

**MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM MEETINGS ON WEDNESDAY 8th JULY 2020 AT 7:00 PM**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett - Chair
Cllr. Hilary Ward - Vice Chair
Cllr. Paul Collins
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Philip Baskett
Cllr. Graham Bickers

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Beth Goose – written and accepted
Cllr. Julian Wallis – accepted
Cllr. Nat Bacon - accepted
District Cllr. Tony Cooper
County Cllr. Richard Smith

In attendance:

District Cllr. Terry-Jill Haworth-Culf
District Cllr. Jocelyn Bond
Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
2 members of the public

2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Public Forum

a) Cllr. Terry-Jill Haworth-Culf spoke to the Council about EDF Energy's application for a Development Consent Order for Sizewell C which has been accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate. Cllr. Haworth-Culf informed the Council that Councillors from Leiston Town Council had visited Hinkley Point C and a report of their visit will be made available online. Cllr. Haworth-Culf also referred to the District Council's ongoing funding and support for individuals and businesses during the coronavirus pandemic.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain LTC report and circulate.

b) Cllr. Jocelyn Bond informed the Council that the Ward Members were requesting more information and clarification from the District Councillors' Officers on matters related to the various energy projects and their aim was to broadcast this information to the Town and Parish Councils in an easy manner.

4. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins, and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 11th March 2020 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

5. Matters Arising

Cllr. Paul Collins informed the Council that the Speed Indicator Device is faulty. It was agreed to try another battery and monitor the situation. If the device continues to be faulty, Cllr. Paul Collins will make enquiries about servicing.

6. Energy Projects

a) The Council discussed EDF Energy's Sizewell C Development Consent Order Application and the requirement to submit a Relevant Representation to the Planning Inspectorate to register as an Interested Party by 30 September 2020. Cllr. Paul Collins summarised his report, attached as Appendix I. Cllr. Paul Collins proposed that the Council submits its Relevant Representation in conjunction with Stop Sizewell C. The main advantage of a joint submission is that the Planning

Inspectorate will accept a maximum number of 1,500 words compared to the expected 500 words for a single organisation or individual. Cllr. Stephen Brett seconded this proposal. All in favour.

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to circulate a draft Relevant Representation for comments.

b) Cllr. Paul Collins updated the Council about Together Against Sizewell C's application to the High Court for a judicial review of the District Council's decision to grant planning permission to destroy Coronation Wood and build on Pill Box Field to facilitate the expansion of the Sizewell nuclear complex further into the AONB landscape. The application was initially rejected by the court in March 2020. TASC appealed against the decision and, at a hearing in June 2020, the judge refused the application on two of the grounds put forwarded but accepted that the third ground merited a full judicial review. The date for this hearing has not yet been set. TASC have set up a CrowdJustice appeal for funds to help with their expected legal costs of £27,000. Cllr. Stephen Brett proposed that the Council donates £50. Seconded by Cllr. Graham Bickers. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to make donation.

c) Cllr. Paul Collins informed the Council that the Scottish Power Renewables EA1N and EA2 offshore windfarms were in abeyance at the moment. Progress depends on whether virtual hearings and meetings will be permitted.

d) It was agreed that Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Paul Collins will attend the virtual meeting of the Joint Local Authority Group later this month.

7. Parish Matters

a) Cllr. Hilary Ward informed the Council that the application for a grant from Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB was successful. Cllr. Hilary Ward purchased two nest boxes, two tree nesters, two hedgehog houses, two bat boxes, two bee and bug biomes, three roosting pockets and two little owl nest boxes. It was agreed to postpone siting these in both playing fields until late autumn when the trees were bare of leaves.

ACTION: Clerk to add to the Outstanding Actions List.

b) The Council discussed the content of future village newsletters which may lead to an increase in printing costs. It was agreed that no changes were necessary at this time and to monitor the number of advertisements.

8. Annual Accounts and Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020

a) The Council approved the Annual Accounts.

b) The Council approved the Certificate of Exemption.

c) The Council approved the year-end Bank Reconciliation.

d) The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) of the AGAR.

e) The Council approved the Accounting Statements (Section 2) of the AGAR.

f) The Council agreed to set the period for the exercise of public rights from 1st September to 12th October 2020.

g) The Council noted the report from the Internal Auditor.

9. Finance

a) The Council noted the latest financial position.

b) The Council reviewed the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr 1 2020/2021.

c) It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins, and agreed to authorise the payments listed below. All in favour.

| Details | Payee | Amount | Power |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|----------------|
| Clerk's Salary | Sharon Smith | £194.50 | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| Clerk's PAYE | HM Revenue and Customs | £145.00 | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| Internal Audit Fee | Suffolk Association of Local Councils | £234.00 | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| Business Services at CAS Ltd | Annual Insurance Premium | £408.04 | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| Playground Signage | Leiston Press | £69.60 | PHA 1936 s.87 |
| Newsletter Printing | Leiston Press | £20.00 | LGA 1972 s.142 |

10. Questions to the Chair

a) Cllr. Stephen Morphey asked the Clerk for an update on the proposal to implement a Dark Skies policy in the parish. The Clerk replied that research had been put on hold due to other pressing matters.

ACTION: Clerk to progress.

b) The Council noted that the spring horse at Eastbridge was not included in the last safety inspection as it was not supplied and fitted by Sovereign who carried out the inspection.

ACTION: Cllr. Graham Bickers to inspect condition and Clerk to obtain a price from Sovereign to replace with a similar item.

c) Cllr. Hilary Ward informed the Council that both playing fields have been reopened and posters are on display informing users of the latest guidance regarding coronavirus. The Council thanked Cllr. Stephen Morphey for strimming the Eastbridge playing field and burial ground. Strimming is required in Theberton playing field around the goal posts and the grass growing through the safety matting needs cutting but no volunteers were forthcoming.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date and time of the next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Wednesday 12th August 2020 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

Appendix I - TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

Once again, it has been two months since the last report on activities surrounding the Sizewell C proposal.

We recorded a second Zoom session following the acceptance of the Sizewell C Development Consent Order by the Planning Inspectorate on 2nd July. It was streamed on our Facebook page and is available for review through the Stop Sizewell C website.

We have been successful in placing a number of stories and letters in both national (Times, FT, Telegraph, Mail on Sunday) and local press and there have been interviews and stories on both local and national radio as well as Look East and Anglia news programs. There have also been technical articles in some of the nuclear related journals and magazines. We continue to work with a variety of collaborators to tease out issues relevant to the project and find ways of using them to further the campaign.

Now the DCO is available on the PINS website we are engaging with supporters to examine the documents and report on their findings. There are some areas where we are fortunate to have knowledgeable engineers working on some of the more technical aspect of the proposal and these are continuing but we are frustrated by some of the information being redacted or marked as commercially sensitive. In some cases, we are pursuing FOI requests about specific issues to see whether access has been granted to local councils and statutory authorities to properly scrutinise EDFs proposals.

The PINS website of DCO documents is arranged in what appears to be some order but once you are in the document displays the order is pretty random and the search facility only works on the document titles or dates of submission. We have created an index of all the documents on the website which at least allows you to sort in title order and filter document sets in a more useful way than available at the PINS website. EDF do have the full DCO document set on USB chips (9.1Gb) which can be loaded onto a computer and then the PDF document content can be searched across documents by Adobe Acrobat and when the word/search term is found will take you right to the line in the document. A search of the Environmental Statement section of documents for the term “borrow”, as in borrow pits, found over 700 references in 41 documents (it also took a while). There are currently 673 documents on the PINS website with the DCO submission totalling about 56,000 words.

We continue to work with the Anglia Energy Planning Alliance and parish and town councils to put pressure on District, County and Parliamentary MPs and Minister as well as a grouping of NGOs including RSPB, SWT, FOE, NT, TASC to work on the next steps in reviewing the DCO and preparing for the DCO examination stage.

We have a draft Relevant Representation document that we are now beginning to cross check with what is in the DCO with a view to submitting it in September. It has been suggested that we should submit the RR in conjunction with the Parish Council if that is acceptable to the Parish Council. A similar approach was used for the Scottish Power Wind Farm proposals by Friston Parish in conjunction with the SASES group. Their submission was ~1,600 words compared to the expected 500 words for a single organisation/individual submission. This approach is supported by PINS and RRs of around 1500 words are the acceptable maximum at this stage of the process as there are opportunities later to submit detailed documents covering the areas raised in the RR.

General meetings have taken place on 8th and 29th June. Our next meeting is scheduled for 27th July and we will be arranging further Zoom broadcast meetings through August and September to advise people on submitting their RR