

Bottesford Parish Council **objects**

Bottesford Parish Neighbourhood Plan
2020-2036



In contravention of...

Neighbourhood Plan

Policies 2, 4a, 4b & 9

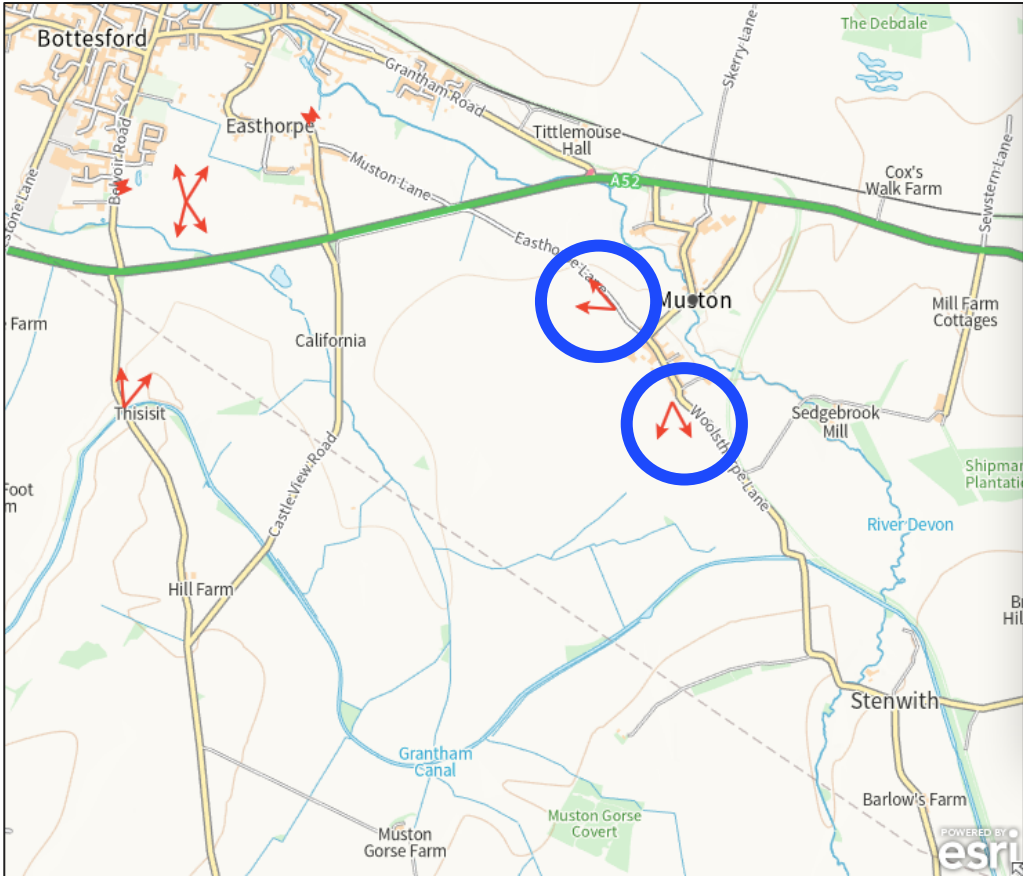
MBC Local Plan

Policies inc: EN1, EN13

Landscape Sensitivity

Neighbourhood Plan: 'Significant Views and Vistas'

View Points 6 & 7



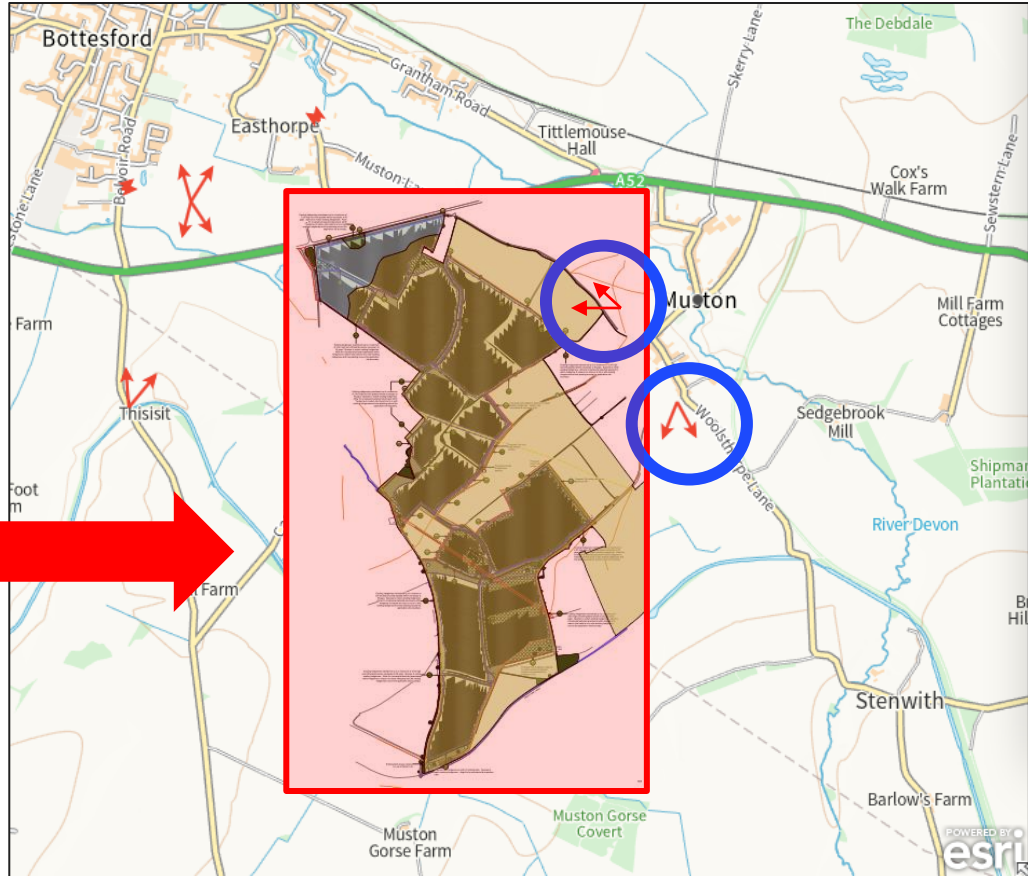
Neighbourhood Plan: 'Significant Views and Vistas'

View Points 6 & 7

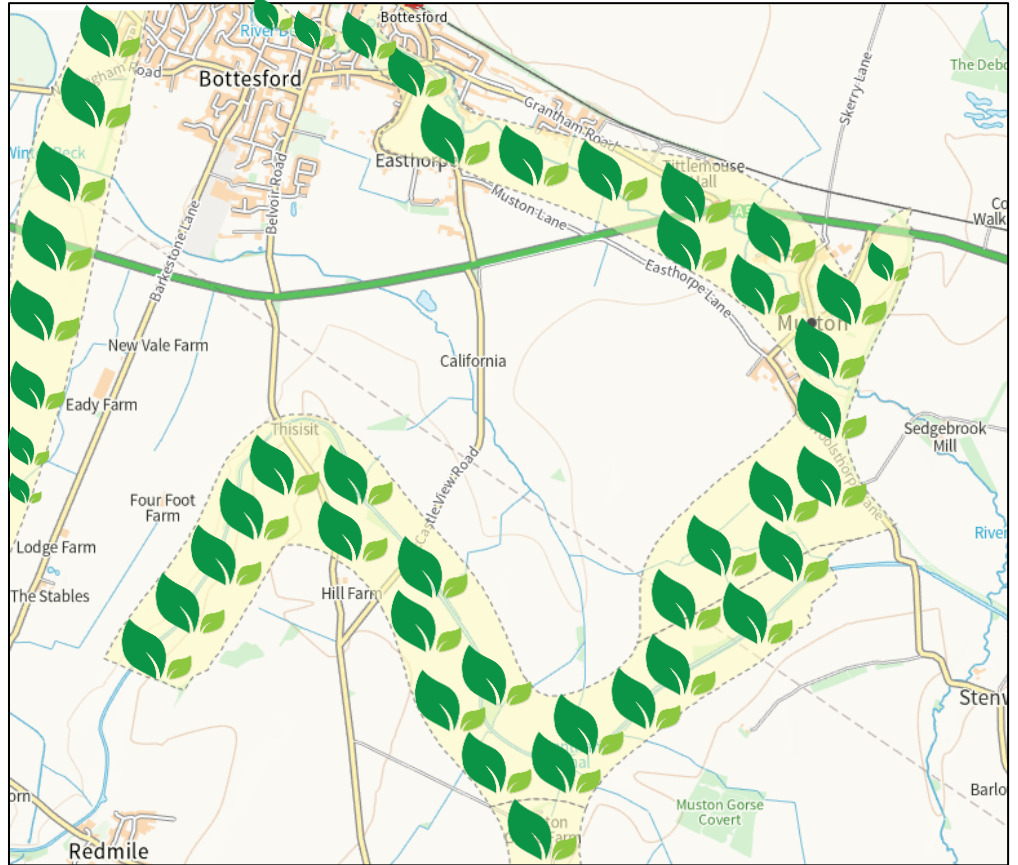
Low regard shown for the importance of these views



Mitigation suggests growing hedgerows which will take 15 years to mature and then will block views across open countryside

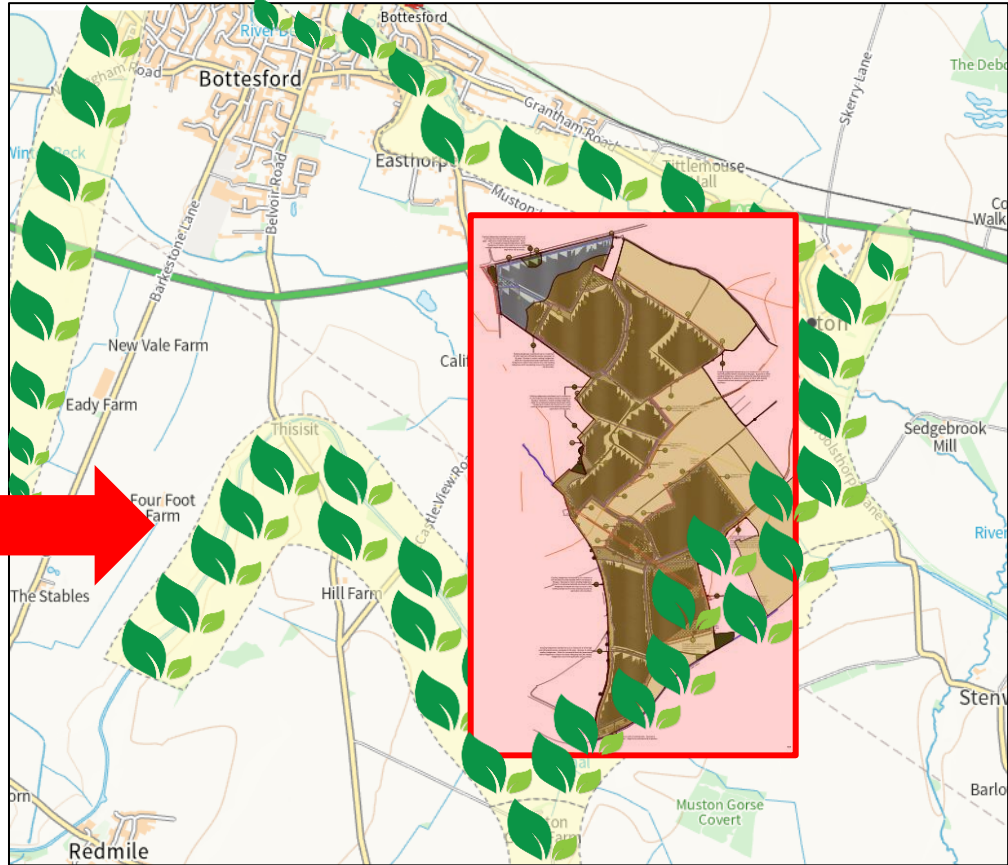


Neighbourhood Plan: The 'Ecological Setting'



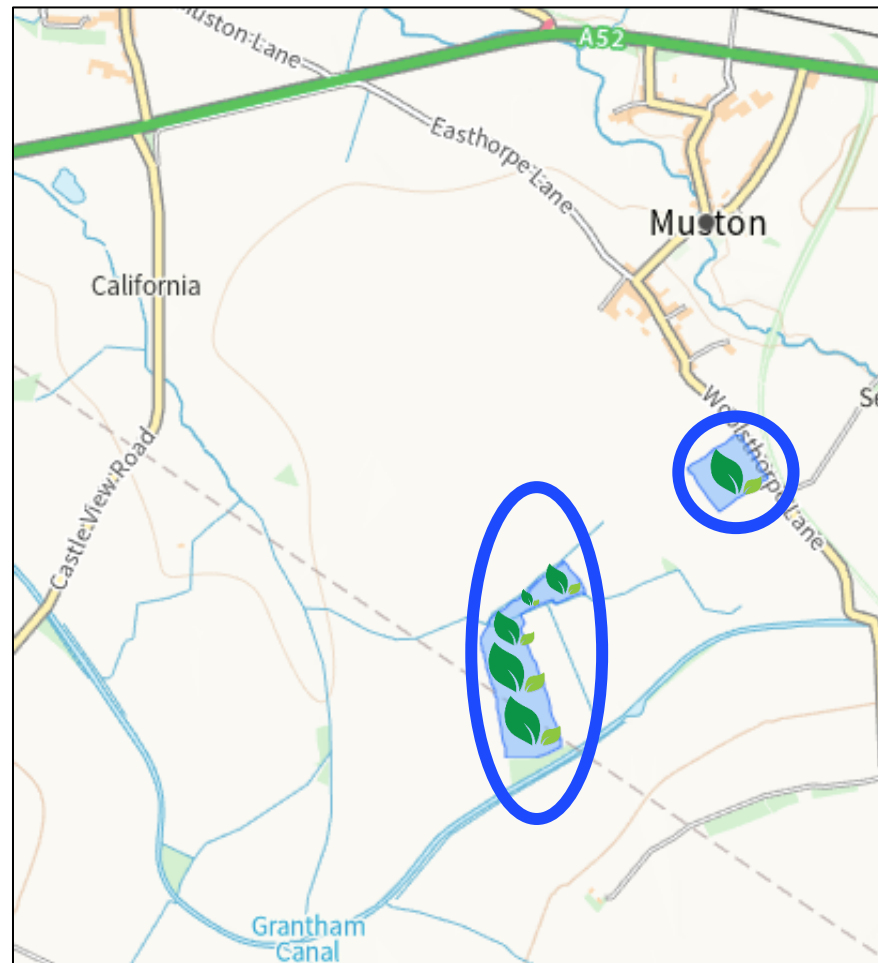
Neighbourhood Plan: The 'Ecological Setting'

Application clearly
brings metal
hardware and
urbanises
the Ecological Setting



Muston Meadows SSSI

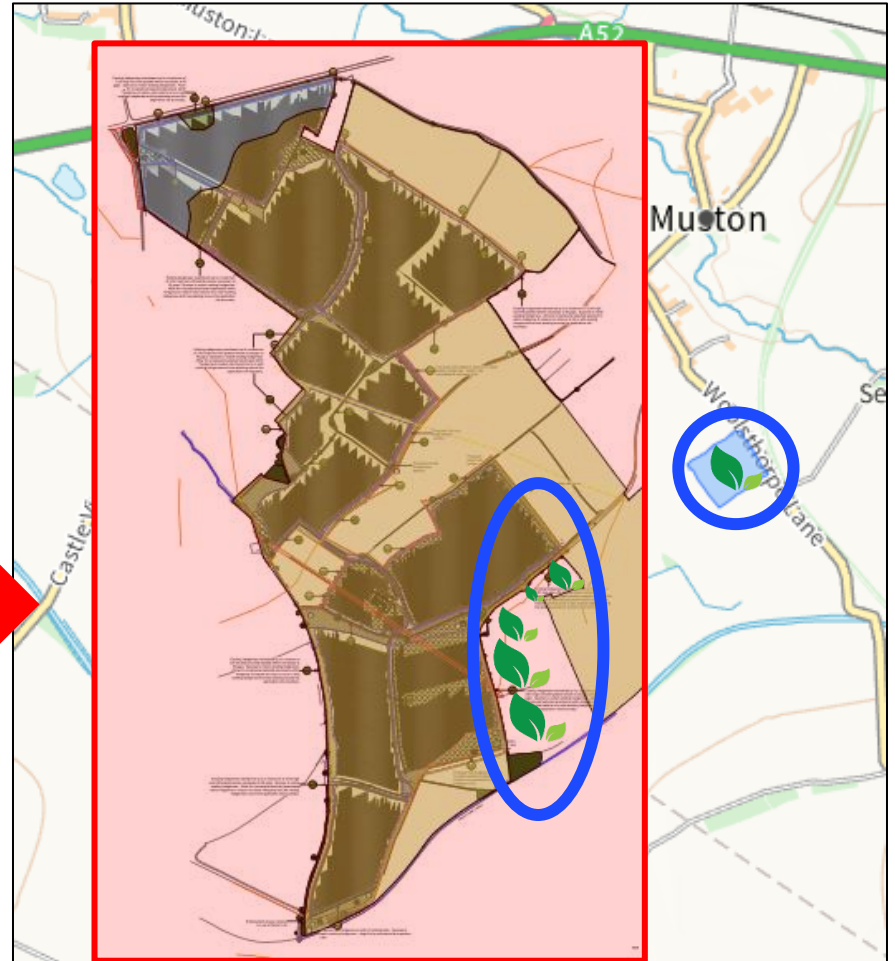
Site of Special Scientific Interest



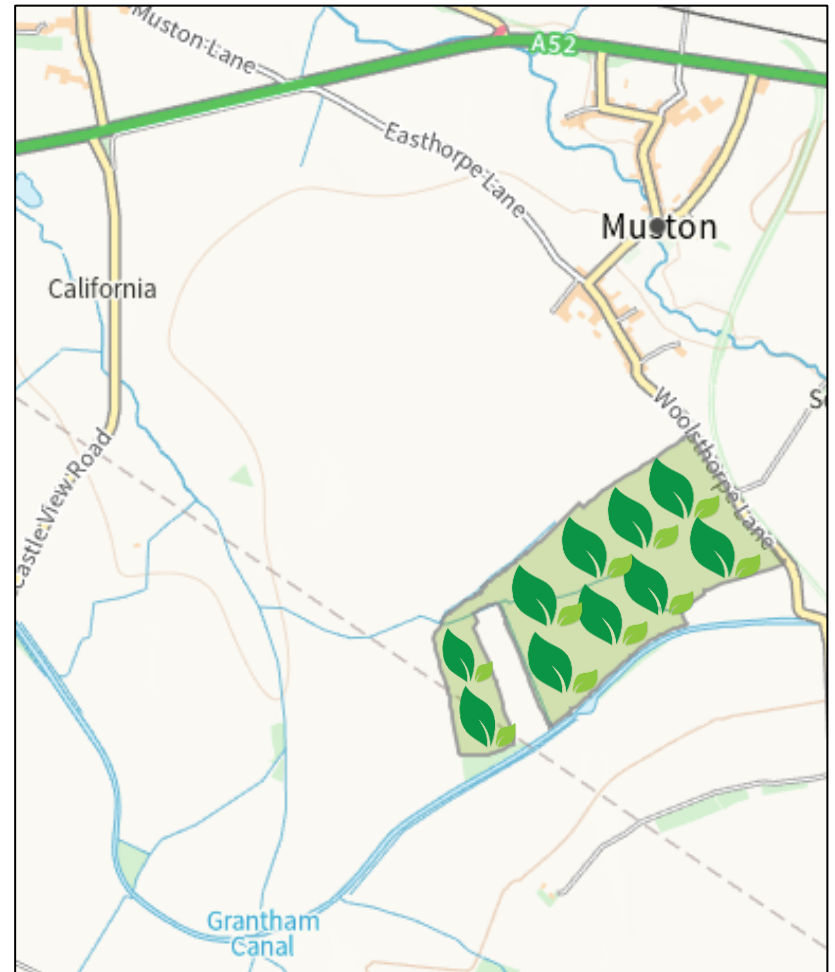
Muston Meadows SSSI

Site of Special Scientific Interest

Surrounded and squeezed - not an appropriate way to look after an SSSI

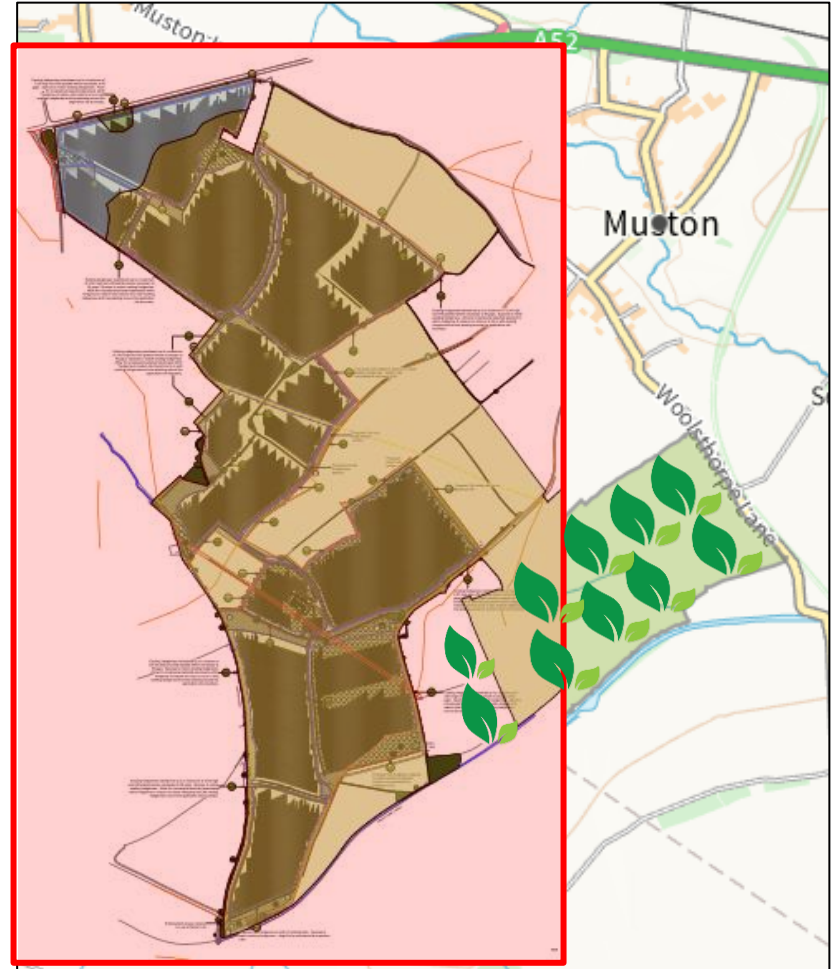


National Nature Reserve in Muston



National Nature Reserve In Muston

This is not an appropriate
way to look after a
National Nature Reserve



The Reality of 3 metres from within the site

3m is the highest point of the proposed tracking panels

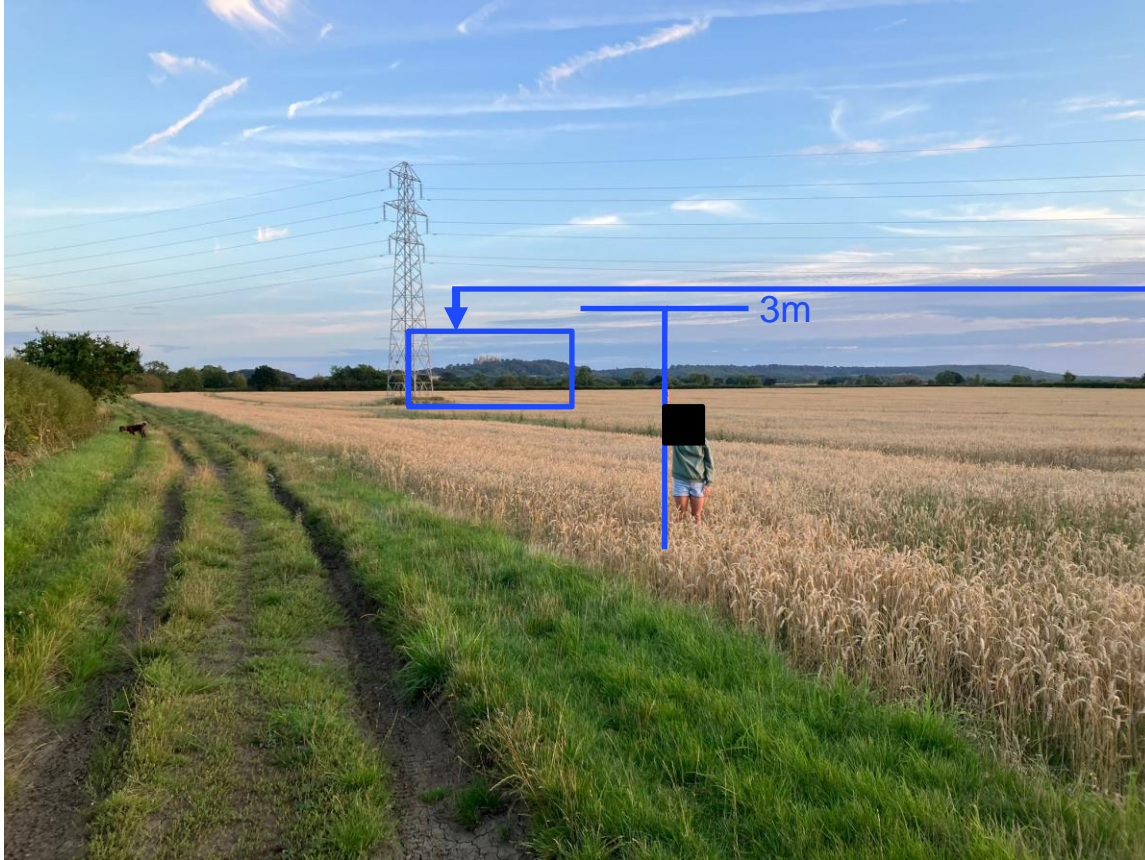


Photo location

Belvoir Castle

Listed Building

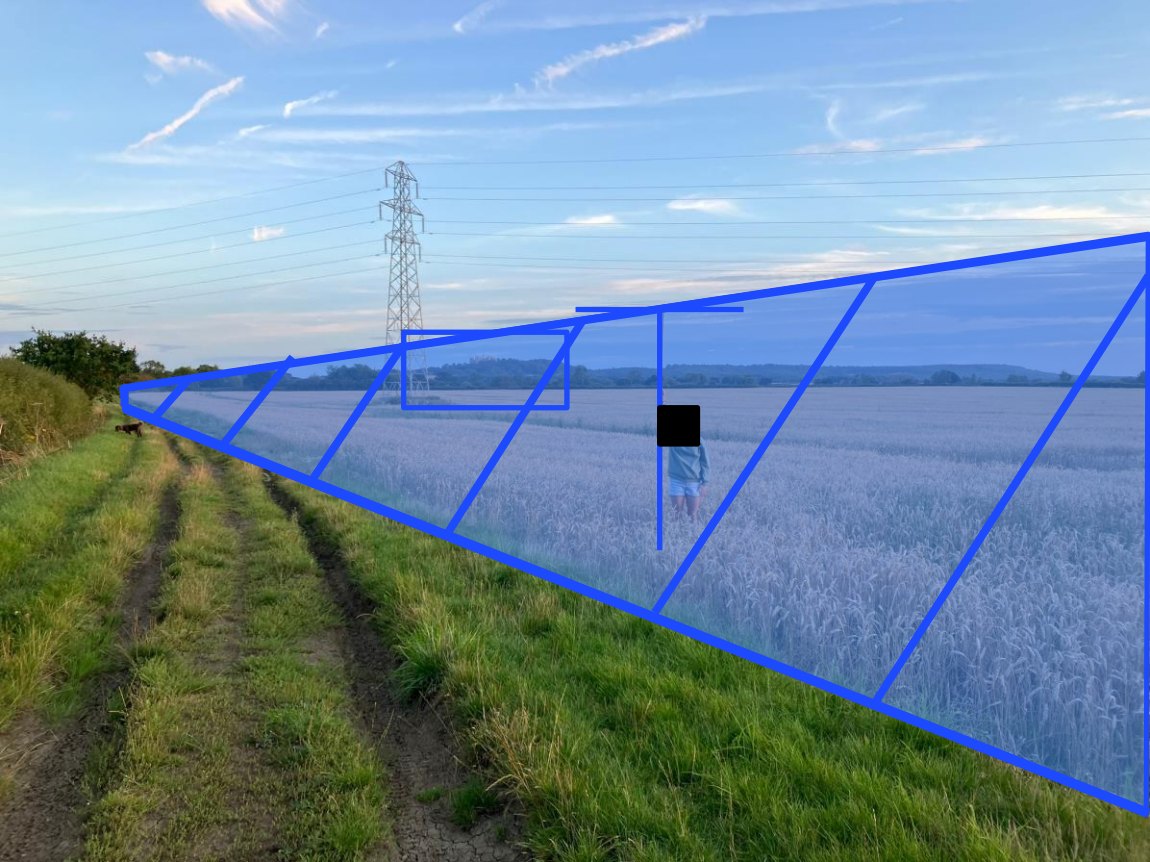
Scheduled

Ancient Monument

MBC Local Plan: Landscape and Sensitivity Study

- Views towards Belvoir Castle and the Belvoir scarp where the **Castle forms an important landmark feature** (including the good views from Beacon Hill).
- Choice of location and size/scale of development **does not diminish the perceived scale of Belvoir Castle** and the escarpment on which it sits.
- The overall aim... developments **do not become a key characteristic of the landscape** or have a defining influence on the overall experience of the landscape of the Vale of Belvoir

The Reality of 3 metres from within the site



3m height
of proposed panels and
mitigation hedge

The Reality of 3 metres from within the site



Belvoir Castle
Listed Building

Scheduled
Ancient Monument

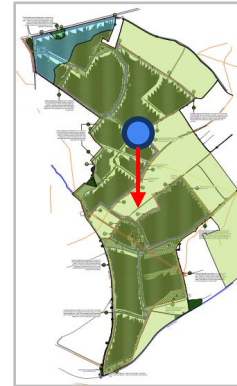
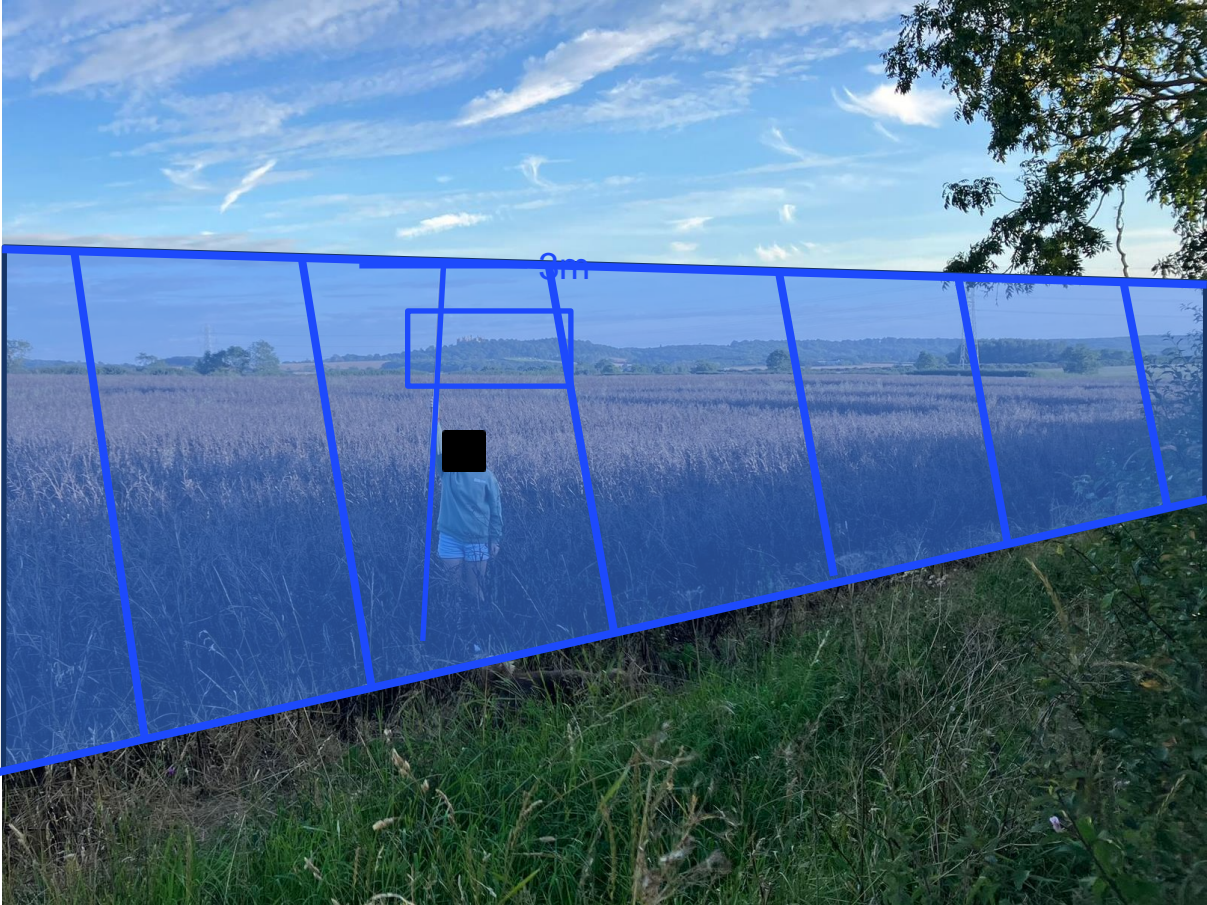


Photo location

The Reality of 3 metres from within the site



3m height
of proposed panels and
mitigation hedge

The Reality of 3 metres



**St Mary's,
Lady of the Vale,
Bottesford**

Listed Building,
Scheduled

Ancient Monument

and in a
Conservation Area



Photo location

The Reality of 3 metres



3m height
of proposed
panels and
mitigation
hedge

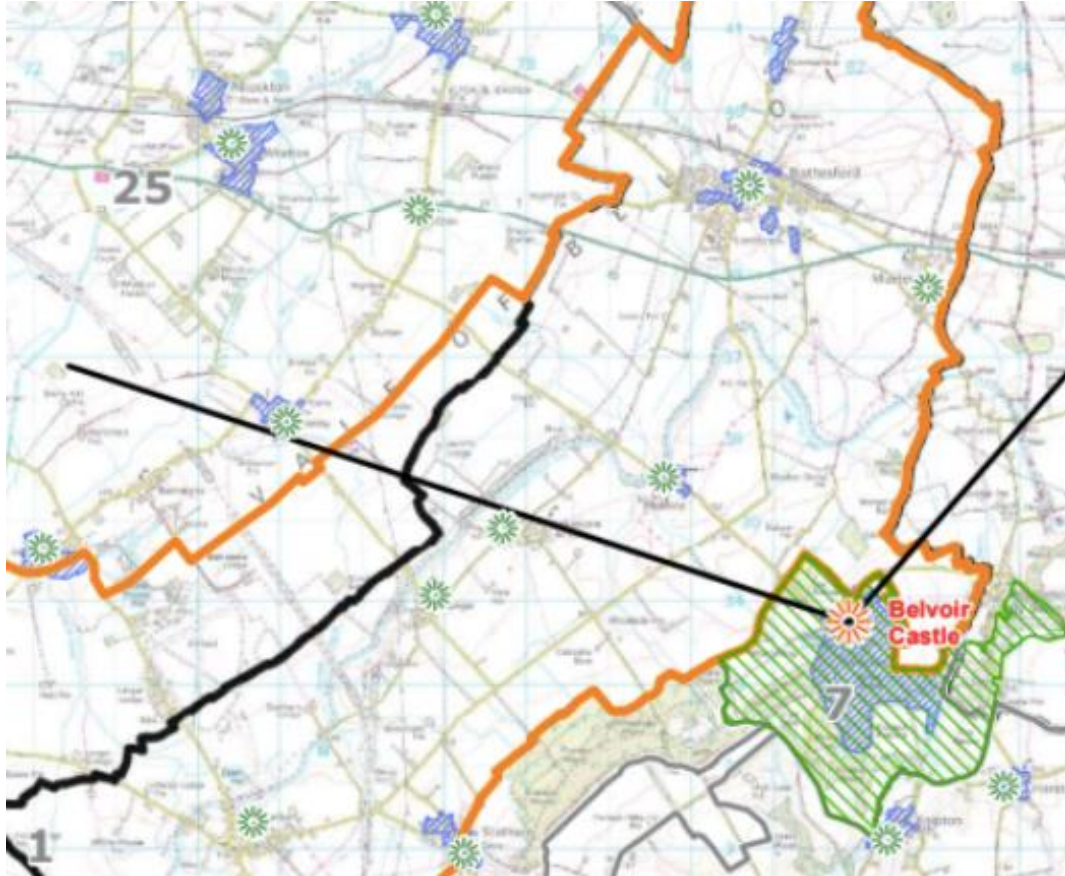
Nick Carter

Inspector of Ancient
Monuments
Sept 2022

‘Historic England has concerns with the application on heritage grounds.

It is our view that the impacts of the proposals upon the settings of the designated **heritage assets would result in harm to their significance. We consider the impacts to be higher than indicated in the EIA.’**

Melton BC Local plan: Protecting views from Belvoir Castle

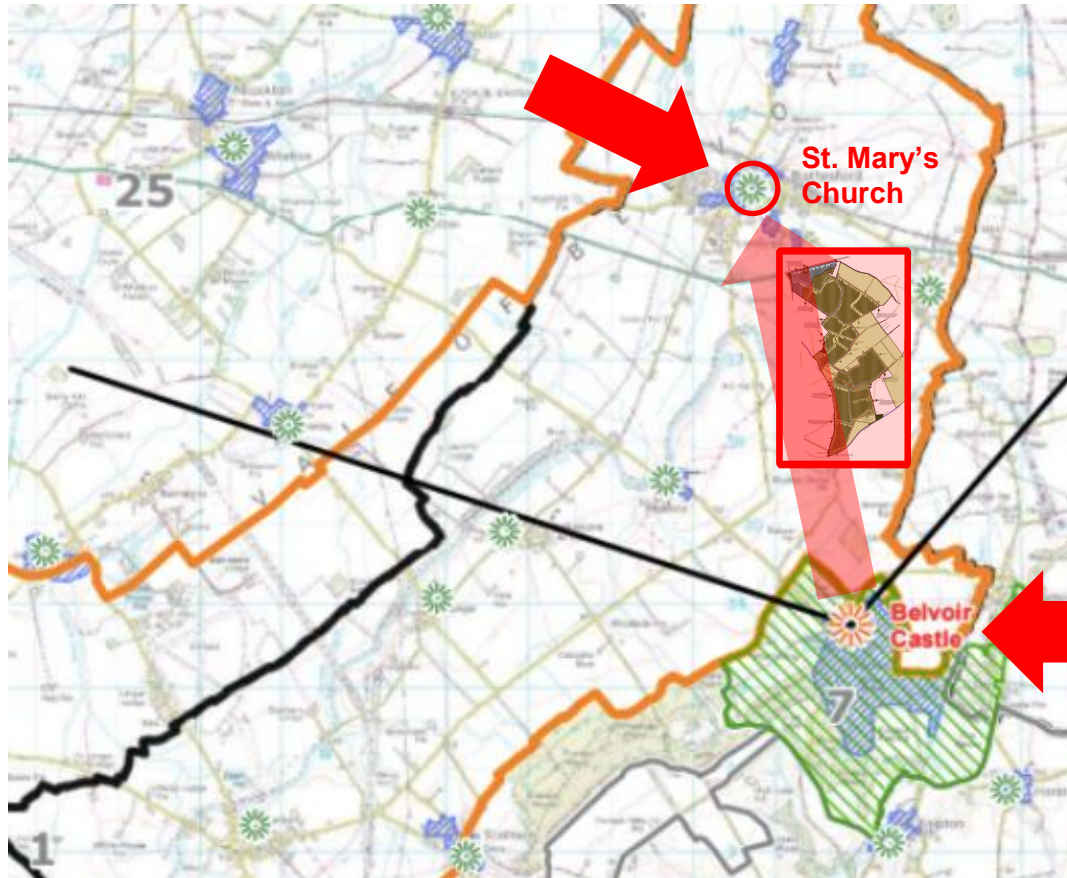


Source: **Melton & Rushcliffe Landscape and Sensitivity Study** and **NP Policy 2**

... "It is desirable to preserve the expansive and rural patchwork character of this view."


...there are close historic links between Belvoir Castle and St Mary's Church, Bottesford.. ..

Melton BC Local plan: Protecting views from Belvoir Castle




..."and it is desirable to **maintain uninterrupted views** of the spire of St Mary's from the Castle".


Cumulative Assessment across the Vale of Belvoir

 = Solar Farm



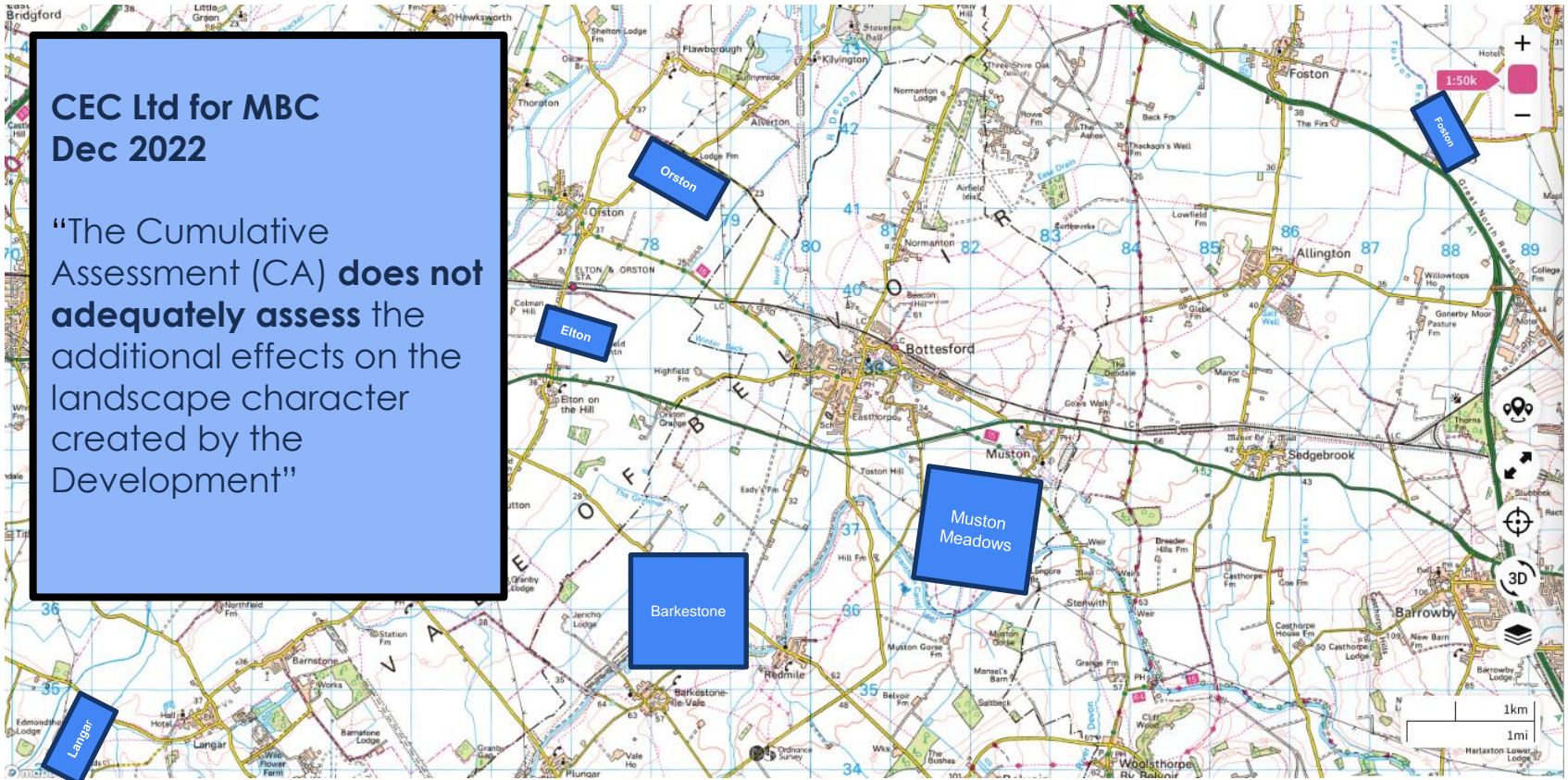
 = Solar Farm


Cumulative Assessment across the Vale of Belvoir

 = Solar Farm


CEC Ltd for MBC
Dec 2022

“The Cumulative Assessment (CA) **does not adequately assess** the additional effects on the landscape character created by the Development”



 = Solar Farm


Cumulative Assessment across the Vale of Belvoir

 = Solar Farm

**Alicia Kearns MP,
in the House of Commons
19th July 2023**

**"It is unacceptable that
we are seeing this assault
on our local planning
infrastructure."**



 = Solar Farm

Finally, the numbers...

Precedence of developers being at best vague and imprecise, and at worst understating outputs

Alicia Kearns MP again (talking about a different developer, not JBM):

"..is claiming to the planning authorities.. ..49.9 MW.

However, in internal presentations that are apparently only for shareholders.. ..those developments are listed as generating 80 MW and 53 MW..

..This suggests foul play."

If it were to produce only 49.9MWatts then it would be amongst the least productive schemes in the country...

If it were to produce output more in line with other sites, it would be classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project and would be open to far more scrutiny.

Site	Hectares	MW per Hectare
Lyneham Solar Fam (Bradenstoke, Wiltshire)	86.3	0.81
Wroughton Airfield (Wiltshire)	66.8	0.75
Shotwick Solar Park (Flintshire, Wales)	101.2	0.71
Owl's Hatch Solar Park (Herne Bay, Kent)	85.8	0.60
West Raynham Solar Farm (Norfolk)	91.1	0.55
Muston Meadows entire site	135.0	0.37
Muston Meadows solar panels area	103.0	0.48

Fear of losing on appeal

There has been a fear within MBC for a number of years.
This should not cause us to make the wrong decision.

We have read 8 appeal decisions and none of the application sites had any of the historic or character significance of the site you are discussing tonight.

If this was rejected by MBC, it is unlikely that it would be won on appeal.

**Bottesford
Parish Council
objects
and
recommends
rejection
of the
proposed
Solar Farm
on our
meadows**



**The view of St Mary's, Bottesford,
Duchess of Rutland painting 1780 – 1825**

(Bel voir = 'beautiful view' in French)

