

OPC Meeting on 24th October 2023

Notes on the attendance of Orsted & VolkerFitzpatrick to introduce themselves to the parish

Attendees:

Dereth Morgan, Orsted, Community Liaison Officer (CLO)
James Darwent, Volkerfitzpatrick, Project Manager
Ryan Woods, Orsted, Health & Safety Advisor
Lilly Dowe, VolkerFitzpatrick, CLO

Dereth Morgan CLO Orsted said she would be continuing with updates of the project via newsletters and Parish Council meetings. She stated that the Community Fund scheme for Orsted, which will be operated by Grantscape, has been delayed, and Orsted hopes to make an announcement about the fund in January 2024.

Susan Mather asked when Orsted's Final Investment Decision would be announced: this is proposed early 2024.

Residents were concerned about their ability to contact the project: the current email address of community@hornsea3.co.uk is too generic and most people have not had replies to their queries.

Dereth will look into it but assured us that she does receive all the emails, but may ask other people to reply.

Ryan Woods QHSE: he is in charge of the safe running of the project, and liaises with the construction team along the cable route. He was asked about the recent accident along the southern end of The Street where a trailer carrying ducts overturned, while being towed by a tractor. He said the trailer had a faulty coupling and became detached, there were no injuries, the incident was looked into in-house and did not need to be reported.

Lily Dowe CLO VolkerFitzpatrick: is the public's liaison with VolkerFitzpatrick (VFP), the main contractors. She was asked if the public can come to the compound if there were issues: VFP would prefer to be contacted via [**community@hornsea3.co.uk**](mailto:community@hornsea3.co.uk)

James Darwent VolkerFitzpatrick Project Manager: reported that there are 72 zones along the cable route and currently 20 zones have been stripped of topsoil and the haul road installed. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) is currently being carried out under river and roads along the route in the Holt area, as well as land drainage and ducting of HDD sites. The haul road (required to allow the movement of heavy plant across the land) consists of specialized granite stone/aggregate which comes in at Gt Yarmouth from Norway and is delivered by HGVs mainly direct to site, some 100 tons a day. Oulton will soon see more HGVs in this area as the work progresses, with cabling/ducting due to be delivered to the compound in April 2024.

Light pollution:

Residents and OPC raised serious concerns about the excessive amount of light coming from the compound, as well as from how far it can be seen. Residents voiced their issues about light now filtering directly into their homes and had provided photos showing light pollution impacts in the nearby village of Corpusty, 3 miles away.

Greg Peck urged VFP to contact David Hook, the expert on rural light pollution for CPRE Norfolk, who has information about the correlation between excessive use of permanent security lighting on construction compounds and an increase in thefts.

VolkerFitzpatrick said they were only recently aware that the lighting was causing an issue and have arranged for a 'qualified electrician' to come on Thursday 26th October, to try to rectify the positioning of the lights and determine whether they need all of them. A change to movement-sensitive downlighting, especially outside their permitted working hours of 7am - 7pm, was also discussed and VolkerFitzpatrick appeared to take this on board.

OPC and residents were asked to monitor and provide feedback on the situation. Orsted will contact the Chair with an update and the outcome of the work. The Chair will then contact residents with the update.

Noise:

A resident highlighted the nuisance of car alarms from the compound going off in the evening and occasionally at night. VolkerFitzPatrick will look into what is causing this issue.

Signage:

Alison Shaw asked about whether the '**No Left Turn**' sign had been installed, directed at all project traffic leaving the Compound, and requested that the sign which reads 'No access for Hornsea Three construction traffic' at the northern end of Oulton Street should be modified to read simply '**No access for Hornsea Three traffic**' as NCC Highways require that **no traffic associated in any way with the project** should travel through Oulton Street.

VolkerFitzpatrick agreed to rectify these issues.

Compound traffic:

A resident asked how many people would on average be on the compound: 30-40 people. Also, how many cable drums would be in storage: 70-80, as well as various types of HGVs and earth-moving equipment.

The cable drums weigh about 50 tons and are extremely costly, so there will be a need for security, as theft is an issue. A new security gate is being installed at the Saltcarr Farms entrance. Cable drums will arrive and leave the compound on individual low-loaders, with the empty drums probably going directly back to port.