

Longfield Solar Farm Community Liaison Group (CLG)
Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, 3 June 2026, 1.30pm
Boreham Village Hall, Main Road, Boreham, CM3 3JD

Members

Name	Organisation
Andy Higham – Principal Planning Officer	Essex County Council
Timothy Havers - Principal Planning Manager Chris Paggi - Planning Development Manager	Braintree District Council
Ruth Mabbutt - Senior Planning Officer/Planning Lead	Chelmsford City Council
Mark Norman	National Highways
Lee Perry T/Station Manager, Risk John Webster Station Mgr Future Infrastructure Risk	Essex Fire and Rescue Service
Will Wilcock Sion Davies communications@essexalliance.org.uk	National Grid The Essex Alliance
Mark Weale - Chair	Hatfield Peverel Parish Council
Anthony Kingham - Chair	Little Waltham Parish Council
Dawn Whelan - Business & Partnerships Lead	East of England Ambulance Trust
Graham Reeve Area Walking Environment Officer	Essex Ramblers Association
Katherine Evans – Chair	Essex Local Access Forum

In attendance

Name	Organisation
Linda Reed (LR)	Boreham Parish Council
Peter Elkington (PE)	Boreham Parish Council
James Raven – City Councillor (JR)	Boreham and The Leighs
Robin Dixon (RD)	Terling and Fairstead Parish Council
James Lyons (JL)	Project Development Manager - SSPW EDF Power Solutions, Longfield Solar Farm
Clodagh Steel - Community Liaison Officer (CS)	EDF Power Solutions, Longfield Solar Farm

1 Welcome

CS welcomed the group, and the attendees introduced themselves

2 Minutes of the February 2026 Meeting

CS confirmed the minutes of the February 2025 meeting were agreed and have been loaded to the Longfield Solar Farm website <https://www.longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk/downloads/>

3 Highways Update

- Road closure Wheelers Hill and Cranham Road are in place from 3 to 10 June 2026 for surveys and de-vegetation works. During this time UKPN will also clear vegetation from their assets, this is in preparation for the road widening works planned for September 2026.
 - Road widening design awaiting approval from Essex Highways.
 - Essex and Suffolk Water works will begin on the 6 July 2026 and continue until the end of August 2026.
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4 Landscaping

- We are currently maintaining previous planting with a view for the next phase to start between November 2026 and February 2027.
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6 Main Site Construction

- Ground surveys are now underway.
 - Main archaeological works were completed late 2025 and the reporting is still to be finalised. Temporary compound areas around the site will be looked at after the harvest this year. There is one area of interest around the burial area that we had previously found. JR confirmed that Chelmsford Museum were moving a lot of the Essex Regiment Army artefacts to Ducksford to create room for other collections. CS to confirm if the archaeological findings were at Chelmsford Museum or still with the contractor and when the report will be finalised.
 - Public Rights of Way (PRoW) documents are available to view on the local planning authority websites. Application reference numbers, Chelmsford 22/00001/REQ/19 and Braintree 26/01062/DOR. PRoW management plan submitted for the management during construction. Permissive paths: will be submitted with the OEMP (Operational Environmental Management Plan) a requirement before commissioning.
 - Construction of the spine roads within the site will begin early next year. This will see an increase in HGV movement. Delivery of stone will be the biggest peak in traffic; the stone is used for the tracks and hardstanding areas. Fencing and lighting installation will be done in phases.
 - Construction working hours will run from 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Saturday. Noise generating activities (such as excavation and piling) will not take place within 30m of residential properties before 08.00am or after 18.00 on any weekday, or within 50m of residential properties before 08.00am or after 13.00 on Saturday.
 - RD Has the developer given notice to the local authorities of anticipated commencement of the project? Commencement of the project is planned for the end of March 2027; the notice period is 20 days, therefore, notice has not been given.
 - LR When will construction of the Bess (Battery Energy Storage System) begin? This will be later in the programme. We will create the foundations for the battery storage and substation areas whilst the solar panels are installed.
 - The main contractor has been appointed: Metlan. LR where will the majority of the traffic come from? CS to request details from Metlan and update the group when details are available.
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7 Bulls Lodge – National Grid

- A request for Gantry heights at the last meeting – CS, National Grid confirmed they would be 12.275 metres
 - CS to invite National Grid to the next meeting for an update and to show plans if possible.
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8 Next Meeting

- September 2026
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