

REPORT FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

16 November 2017

BAWDSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of East Anglia Offshore Windfarms sub-committee meeting

Thursday 3 November, 10.00 am Netherton, Melton IP12 1LW

Present: Richard Tricker (Chair); Alexandra Carter; Tony Osmanski (Adviser on Communications Strategy)

1. Introduction to the EAOW projects and their impact on Bawdsey village – RT gave a resumé of the projects, their technical details and the impending start of work on the landfall site in early 2017.
 - (i) Recent press cuttings were presented which demonstrated EDF's commitment to community benefits through the development of a wetlands site in part mitigation for the potential building of Sizewell C. Further cuttings demonstrated that where the Windfarms do attract local and regional media, little if any attention is given to the impact on Bawdsey as the key landfall site.
 - (ii) Sharing information with other Parish Councils: RT reported on a recent initiative where the sub-committee, via BPC, had contacted all other parishes through which the cable route would pass to ascertain interest in a shared network of information. The response had been good and already stimulated action regarding public footpaths (see item 5 below).

In order to build a database of knowledge, a further email will be sent to parishes asking if (i) they had any unresolved issues/concerns regarding the projects (ii) they would support a common, parish-wide Communications Strategy and hopefully develop their own local initiative (iii) they were aware of the suite of Project Management documentation produced by ScottishPower and held by SCDC and whether any of this would be of direct relevance to their locality.

Email to parishes: RT

Email to parishes prepared and ready to go 7.11.16
8.11.16 final version sent to Jenny fo emailing out

2. Possible research help: it was agreed that the sub committee would welcome help in due course, either in the form of additional member(s) or for specific tasks. Any co-option, however, would be held in abeyance until the specific occasion arose so contributor(s)' skills could be matched with needs. In the meantime, RT would meet with Sarah Stevens who has expressed interest in the work of the sub-committee.

Meeting: RT

Email sent to Sarah 7.11.16

3. (i) A discussion, led by TO, on the necessity, means and potential efficacy of a Media Strategy concluded that the committee should think more broadly about a general Communications Strategy which would embrace, for example, the local community; other parishes; local, regional and national government; media such as the press, TV, radio; social networking; any other constituency with interests in or affected by the projects.
- (ii) Such a Communications Strategy would be based on the principle that the parishes, on behalf of their local communities, have a responsibility to monitor the construction, working and management of the windfarm projects, and to hold ScottishPower Renewables to account for any adverse deviation from permissions, published expectations and unenvisaged effects of these projects.
- (iii) Local community awareness would be enhanced by an insert in the Bawdsey Bulletin alerting readers to the impending start of work on the landfall site early 2017.

Draft wording: AC

Final wording & design: RT

Forwarding to BB: RT

A5 flyer produced and ready to be sent to Lou for printing
8.11.16 pdf sent to Lou for printing and inserting

- (iv) TO agreed to provide RT with a full list of media contacts TO

4. Negotiations with Suffolk Coastal District Council and Suffolk County Council: it was agreed that communication channels needed to be formally established between District and County and the parishes. A question would be addressed to Christine Block (SCDC) and Andrew Reid (SCC) at the next BPC meeting to ascertain how they would be able to facilitate this political engagement and constructive communication.

Draft question: AC/RT

Action at BPC: RT

Draft copy prepared
8.11.16 emails sent to CD & AR by Jenny

5. Discussion on the Landmark Path's possible closure. Following an alert from another parish who were concerned about a potential local footpath closure, RT emailed Joanna Young (Stakeholder manager, Scottish Power Renewables) to enquire whether the Landmark path would be closed either during construction or permanently. The committee welcomed her response which confirmed that the path would remain open, though for safety the public would be segregated from the construction site itself.
6. Planning Inspectorate letter of 28 Oct 2016: as this addressed the legal implications of the erection by EAOne of 102 rather than the initial 150 turbines, and outlined the additional documentation needed by the PI for EAThree, it was ascertained that there were no implications for Bawdsey. An email would be sent to JY to confirm this was the case. RT

Email from Jo Young: Landmark path to remain open with fencing to segregate public from working site area
5.11.16 Jo Young emailed with additional questions – awaiting reply