

Burton Pedwardine & Burton Gorse Village Meeting - Tuesday 22 Oct 2024

Solar Farm Briefing and Questions. James Jamieson from Starlight Energy gave a presentation on his company's proposed solar farm on the north side of Whitecross Lane. He faced many questions and well-articulated arguments from the floor. A copy of his slides would be available.

(Summary: The site would generate up to 40MW and connect directly to the Grid on the N side. There would not be a Battery Storage System on site. NKDC would not require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening but there would be various assessments included in the planning application process. There would be additional planting but there would be a visual impact for local properties. There would be works to mitigate water runoff. The works access point would use the same road constructed for the existing solar farm. Starlight Energy 'voluntarily' offered to provide community benefits. However, the Parish would consult NKDC which had a policy/formula for solar farm community benefit (although, apparently, there was a history of such benefits not actually reaching the affected parishes). The Parish Clerk would liaise with NKDC, provide parish input to the planning process, monitor progress and provide feedback to the parish.)

Village Meeting Minutes

Present: John Aguilar, Neville Baguley, Joe and Clare Beasley, Michael and Jan Coy, Pete Davy, David and Frances Jerram, Fraser Key, Stuart Lancaster, Sara Marchant, Wayne & Luisa McIntosh, Martin Thompson, Mary Tilley, Andy & Mandy Topp. (18/192).

Apologies: Gill Aguilar, Barry & Amanda Gray, Tim Marchant, Liz Thompson, Pete Willerton.

Item 1. Previous Minutes (11 Jun 2024 Meeting)

Corrections: None raised. Proposed: PD Seconded: MT

Item 2. Actions Arising

Item 6 (at end). LM to Investigate getting village sign replaced and relocation of speed signs. See Item 5 below.

Item 8 (at end). See Item 3 below.

Item 3. Update on Anglian Water Lincs Reservoir

Parish response to Anglian Water (AW) consultation was coordinated by AT and circulated to residents. Thanks to all those who submitted their own responses. A total of 244 written submissions was received by AW and there were 620 attendees at local presentations. AW had much to assess and a summary of the feedback to stakeholders was expected by end 2024.

MC and AT (and LM) attended AW Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting on 2 Oct 2024. Programme update: The Development Consent Order (DCO) application had

been put back to Q3/Q4 2028 or Q1 2029, but the construction timeline remained the same (end date 2039). AW had requested the delay, not government, so that priority could be given to Cambridge (Fens) Reservoir.

In near future: Surveys with landowners, further engagement with parishes, district and county councillors. Technical exploration boreholes etc delayed for 6m (now 2025).

There would be a further stakeholder consultation in 2026 with a focus on studies of impacts on surrounding communities – connectivity, roads, natural environment, waterflows (risk of flooding) etc.

At present, the Property Support Scheme was limited to within the project boundary, but anyone adversely affected could contact AW.

(Afternote: AW would be in negotiation with OFWAT on funding in Dec 2024)

Item 4. Planning Applications

24/1061/PNND - Conversion of agricultural building into dwellinghouse (Glebe Farm). This was a permitted development for residential use, so the parish was not able to contribute to the planning process. FK explained that the conversion would not have significant impact on the surroundings although there might have to be a minor alteration to the site entrance.

Item 5. Roads.

5a. Repairs. Some pothole patching had been done over the summer, but now new potholes were appearing between patches. The ‘step’ at the railway bridge on Whitecross Lane was particularly bad. Problems should continue to be reported on [FixMyStreet](#). LM had used FixMyStreet to request replacement of the damaged (now removed) village sign on Heckington Road and that the ‘30’ speed limit sign be moved from the School House to the Village entrance.

5b. Speeding. This was an ongoing problem, particularly through the village. There had been much previous discussion on signage. A working group (per suggestion at Item 8 of Minutes of 11 Jun 2024 Meeting) was proposed to identify the way forward. This should meet by end Nov 2024 and provide costed options and recommendations to enable a decision at the next village meeting. LM was coopted and MT and AT volunteered. Other participants welcomed (contact AT). **Action: AT**

5c. Grit. One tonne free grit had been ordered from LCC. This would enable the LCC grit box by the village noticeboard to be refilled. There was no responsibility to spread grit; it was free to use as needed. A further LCC grit box was proposed near the junction Asgarby and Screddington Roads. **Action: AT**

Item 6. Flooding/Ditches (emergency plan?). Maintaining ditches to prevent flooding was the responsibility of landowners. AT explained that there did not appear to be a parish emergency plan for floods, prolonged utility issues or outages that impact residents, particularly the more vulnerable – as recommended by LCC. A plan would be

developed. (Afternote: AT would investigate the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum).

Action: AT

Item 7. Local Authority Grants.

7a. Litter Picking. A grant was available for litter picking; agreed not needed at this time. JB would get a picker from MC.

7b. Grass Cutting. AT would investigate grant for grass cutting.

Action: AT

Item 8. Planters. £200 had been allocated at the previous meeting. No progress but LM would coordinate. (Afternote: PW had offered to help.)

Action: LM

Item 9. Social Committee Report

9a. Events. There had been several events including BBQ, Harvest Supper, and PCC Coffee Mornings. Appreciation was expressed to all those who organised/contributed to their success. SM proposed a Pop-up Pub night in December and Book (and wine) Club.

Action: SM

9b. Community Equipment storage and purchases. Community equipment purchased with last year's REP grant was now mostly stored in the church. A gas cylinder and a steel filing cabinet had also been generously donated by PW and WM respectively. A gas refill and a display board (for History Group) had been purchased. £226 of grant remained. Agreed to purchase more glasses.

Action: SM

Item 10. AOB

10a. Trees. LCC would provide up to 50 trees (small-leaved lime, hornbeam, English oak, field maple, wild cherry, hawthorn and hazel) per community. TM (in absentia) was nominated to coordinate.

Action: TM

10b. Precept. There had been significant expenditure due to 2-year Defibrillator maintenance and a backlog of church hires resulting in a fund value of £1410. The precept would be held at £750 for 2025. Proposed: LM Seconded: JC

10c. Defibrillator Maintenance. SM stated that the 'Shock' charity might take on the maintenance free of charge. PD would investigate.

Action: PD

10d. Church Gate. There were difficulties with non-pedestrian access to the Church. FK agreed to find an equitable solution.

Action: FK

10e. Wine Sale. FK offered a free 'glass and a nibble' at the Winery, Glebe Farm on 21 Nov 2024. Bottles of wine would be on sale.

Item 11. DONM. The next meeting would be on 8 Apr 2025 (tbc).

A Topp
Parish Clerk

23 Oct 2024