Welcome to the Stone Pit Lane Solar Farm consultation

Stone Pit Lane Solar Farm is a proposed solar farm located on land south of the village of Keelby and the A18 (Barton Street) in West Lindsey District.

The project would **generate up to 99MW of clean, home-grown energy** – enough to power the equivalent of around 40,000 homes per year – and help the UK transition towards greater energy independence.

The plans for Stone Pit Lane Solar Farm are at an early stage, and the views of the local community are important in shaping the proposals. Local expertise will play a role in determining the final proposals, and all feedback from the consultation will be considered in preparation of our planning application to West Lindsey District Council.

The consultation will run from 12 November to 10 December 2026.

After reading the material in the room, you can provide feedback by completing a paper form or scanning the QR code to fill out the form online.

All the information from today's exhibition is also available on our website.

About Elgin

Elgin is a fully integrated, utility-scale solar and storage Independent Power Producer, developing, building, owning and operating renewable energy assets across the UK, Ireland and Italy.

With a 10GW+ pipeline spanning solar and battery storage projects, Elgin manages assets across the full value chain, from origination and development through construction, energisation and into long-term optimisation. The company has delivered over 1GW of ready-to-build projects, with more than 300MW currently under construction across the UK and Ireland.

Scan here for our project webpage

About solar

Why develop solar farms?
Solar farms provide clean, secure electricity, helping our environment and contributing to our energy independence and making Britain less reliant on imported power.

The site at Stone Pit Lane could **power up to 40,000 homes across Lincolnshire and the country.**

Britain has an increasing need for energy to power our homes, businesses and transport. Reducing the country's historic reliance on imported fossil fuels will help to ensure our energy independence at a time of significant international uncertainty.

Much of our current electricity is generated using oil and gas imported from abroad, which is not only bad for the environment but also bad for keeping our household bills low and stable. To meet future energy needs and cut reliance on imports, we must expand our capacity to generate energy domestically.



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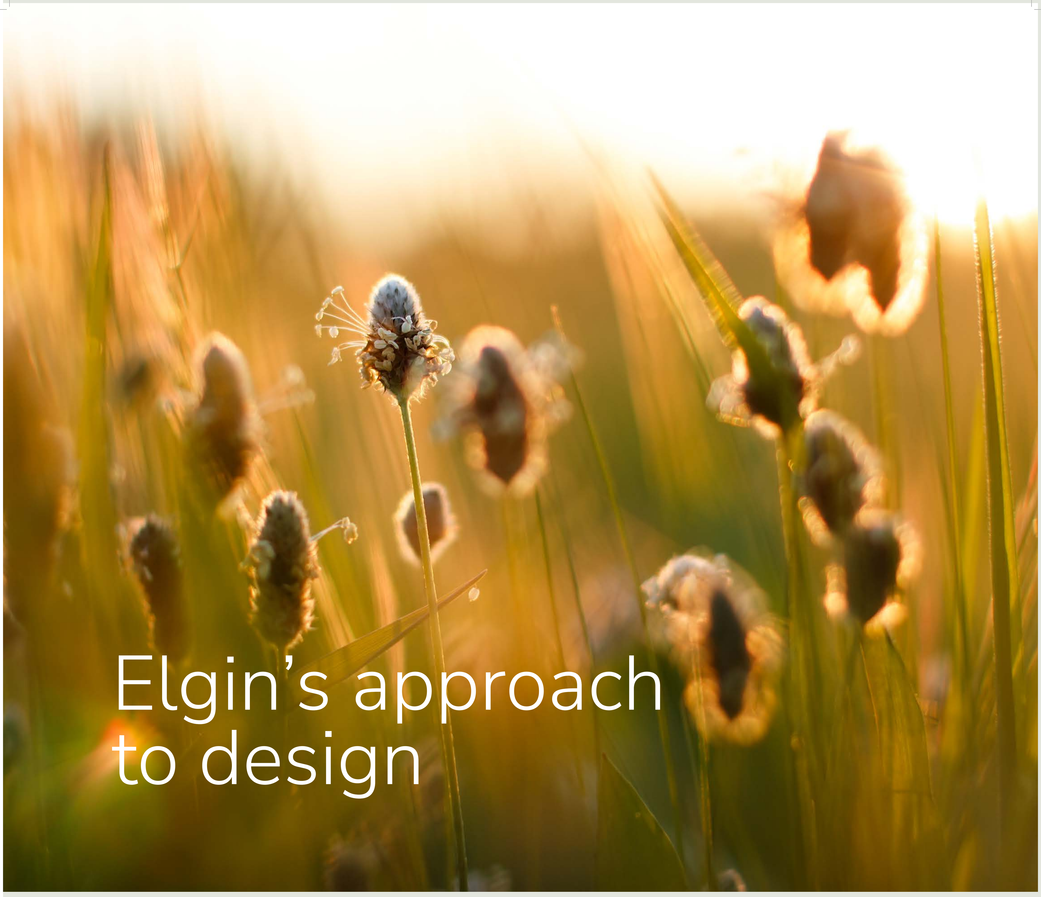

Elgin's approach to design

Work with the landscape
We will use existing field patterns, hedgerows and landscape features to help shape the layout, while introducing new native planting and biodiversity enhancements.

Be a good long term neighbour
We will design the solar farm sensitively around nearby homes, with appropriate setbacks, landscape buffers and planting to help reduce visual impacts.

Minimise construction impacts
The project team will plan safe and efficient construction access, making use of the site's proximity to the A18 and avoiding village roads where practicable. Construction traffic, noise and dust would be carefully managed.

What's biodiversity net gain?

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is a way of measuring the quality of habitats. A 10% net gain means the site would be left in a better condition for wildlife than it was before the project. On this site, 10% is the minimum required, but our intention is to go beyond this, delivering even greater benefits for nature through hedgerow planting, habitats for pollinators, and support for local species.

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Identifying the site at Stone Pit Lane

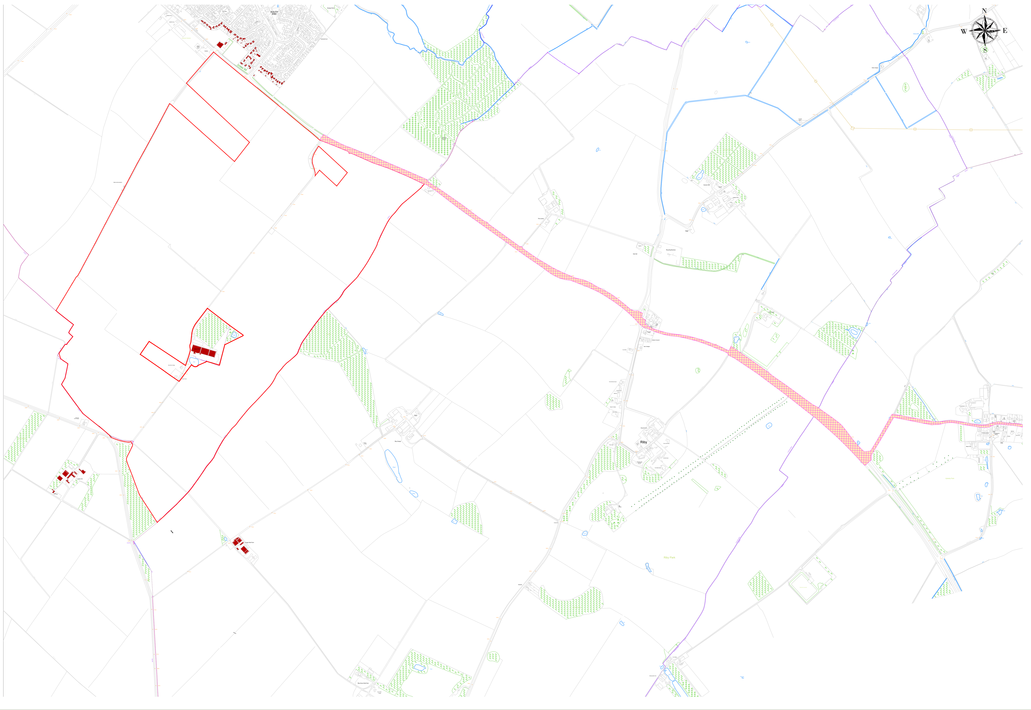
The proposed site for Stone Pit Lane Solar Farm has been identified following an extensive selection process which considers environmental designations, local electricity network access and capacity, the physical characteristics of the site and the availability of land.

We aim to minimise the impacts of the development locally where possible, which is why we are committed to working with members of the community to produce a final application that is sensitive to local concerns and expertise.

The proposed development would be temporary with the lifetime of the solar farm being in the region of 40 years.

Proximity to the grid

We expect Stone Pit Lane Solar Farm to connect to the National Grid at Grimsby West Substation. An underground cable would run from the site to Grimsby West Substation along the public highway route, heading east along A18 and then joining Aylesby Road to the substation. The final approach will be confirmed as the design develops, with the aim of minimising disruption. The grid connection could be considered as part of the planning application.



Indicative map illustrating proposed grid connection route

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Identifying the site at Stone Pit Lane

Visual impact

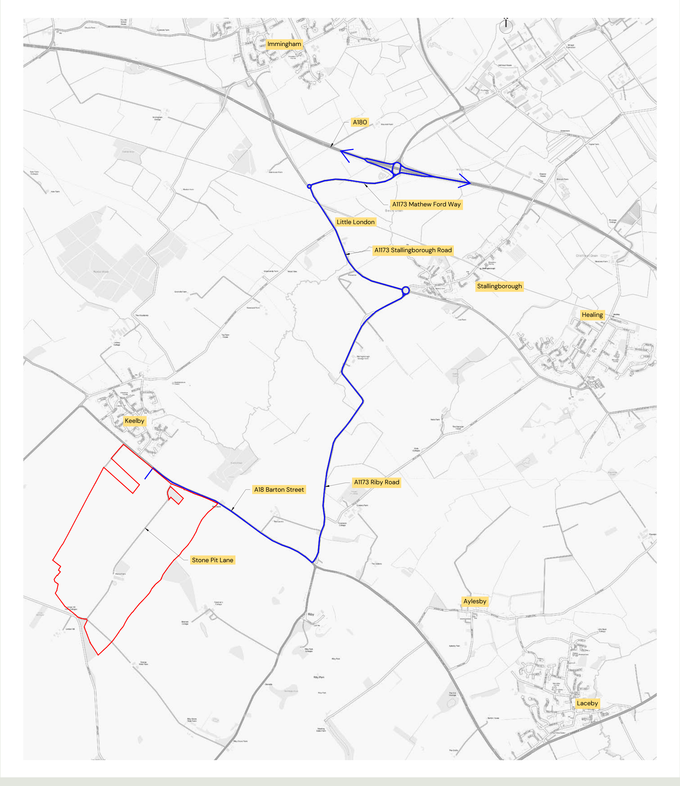
The proposed site has been carefully chosen to limit its impact on the surrounding area, taking into account environmental and landscape considerations. The site also benefits from existing hedgerows, which will be supplemented by additional planting to screen the site. Further landscape planting and mitigation enhancement will be incorporated to limit visual effects for the village of Keelby and the more open areas of the site.

Site access and construction

One of the benefits of the site is its ability to accommodate construction traffic while limiting impacts on local roads and residents. Its location allows construction vehicles to access the site from the A18 and then use internal routes, reducing the need for construction traffic to travel along Stone Pit Lane.

The construction phase of the proposed development will last for approximately 12 months. However, this does not mean that work will be taking place across the full site for the entire construction period.

Once operational, access would be for infrequent maintenance visits only. The two access points on Stone Pit Lane would be used for an east to west crossing, allowing vehicles to move between the two parcels. We anticipate that construction traffic will be managed by banksmen, who will direct the movement of heavy goods vehicles at the proposed access point and on Stone Pit Lane where vehicles are required to cross.



Indicative map illustrating access route

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Our proposals for Stone Pit Lane Solar Farm

Proposed site layout

Our draft masterplan shows where the solar panels and key infrastructure could be located, alongside areas set aside for biodiversity and environmental improvements. The design retains existing trees, hedgerows and woodland where possible, while proposing significant new hedgerow planting to strengthen existing field boundaries, provide additional screening and create new habitats.

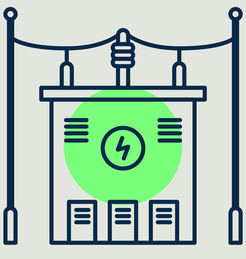


Previous plans for the site - what's changed?

You may have heard of proposals to develop a solar farm at this site in 2023. Those plans would have covered roughly 428 hectares and generated up to 150 MW of energy. The scale of the project meant it was deemed nationally significant and would have been examined by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Since then, Elgin has refined the project and reduced its overall size by a third. As a result, the project will now be decided locally by West Lindsey District Council.

The project will continue to evolve as we consult local residents and elected officials.



What's in a substation?

A substation prepares electricity from the solar farm to join the national grid. Equipment including transformers adjusts the voltage so power can travel safely and efficiently. The area is securely fenced and designed to operate quietly.

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Environmental considerations

In advance of submitting a planning application, our consultants will be undertaking a range of detailed assessments on key issues including:

- Landscape and views
- Heritage and archaeology
- Noise and air quality
- Wildlife and biodiversity
- Agricultural land and soils
- Community and health
- Flooding and water
- Traffic and access
- Climate change

We are still at an early stage of preparing these proposals, meaning that the design is evolving and our team is working with technical specialists to conduct site surveys and environmental assessments.

Public Rights of Way

Public Rights of Way have been considered as part of the emerging design and will be protected throughout the development. During construction, where vehicle routes interact with a Public Right of Way, appropriate traffic management measures will be put in place to protect users. This could include managing the proposed crossing of Stone Pit Lane using banksmen when construction vehicles are crossing.

Local access to the Public Rights of Way network will not be impacted once Stone Pit Solar Farm is operational.

Ecology and biodiversity

During operation, the solar farm would be managed for biodiversity gains, including new planting to support a diverse range of species in and around the site. There are potential further opportunities for habitat creation though the implementation of additional wildlife corridors and the installation of bat and bird nesting boxes, hibernacula, woodpiles, and beehives within the margins of the site. These will be detailed in a future planning application.

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Community benefits

Elgin believes the communities that host infrastructure should benefit from it. A Community Benefit Fund (CBF) will therefore be established to provide funding for local projects and initiatives.

As part of the project, Elgin will support the creation of a community benefit fund with a contribution of up to £4,000 per MW.

The fund would be for the local community, with the local parish councils and community helping to agree how the money should be spent and what local priorities it should support.



Creating a community benefit fund with a **contribution of up to £4,000 per MW.**

How the fund could be used

The local community will determine how the fund is used. Potential areas could include:

Community facilities, such as improvements to village halls, sports facilities and shared spaces

Environmental initiatives, including biodiversity enhancement, habitat improvement and tree planting

Education and skills, including school projects, SEN and STEM learning, and skills initiatives

Local infrastructure, such as footpaths, community transport or other small-scale improvements

Community and social initiatives, including activities for young people, wellbeing programmes and projects supporting local residents

How the fund could be managed

The approach to managing and distributing the fund would be developed with the local parish council and community.

Elgin wants local residents, community organisations and the parish councils to help shape the fund, including:

- Which local projects and priorities should receive support
- What geographical area should be eligible
- How decisions about funding should be made
- Whether the fund should support smaller grants, larger projects or a combination of both
- How local representatives should be involved in managing the fund

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Have your say

An important part of developing our plans is consulting local residents and community members as our plans evolve.

The consultation period is scheduled to run from
12 November 2026 to 10 December 2026

Please complete a feedback form, either in person or online, and let us know your thoughts.

Feedback can be submitted by:

info@stonepitlanesolar.co.uk

020 3667 4522

FAO Stone Pit Lane Solar Farm
FREEPOST SEC Newgate UK Local

stonepitlanesolar.co.uk

We will review and consider all of the feedback we receive as we develop our proposals.

What's next?

Following the close of the consultation, we will use this feedback to continue updating the project design before submitting a final application to West Lindsey District Council.

Autumn 2026

Launch and consultation

- Project launch
- Public consultation period from **12 November to 10 December 2026,**
- Ongoing surveys, and design evolution

Winter 2026

Reviewing your feedback

- Consideration of local feedback
- Revisions to site layout and masterplan

Spring 2027

Planning application

- Finalisation and submission to West Lindsey District Council

Winter 2027

Planning decision

- Expected planning determination

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