My name is Angela Bamford. I have lived in Bentley for 30 years. In this time, I have ridden, cycled and walked all the local paths and bridleways. Now I only walk.

On my daily walks I meet fellow dog walkers and horse riders from our village, but also people from elsewhere, who have come to Bentley to enjoy the unspoiled countryside and wildlife.

There are monthly village walks, arranged by our footpath society starting from our village community pub and shop, using the footpaths, and visits from the Rambler's Association. There is a published guide to walks in Bentley taking in these paths. These assets will be severely compromised if the footpaths in the heart of the village are industrialised by the development of the proposed solar farm.

Walkers on the footpath connecting Church Road with Potash Lane will see the ancient Engry Wood across the fields as they walk towards Potash lane. Walkers on Potash lane can see views of the landscape towards our Church across the whole site through the hedge and wide field entrances. It is a beautiful and peaceful rural landscape which draws people to walk here.

Along Church Road, Potash lane and Pond Hall Lane walkers will see hedges of statuesque ancient oaks, huge lapsed coppiced oaks and stools of oak and field maple which witness the great age of the paths, hedgerows and rural lanes. The visual disconnect of seeing hundreds of solar panels, fencing, transformer buildings and CCTV towers in these settings would be vastly disfiguring.

I understand that farmers and landowners need to generate income from their land, and the production of solar energy is an important element of the production of green energy.

My main objection to this planning application is the proposed location of a solar farm in the heart of a conservation area, with a valued landscape of historic importance, greatly enjoyed by residents and visitors. To go ahead with this planning application would damage this significant landscape for a very prolonged period and possibly forever.