



Bradley Green welcomes Tolkien author as more join the campaign to Save the Shire



Andrew Morton with RWSF chairman Phil Coathup



Packed Stock and Bradley village hall with badge for those who came to the event



Andrew Morton explaining Tolkien's link to the area

It was standing room only at a sell-out event in Bradley Green with author Andrew H. Morton talking about Tolkien's close relationship with the area which inspired 'The Shire.'

The event, which featured in [The Redditch Standard](#) and [Worcester News](#) was held at Stock & Bradley Village Hall and organised by campaigners against a huge 287-acre power station planned for Roundhill Wood.

Phil Coathup, Roundhill Wood Solar Farm opposition group (RWSF) chairman said:

"It was a fascinating evening and further confirmed the origin and meaning of the name Bag End and its significance to Tolkien which is why this literary landscape must be protected for future generations to enjoy.

"It was great to see people from all four parishes - Inkberrow, Stock & Bradley, Kington & Dormston and Feckenham and some people from further afield including Redditch.

"It's a campaign which has really grabbed people's attention with around ten thousand now involved in the campaign to Save the Shire with more signing up at the event.

"Local people and those around the country understand the significance of this area and there are more events planned to spread the message even further."

[You can
object here](#)



Some solar farms “will never see the light of day”, says former government minister

A former government minister has admitted that far more applications have been made for solar farms than the country will ever need.

The comments were made by Graham Stuart MP, a former energy minister, who resigned recently. When asked about concerns over plans for solar farms, he said, “An awful lot of the projects, talking nationally, will never see the light of day.”

Mr Stuart said, "a very large number" of solar farm applications had been made for connection to the National Grid, and that this was "far more than the country will ever need".

He continued: “Our policy is quite clear that land only of lower agricultural value should be prioritised for use.”

Meanwhile, another Conservative MP, James Gray described a massive solar farm in his North Wiltshire constituency as a “carbuncle”.



‘The Shire’ in bloom



Beautiful spring day on ‘The Shire’

In Westminster

Redditch MP Rachel Maclean is hoping to speak at a Parliamentary debate on large-scale solar farms, taking place in April. The MP has told campaigners her focus will be the Roundhill Wood scheme and the damage it will do to our community.

This follows her survey last year which showed 94% of local residents were opposed to the plans.

The debate takes place at **12:30pm on Thursday 18th April in Westminster Hall.**

[You can follow the live stream here](#)

Coming soon...

May 2024

Family Nature Walk

We have an exciting Family Nature Walk planned to celebrate The Shire and its beauty.



Walking routes through ‘The Shire’