

LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

EXTRA ORDINARY MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at The Haywain Public House, on Thursday 29^h June 2023.

In Attendance: **Councillor J Buxton (Chairman)**
 Councillor C Barrett
 Clerk – D Sauka

Meeting commenced @ 19.30pm

24 members of the public attended.

75/1. Apologies to be received and accepted

Councillor I Smith

A number of residents gave their apologies for not being able to attend.

75/2. Members Interests

- To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, other Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interests
None

75/3. North Falls Statutory Consultation

A number of North Falls (NF) drop in events have been run including Ardleigh Village Hall on 10th June & Great Bromley Village Hall on the 2nd June. Cllr Buxton stated that he has taken information from the NF website and from information gained at the drop in events and created a set of slides for the EO meeting. These slides focus on issues that relate to the parish of Little Bromley. LBPC wish to respond to the NF Consultation and needs parishioners' feedback for the response. Cllr Buxton proceeded to project slides, outlining NF proposals.

NF have offered three options for their consultation. Option 1 is NF dedicated onshore infrastructure. Option 2 is for onshore infrastructure with underground cable route sharing with Five Estuaries. Option 3 is for offshore infrastructure and no onshore presence. LBPC prefer Option 3. However, the consultation focuses on Option 2 as below.

NF propose to bring their windfarm cables ashore at Frinton, and place cabling underground (approximately 26km) to a new substation at Little Bromley. The cable route will be the same as that used by Five Estuaries and will run alongside the Five Estuaries route. This will allow NF to connect into the proposed National Grid East Anglian Green substation targeted for the west side of the village (near the current substation at the junction of Ardleigh Road and Grange Road). The proposed National Grid substation is sized at 23 hectares and is the offered connection point for offshore wind farms and energy suppliers. The NF substation is planned to be around 8 hectares. We are aware that Five Estuaries also plan to connect into the National Grid Substation with their own 8-hectare substation. There is also early discussion of a company call Tarchon running an undersea interconnector cable between Germany and the UK, coming ashore and connecting into the National Grid substation.

Tarchon will need a Converter substation and a connection substation. We assume that these will be around 8 hectare in size as well - but location and size is not yet known. North Falls and Tarcon will also need underground cabling to their substations.

So the high level understanding is for 4 substations (possibly 5 if Tarchon site their converter substation in the Parish), multiple sets of underground cables and significant land consumption for each substation.

NF require temporary construction compounds as well. The sites of these are not defined but the maps provided do indicate that they could be in a similar locations to that as FE. It is estimated that 7 of these will be required along the cable route.

The NF construction route to the substation will be off the A120 into Bentley Road and join a new cross country haul road just before Paynes Lane.

The haul road will have its main access point at Bentley Road just before Paynes Lane. The haul road will cross Paynes Lane, Spratts Lane, Barlon Road. and Ardleigh Road. The construction sites, selected substation location and haul roads will cause enormous destruction to surrounding farmland.

NF will lay 4 electric cables underground. The working width for this work is estimated to be 60 to 100 metre wide (4 trenches) including the haul road. NF state that land would be reinstated to its original condition. It is not believed that this is possible. Note that this will run alongside the Five Estuaries cable route which itself is around 60 to 100 metres wide. So the total working width is likely to be around 120 to 200 metres.

There would be a major impact on traffic flow on Bentley Road for 5 years from 2026 (proposed start date). NF predict that at peak an extra 251 HGV per day, running for 6 days a week (Sundays working within the compound) will be needed for the development. This is around 21 HGV's per hour from 7am till 7pm or one every 3 minutes. It is worth noting that Bentley Road is sized such that 2 HGVs cannot pass each other without one or both vehicles mounting the verge. NF have also provided an estimate for the combined traffic for both NF and FE working at the same time. At peak this will be an extra 503 HGVs per day, or 42 HGV's per hour or one every 1.5 minutes.

NF have provided little detail on their substation other than it will be around 8 Hectares in size, maximum building height 15m (18m with lightning conductor) and have a target maximum operational noise of 35dbA. There has been no information provided on screening.

Ardleigh Parish Councillors attending the meeting provided the context of how the National Grid project will affect their Parish with both underground cabling and pylons connecting into the National Grid substation. It was agreed by all that if we lobby National Grid (through the Essex Suffolk and Norfolk Pylons Group, Residents, Parish Councils, District Councils, Country Councils and the OffSET group of MP's) to move their project offshore then this onshore work would not be needed.

District Cllr Fairley stated that she is working with Tendring District Council to address all projects (National Grid, North Falls and Five Estuaries) and will look to find any additional detail on Tarchon.

Cllr Buxton stated that the Parish Council had already made representation to National Grid and Five Estuaries and will now respond to the North Falls consultation as well. Copy to be posted onto website for parishioners to view when complete.

Cllr Buxton thanked members of the public for attending, stated that it was nice to see so many concerned about the projects.

75/5. Public Participation

- Matters arising from members of the public.
None

75/6. Next meeting date.

- 20th July 2023.
Parish Council

Meeting closed @ 20.38

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

Name:.....

Position:.....