PACE

PATHFINDER CLEAN ENERGY

Grange Farm Solar

Pre-application presentation to Palgrave Parish Council

8th July 2021

Pathfinder Clean Energy (PACE)

Experience of over 1GW of clean energy projects in the UK and internationally.

Headquartered in the UK.

Committed to a sustainable future and is working to create low-carbon energy to the benefit of the environment and the community.

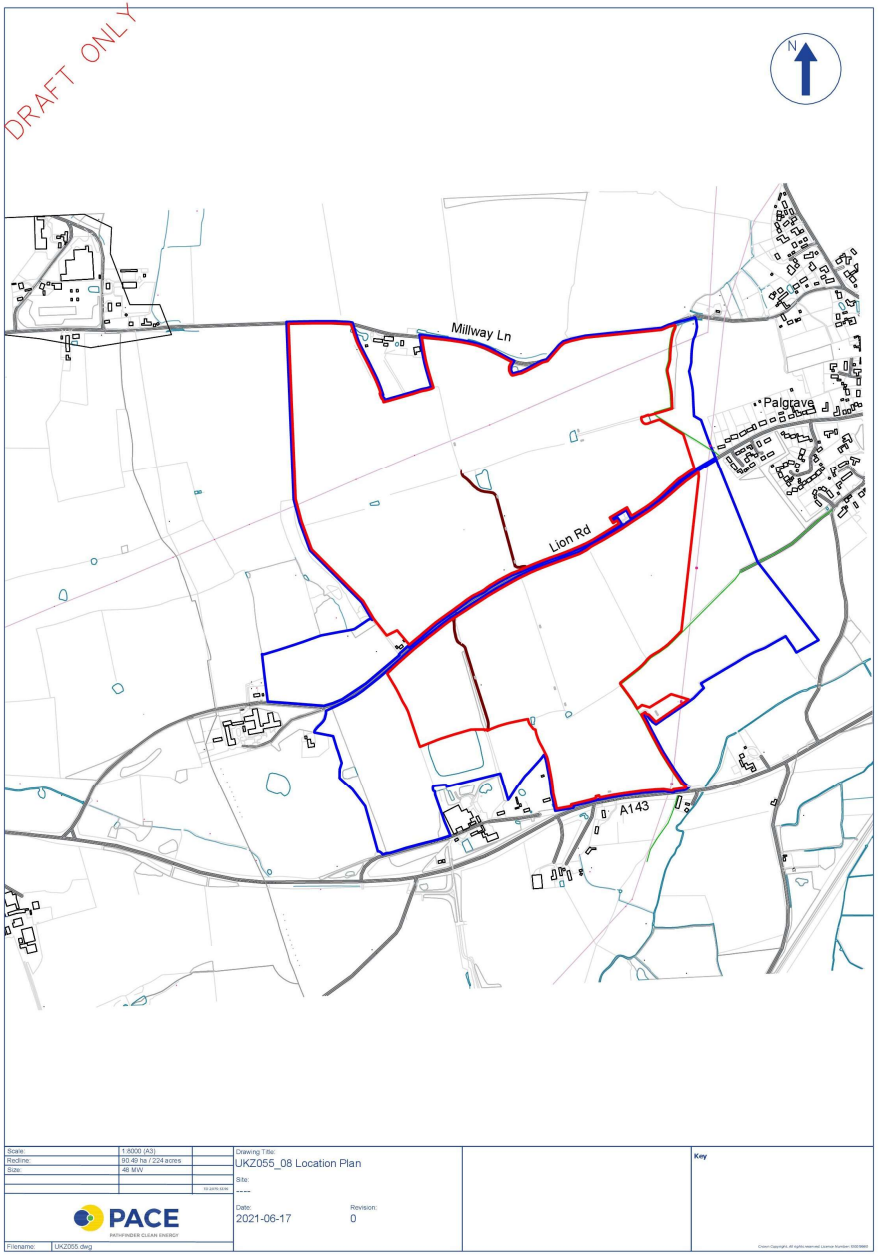
Some of our projects:

- Three Bridges Solar Farm, Norfolk – 15 MW
- Hall Farm, Norfolk – 11MW
- Copley Farm, Lincolnshire – 28MW

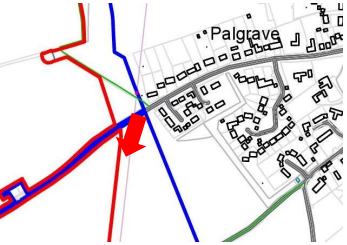
Proposed development

Development area and plans are draft, pending further assessment.

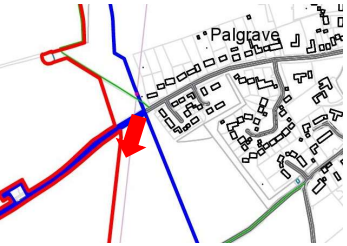
- Four objectives:
  - Renewable energy transition
  - Climate emergency
  - Continued agriculture
  - Significant biodiversity enhancement
- 48 megawatt – equivalent of 16,000 homes
- On site grid connection



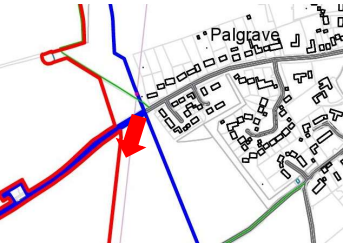
Photomontages (more will be prepared for the application)



Existing view



View after construction



View once new hedges have matured

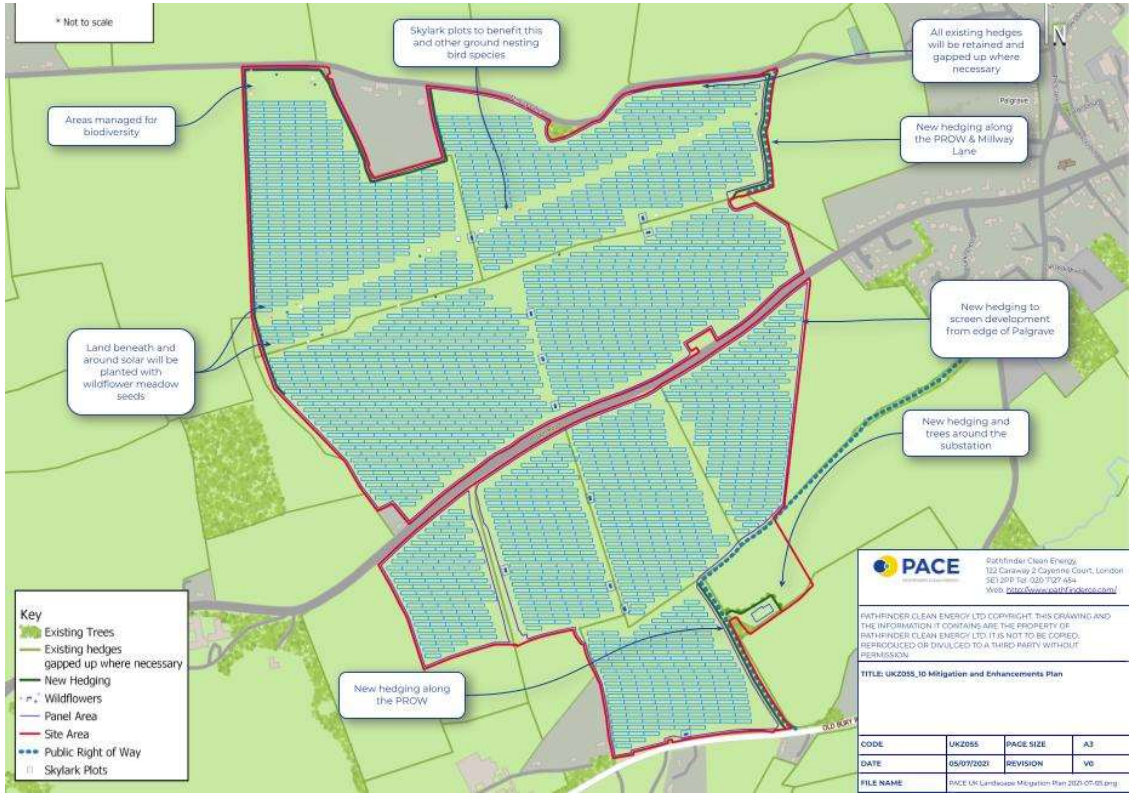
Project features and benefits

Avoid 11,600 tonnes of CO_2 every year.

Similar schemes have allowed dramatic increase in biodiversity.

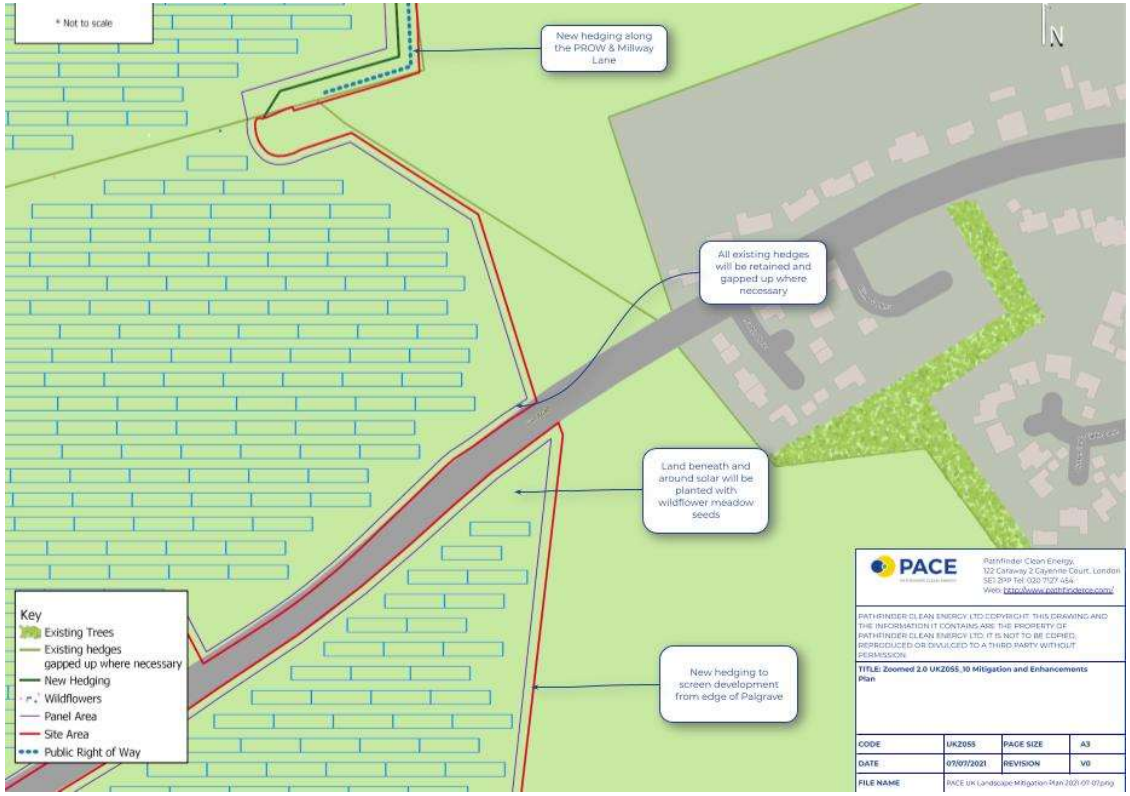
Project features and benefits

- Development set well away from homes
- Footpaths remain open throughout
- Support birds, insects and reptiles



Project features and benefits

Land under and around the solar panels sown with meadow seeds to attract pollinating insects



Project features and benefits

Native hedgerows planted to screen development

Project features and benefits

No agricultural land will be lost

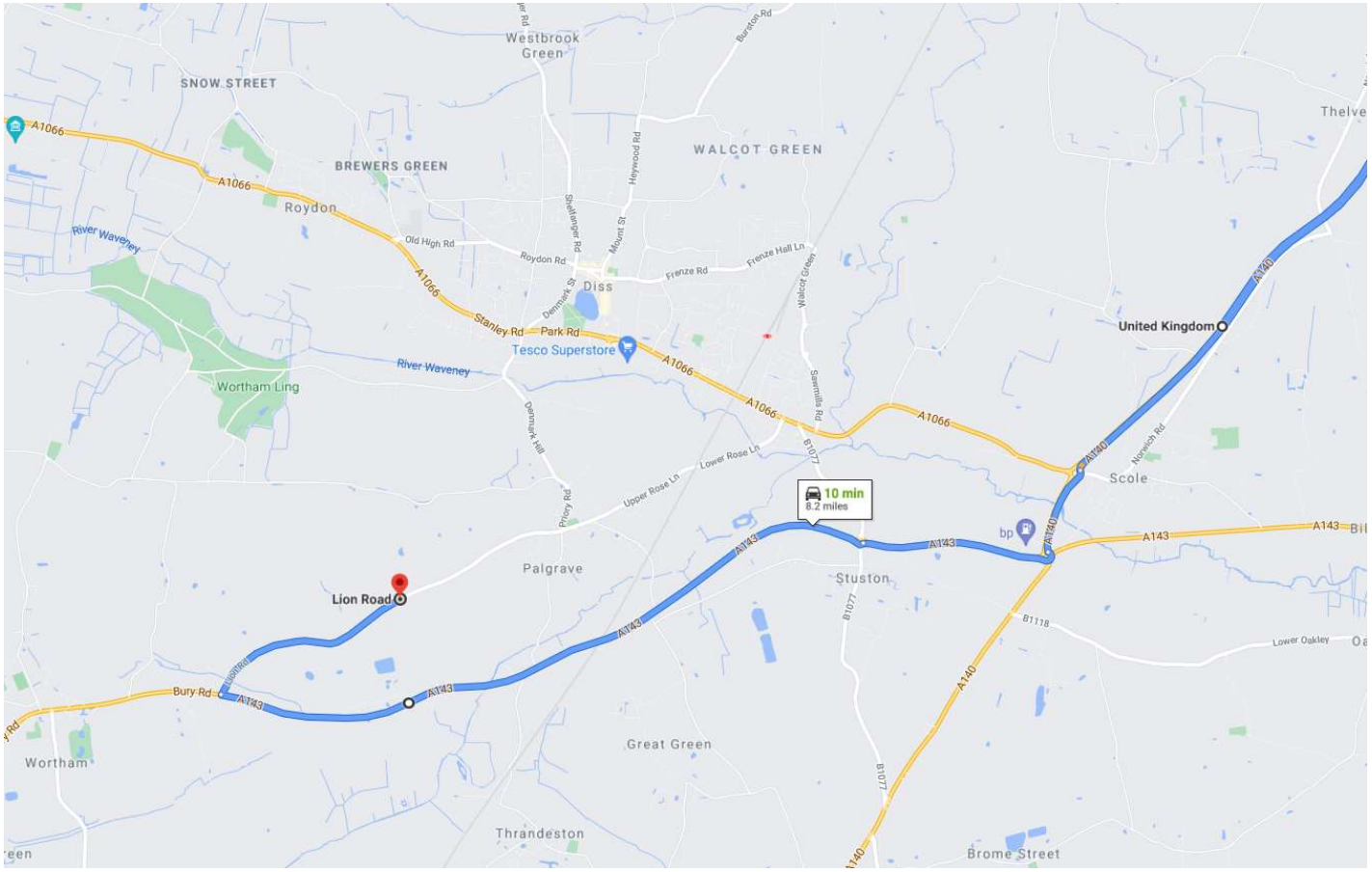
Access points

Construction access from Lion Road – Nb. actual locations to be assessed further.

During operation, southern access on A143 may also be used.

Traffic route

- Traffic can access site without needing to pass through Palgrave
- Once operational, solar farms generate almost no traffic
- Construction will last around 7 months
- Approximate average of 5 HGV arrivals per day



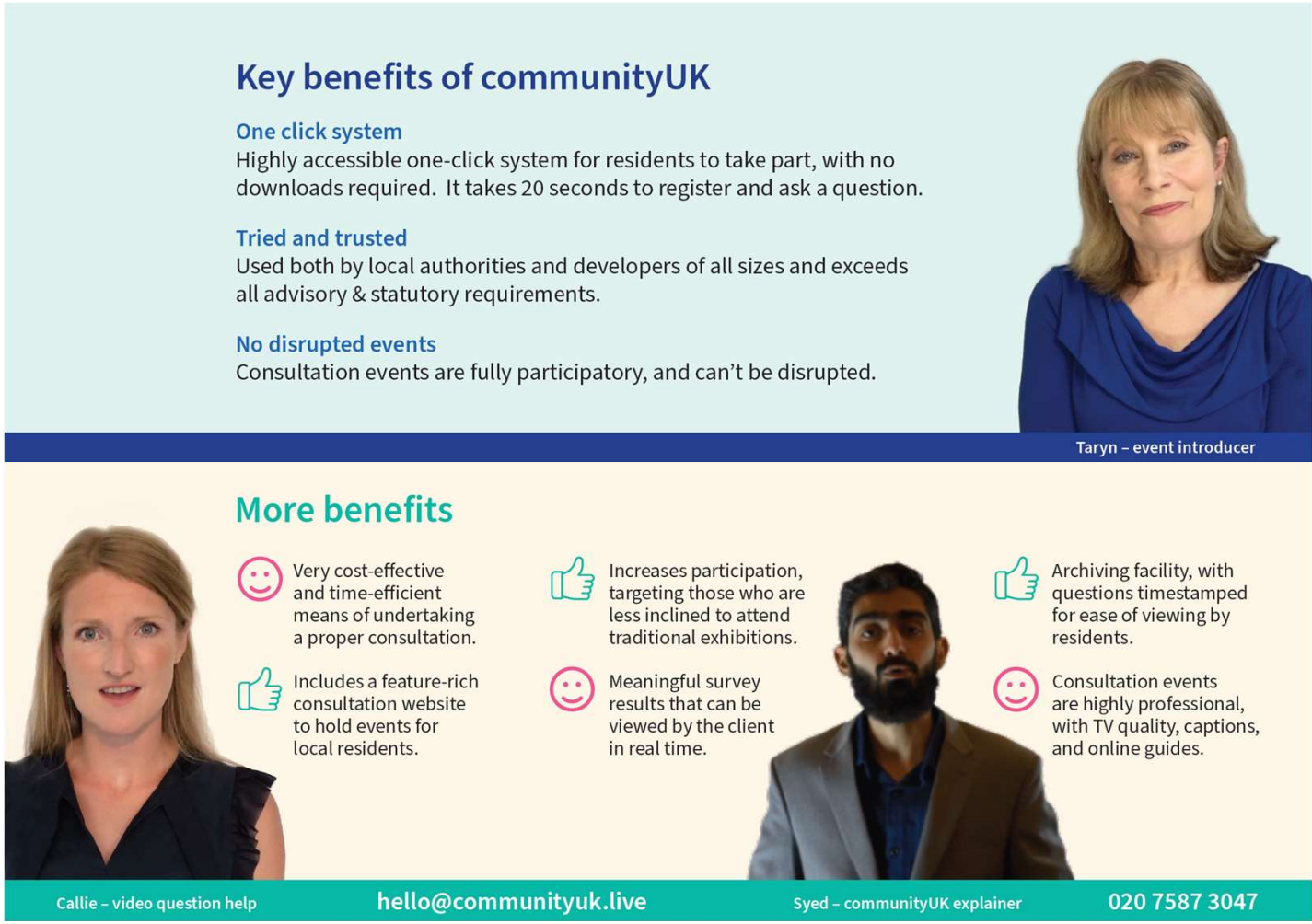
Accompanying surveys

These will be used to inform the final development area and mitigations:

- Landscape and visual impact assessment
- Heritage impact statement
- Geophysical survey
- Flood risk & surface water drainage survey
- Ecological appraisal and protected species surveys
- Net biodiversity gain assessment
- Agricultural land classification survey
- Construction traffic management plan

Public consultation

An online consultation platform and the best way to engage with local communities for development projects



Next steps:

- Public consultation
- Finalise the surveys, site layout and enhancement measures
- Submit the planning application to Mid Suffolk – late summer 2021
- Statutory consultation – Autumn 2021
- Planning committee – Winter 2021
- If successful, start on site 2022