

LITTLE MARLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday at 21st January 2020 at
The Pavilion, Church Road, Little Marlow SL7 3RS commencing at 7.00pm

UNCONFIRMED

Present: Cllr V Brownridge (VB) – Chairman, Cllr V Morton (VM), Cllr A Falk (AF), Cllr R Randall (RR), Cllr K Acres (KA), Cllr R Mash(RM), Cllr P Emmett(PE), Mr Steve Wheeler, Mr Christopher Hill - Envirotech Energy Solutions, Mr Lee Searles, Enzygo		
Mrs J Murray – Parish Clerk		Public present: please see attached sheet
The Attendance Sheet was duly signed		
Minute Ref:	Agenda Item	Action
100/20	1. Apologies for Absence Cllr J Downes (JD), Cllr G Fitchew (GF)	
101/20	2. Declarations of interest – pecuniary or prejudicial Cllr P Emmett – declared an interest	
102/20	3. Cllr Brownridge introduced Mr Wheeler and Mr Hill from Envirotech Energy Solutions and Mr Searles from Enzygo and asked Mr Wheeler and Mr Searles to present the planning application they had put forward to Wycombe District Council for the creation of a Battery Storage Facility on land to the West of Coldmoorholm Lane. After a short introduction, Mr Wheeler gave the floor to Mr Searles who proceeded to work through the questions (copy attached) which residents had submitted in advance. The following summarises the responses given. Planning Statement - The Battery Energy Storage system (BESS) will not provide any specific benefits that are exclusive to consumers served by the Well End substation. Excess energy from the grid is stored within the batteries and fed back into the National Grid when additional power is required eg in the case of a black-out. -It is a benign technology which requires little maintenance. -Envirotech are not the operators, but the providers. The operators are SSE. -Average house uses about 4kw, batteries will store 7.2mw of energy. To realise same amount of power from solar power would need 30 acres of land. -Role of facility is to provide standby energy - National grid has developed a system of providing additional power through standby generators which are ready to kick in when there is a spike in energy demand. These are currently gas fired. The advantage of Battery storage is that it will kick in more quickly and provide more power. Alternative site assessment -Developers are looking for areas where the network is able to offer excess capacity via a connection to the grid. They are directed to potential connections by the National Grid. -The reason for choosing Little Marlow Parish is that lots of urban development has already taken place so urban substations are maxed out. Many developments have been done in the countryside, including in the Green Belt. -Appropriate scale – if you are going to provide a 7.2mw facility, battery storage uses much less land than if you had a solar panel farm. - Enzygo agreed to provide details of the visual impact on the local landscape. Envirotech offered to use a drone to come up with an animated view of what the installation would look like.	

Chairman initials]

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- The area was chosen because it is able to serve the Heathrow and Reading areas.
- There is no requirement to pick the best site. Well End substation was chosen because it was available for use. There is no scientific way to select a suitable grid connection. The choice of sites is based on personal judgement. There is a requirement not to place Battery Storage facilities immediately adjacent to residential receptors because of the noise and the fact they are not so easy to screen.
- There were a host of technical reasons why other substations were not selected. They had not been able to identify any other deliverable sites elsewhere in the area either because they were either nearer heritage sites or they were on the flood plain.
- Enzygo accepted that there were numerous other substations in the area which were not considered. They undertook to come back with answers as to why this was the case.

Document ASA Appendix 1 - Well End Letter BGS Grid Connections

- It was not clear why Little Marlow substation was ruled out, when Well End substation was not. Enzygo surmised it could be a capacity issue. They undertook to look into this and to come back with the answer.
- They were not able to give figures for what the typical efficiency loss per 100m of cable route would be nor what the commercial impact would be.
- The statement in the final para of this document stating that “the Envirotech project at Well End would become the local generator for this locality” is incorrect. The project will simply provide a generator of energy in the locality.

DESIGN

General

- National Grid was initially built to serve 7 coal fired power stations, there were now thousands of other facilities producing power.
- The way you connect to the grid is governed by G99.
- Commissioning test will be overseen by SSE. SSE will demand visual access
- Battery warranty is 10 years.
- Envirotech have paid for a 7.2mw capacity but would need to make a bigger investment if they wished to increase the capacity.
- No Impact Assessment has yet been done on the effects that construction activities would have on Coldmoorholm Lane during the construction process. It is possible that the local authority would impose restrictions on lorry movements etc. and that they would ask the company to produce a traffic management plan

Design and Access Statement

- The Bund will be 2 metres high and 6 metres across.
- The Security fence will be 2.4 metres high but will be inside the bund so will not be seen.
- The screening trees will be deciduous and will include 10% holly.

Noise Impact Statement

- The noise impact figures were compiled with worst case scenario in mind. Figures were included in reports. If power is full on it would only be in an emergency. Fans will not run under 30degrees
- Battery manufacturer - Samsung

Preliminary Risk Assessments

- Risk assessment is entirely geared to ground pollution and Lithium batteries. They have never been asked to do a safety management plan but will consider pulling one together. This will be hard to do as there are no regulations governing this type of facility. Envirotech undertook to seek the advice of the Environmental Health Officer.
- In terms of Fire Risk, they cannot say that the battery facility will never go on fire, but they have not heard of any such facility going on fire so far in Europe. They will have to comply with fire regulations. They considered the built-in fire suppression systems to be pretty good.
- They had not consulted Bucks Fire and Rescue, the Fire Protection Association or any similar organisations to discuss the risks associated with a battery storage facility.
- They confirmed that there are no regulations governing how close such an installation should be to a residential area. Enzygo agreed to supply details of existing battery storage facilities in residential areas.

	<p>COMMERCIAL</p> <p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Well End Energy Trading is owned by Envirotech Energy Solutions. Envirotech is a start up in a new sector. This will be the first project for Envirotech in this field.- They currently have enough money to fund the project. They had had lost of financial expressions of interest.- Envirotech will not operate the system. The mechanical operation will be contracted out, probably to G2Energy, a blue chip company.- Companies do not require a licence or any form of authorisation to install and operate a facility until they get over 50mgw.- They have the right to sell the lease/permissions/system to a third-party operator.- If the scheme did not work out, the batteries have a value. They are in discussion with Aviva about a policy which would cover them if the scheme failed.- There is no decommissioning and disposal plan per se. They have a legal obligation to remove and recycle the batteries, although they do not know where this would be done yet. The lease on the land is for 10+5+5+5 years. They confirmed that they had not looked into placing the batteries underground. <p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Acknowledged that although this is supposed to be a green energy enabler, it is not a green energy projectWant to be carbon neutral – the way the national grid is set up at the moment is they have no way to capture energy.-The site will be unlit. Cameras will be triggered by movement – no more than 3m high.-Have only leased a small area of land, for 8 containers. There was no reason to expand the footprint. <p>Mr Searles offered to email through answers to the questions relating to technical matters at a later stage.</p>	
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Signed:
Chairman

Date: