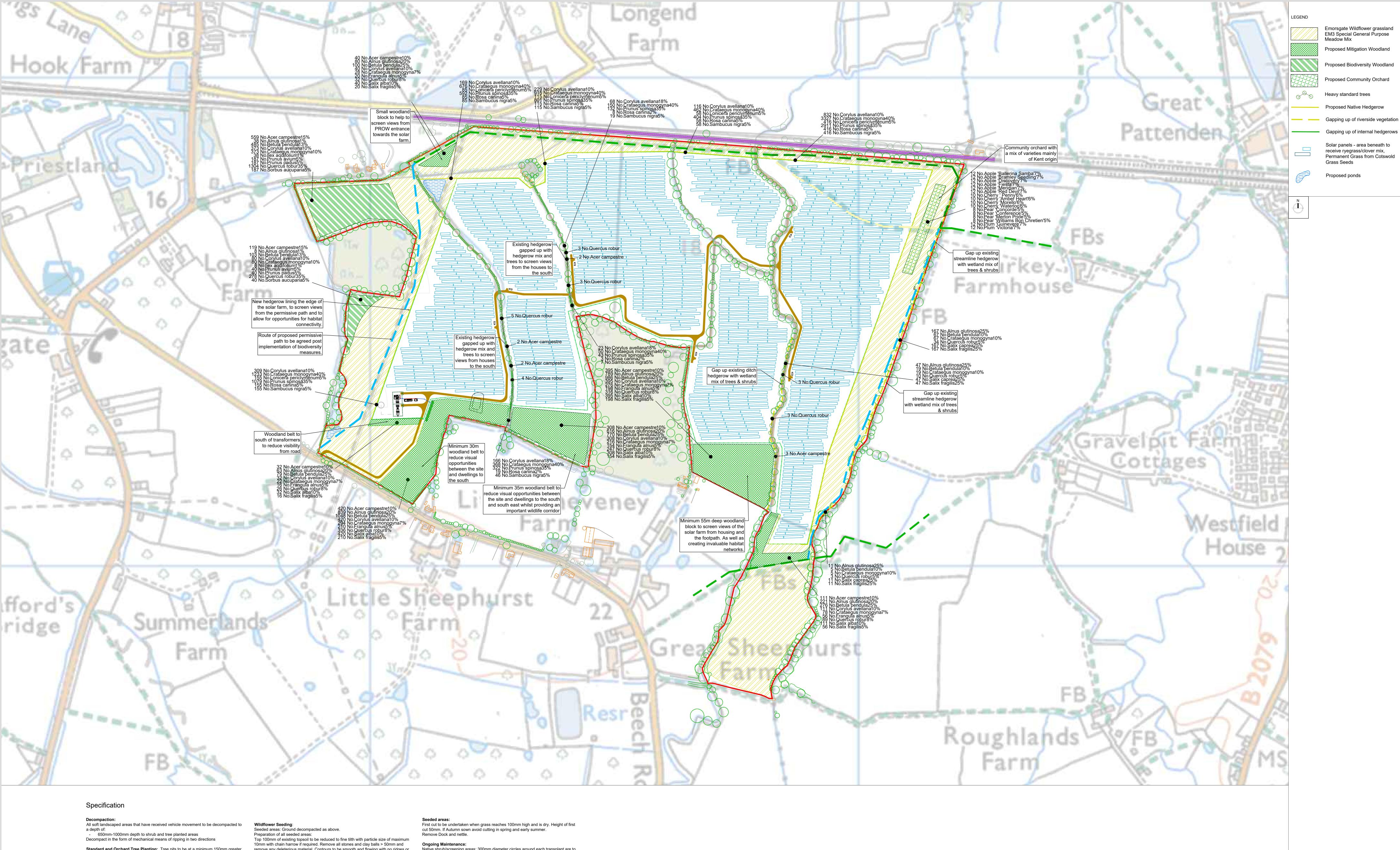




DRAWINGS

AW0143-PL-003

Proposed Mitigation, Landscape & Ecology enhancements – Appeal Site



Standard and Orchard Tree Planting: Tree pits to be at a minimum 150mm greater in width and depth than the diameter of the rootball. Bottom of pit to be ripped/broken hollows. Final cultivation to create a fine, firm tilth with good crumb structure. Rake to

topsoil/tree ameliorant mix (1part Topgrow Planting Compost by Melcourt to 4 parts Trees to be secured with 100mm diameter pressure treated softwood stakes (driven into the ground diagonally so as to not damage the rootball) and adjustable rubber tie. Stakes to protrude no more than 750mm above ground level in order to encourage

up to a depth of 250mm to facilitate drainage prior to being backfilled with site won true even surface, and lightly firm but not compact.

sideways movement of trees to ensure adequate root development. 1m diameter, 75mm deep layer of weathered woodchip collar to be placed around the trees to keep

without damaging existing roots as well as within new hedgerow. Native Shrubs/Tree mix: Ground decompacted as above. Transplants to be notch planted in same species groups of 5 to 11 at 2m centres. Transplants are to be protected against rabbits / wind with 750mm high Tubex 12D 3Y Degradeable

Where possible plant heavy standard trees as close to existing hedgerow as possible

Shelters with 73mm diameter. To be installed in accordance with suppliers

Estate, The Causeway, Maldon, CM9 4GG; t: (01621) 874201. Native Hedgerows: Ground to be thoroughly decompacted as above. Transplants to Hedges: be planted in trenches in double staggered row at 7 plants per linear metre in 750mm

First spring after planting trim all lateral branches by 50% (except for Holly). Lightly wide strip covered with 75mm deep layer of weathered woodchip mulch. Transplants to be protected against wind and rabbit damage as per native shrubs/tree mix. Hedgerows to be maintained at a height of 2-5-3m biannually, to achieve overall width

remove any deleterious material. Contours to be smooth and flowing with no ridges or

Wildflower seed mix - Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture, Emorsgate EM3

Solar Panel grassland - Perennial Ryegrass/Clover mix, Permanent Grass from

Watering: All newly planted material to be thoroughly saturated after planting and well watered in the first twelve months, during any prolonged period (5+ days) of dry weather. Transplants and whips to receive a minimum of 5litres each; Heavy standard trees to receive a minimum of 25litres each

Trees/shrubs: Maintain a weed free area around each tree and shrub, minimum diameter 1m or the surface of the original planting pit. recommendations. Available from Fiberweb Geosynthetics Ltd, Blackwater Trading Refirming of trees and shrubs by treading around the base. after strong winds, frost heave and other disturbances.

Grassed areas to be watered without displacement of seed until thoroughly saturated.

trim every 2nd or third year allowing hedge to increase in size each time until desired height is achieved. Trim biannually to achieve 3m height and 1m depth.

Native shrub/screening areas: 300mm diameter circles around each transplant are to be kept weed free with mulching or hand dig where possible, herbicide spraying to be kept to a minimum. After 12 months the bark mulch is to be topped up in order to maintain a minimum depth of 50mm. At end of each twelve month period, all trees and shrubs to be refirmed as necessary,

and all plant losses replaced by a tree or shrub of similar specification. Hedges: To be managed biannually at a height of 3m, and a depth of 1m, in rectangular form, once in May and once in Autumn. Arisings to be removed. Rotation every 3 years of $\frac{1}{3}$ of hedges to be uncut in Autumn to allow for winter food crops for

Wildflower meadow to be cut late summer (August) (not corn bunting mix) when a period of dry weather is expected, arisings to be left, tilthed and baled as appropriate. An additional cut can be undertaken in early spring if required. All arisings to be

Sheep grazing of fenced solar panel area to manage the grassland to base of panels. Rotational grazing on a monthly basis to achieve good sward, with periods of fallow. Grazing to cease in winter months. Watering to continue for first 5 years or until plants are established. Beyond 5 years

watered to avoid significant losses. Any plant failures within the first 5 years to be replaced of the same size and specification and to be managed as per the first 5 years. Reason for failure to be noted and rectified for future plant success.

should there be a period of prolonged drought, trees, shrubs and hedgerows to be

Native Internal Field Hedge	erow - Gapping up					
Species name	Common name	% Mix	Height	Rootzone	Spec	Density
Corylus avellana	Hazel	18	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered rov
Crateagus monogyna	Hawthorn	40	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered row
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	35	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Rosa canina	Dog rose	2	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Sambucus nigra	Elder	5	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Native River/Ditch Bounda	ry Hedgerow - Gapp	ing up				
Species name	Common name	% Mix	Height	Rootzone	Spec	Density
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	25	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	1/lin m
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	10	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	1/lin m
Crateagus monogyna	Hawthorn	10	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	1/lin m
Quercus robur	English Oak	5	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	1/lin m
Salix caprea	Goat willow	25	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	1/lin m
Salix fragilis	Crack willow	25	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	1/lin m
Native Fence Boundary He	dgerow					
Species name	Common name	% Mix	Height	Rootzone	Spec	Density
Corylus avellana	Hazel	10	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Crateagus monogyna	Hawthorn	40	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	5	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	35	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Rosa canina	Dog rose	5	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro
Sambucus nigra	Elder	5	60-90	BR	1+1 branched	7/m in double staggered ro

Mitigation Native Tree &	Shrub Planting						
Species name	Common name	% Mix	Height	Rootzone	Spec	Density	Total Number
Acer campestre	Field maple	10	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	1306
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	20	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	2608
Betula pendula	Silver birch	25	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	3259
Corylus avellana	Hazel	10	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	1306
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	7	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	914
Frangula alnus	Alder Buckthorn	5	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	654
Quercus Robur	English Oak	8	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	1046
Salix alba	White willow	10	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	1306
Salix fragilis	Crack Willow	5	80-100	BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	654
Biodiversity Native Tree &	& Shrub Planting						Total
Biodiversity Native Tree &	& Shrub Planting Common name	% Mix	Height	Rootzone	Spec	Density	
•		% Mix 15	Height 80-100		Spec 1+1 branched	Density 2m centres	Number
Species name	Common name			BR			Number 678
Species name Acer campestre	Common name Field maple	1 5	80-100	BR BR	1+1 branched	2m centres	Number 678 46
Species name Acer campestre Alnus glutinosa	Common name Field maple Alder	15 1	80-100 80-100	BR BR BR	1+1 branched 1+1 branched	2m centres 2m centres	Number 678 46 588
Species name Acer campestre Alnus glutinosa Betula pendula	Common name Field maple Alder Silver birch	15 1 13	80-100 80-100 80-100	BR BR BR BR	1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched	2m centres 2m centres 2m centres	Number 678 46 588 453
Species name Acer campestre Alnus glutinosa Betula pendula Corylus avellana	Common name Field maple Alder Silver birch Hazel	15 1 13 10	80-100 80-100 80-100 80-100	BR BR BR BR	1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched	2m centres 2m centres 2m centres 2m centres 2m centres 2m centres	Number 678 46 588 453 453
Species name Acer campestre Alnus glutinosa Betula pendula Corylus avellana Crataegus monogyna	Common name Field maple Alder Silver birch Hazel Hawthom	15 1 13 10 10	80-100 80-100 80-100 80-100 80-100	BR BR BR BR BR 3L pot	1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched	2m centres 2m centres 2m centres 2m centres 2m centres 2m centres	Number 678 46 588 453 453
Species name Acer campestre Alnus glutinosa Betula pendula Corylus avellana Crataegus monogyna Ilex aquifolium Prunus avium	Common name Field maple Alder Silver birch Hazel Hawthom Holly	15 1 13 10 10	80-100 80-100 80-100 80-100 80-100 60-90	BR BR BR BR BR 3L pot BR	1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched Leader with laterals	2m centres	Number 678 46 588 453 453 460 227
Species name Acer campestre Alnus glutinosa Betula pendula Corylus avellana Crataegus monogyna Ilex aquifolium	Common name Field maple Alder Silver birch Hazel Hawthorn Holly Wild cherry	15 1 13 10 10 10 5	80-100 80-100 80-100 80-100 80-100 60-90 80-100	BR BR BR BR BR 3L pot BR	1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched 1+1 branched Leader with laterals 1+1 branched	2m centres	Total Number 678 46 588 453 453 46 227 227

All trees and shrubs to be notch planted and protected with Biodegradable rabbit guard

Speces Name	Common Name	Specification	Rootzone	Number
Acer campestre	Field Maple	3.0-3.5m, 10-12 Select Standard	RB	9
Quercus robur	English Oak	3.0-3.5m, 10-12 Select Standard	RB	21
Pit planted in locations identifi	ed. Staked with biodeg	gradable rabbit guards to each tree.		
Orchard Trees				
Speces Name	Common Name	Specification	Rootzone	Number
Apple Ballerina Samba	Apple	MM106, Feathered 2m	C/RB	12
Apple Bramley Seedling	Apple	MM106, Feathered 2m	C/RB	12
Apple Discovery	Apple	MM106, Feathered 2m	C/RB	12
Apple Fiesta	Apple	MM106, Feathered 2m	C/RB	12
Apple Meridian	Apple	MM106, Feathered 2m	C/RB	12
Apple Red Devil	Apple	MM106, Feathered 2m	C/RB	12
Cherry Penny	Cherry	Colt Rootstock, 2m	C/RB	10
Cherry Amber Heart	Cherry	Colt Rootstock, 2m	C/RB	10
Cherry Morello	Cherry	Colt Rootstock, 2m	C/RB	10
Cherry Waterloo	Cherry	Colt Rootstock, 2m	C/RB	10
Pear Concorde	Pear	Quince A, 2m	C/RB	8
Pear Conference	Pear	Quince A, 2m	C/RB	8
Pear Merton Pride	Pear	Quince A, 2m	C/RB	8
Pear Williams Bon Chretien	Pear	Quince A, 2m	C/RB	8
Plum Guinevere	Damson	St Julien, 2m	C/RB	12
Plum 'Victoria'	Victoria Plum	St Julien, 2m	C/RB	12

Specimen Trees



Sheepwash Solar Energy Farm, Marden

Proposed Mitigation, Landscape & Ecology enhancements - with Appeal Amendments

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