



NOTICE OF MEETING
AND SUMMONS TO ATTEND

**The meeting of Sprowston Town Council
will be held in the Council Chamber, Recreation Ground Road, Sprowston NR7 8EW on
Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 7.30pm**

AGENDA

Item No.

1. To receive declarations of interest.
2. To receive apologies for absence.
3. To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public and Councillors with prejudicial interests to speak.
4. To confirm the minutes of the Council's meeting held 22 February 2023. Pages 1 - 8
5. To agree action/response arising from the minutes.
6. To receive correspondence:
 - (1) To note Norfolk Lieutenancy Coronation Newsletter February 2023. Pages 9 - 11
 - (2) To note Norwich Western Link Update and Introduction from Cllr. Graham Plant. Pages 12 - 13
 - (3) To consider the Offshore Transmission Network. Pages 14 - 16
 - (4) To note Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk News Roundup Up Jan - Feb 2023. Pages 17 - 19
 - (5) To consider Sprowston infant school organisational proposal. Pages 20 - 25
7. To consider residents request for parking restrictions on Wroxham Road (Friends Dental Practice). Pages 26 - 31
8. To consider a request for a pedestrian crossing on Atlantic Avenue to White House Farm Nursery (Cllr Booth).
9. To receive any written/verbal reports from Sprowston County and District Councillors. Page 32
10. To consider possible Locations for Wild Flower Areas on verges 2023. Pages 33 - 46
11. Adjourn the meeting for a short break.
12. To receive any written/verbal reports from the Council's Committees and Working Groups. RFWG enclosed
13. To receive any written and verbal reports from Councillors representing the Council on or at outside organisations (Cllr. W F Couzens). Page 47
14. To consider planning applications to 15 March 2023. Page 48
15. To receive planning decisions week ending:
 - (1) 24 February 2023 Page 49
 - (2) 3 March 2023. Page 50
16. To receive the Internal Audit Interim Report February 2023. Pages 51 - 69
17. To receive the schedule of direct debits to 15 March 2023. Pages 70
18. To confirm the payment of accounts to 15 March 2023. Pages 71 - 73
19. To receive the schedule of credit card payments. Page 74

20. The Chair will move that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business because otherwise information prejudicial to the public interests which is exempt by virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 Section 1 (2) would be disclosed to them.
21. Planning Enforcements
- (i) Closed
 - (ii) Outstanding.

Page 75
Pages 76 - 78



Guy Ranaweera
Town Clerk

9 March 2023

Council Office. Sprowston Recreation Ground . Recreation Ground Road Sprowston .
Norwich.NR7 8EW
Tel: 01603 408063 Email: townclerk@sprowston-tc.gov.uk

Footnote:

¹ Councillors have a statutory legal duty under the Local Government Act 2000, to declare any personal or prejudicial interest they have in items contained in the above agenda. Failure to do so may result in the individual Councillor being reported to the Standards Board for England.

Town Councillors are reminded that they have a duty to state a Declaration of Interest prior to the appropriate agenda item and to consider the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 s.17 when reaching a decision.

Planning Applications listed above are those in the office at the time of publication of the Agenda. The Council may consider others received up to the date of the meeting if appropriate. Plans may be viewed in the Council office during office hours, and are available from 7 pm on the date of the meeting. Alternatively, to view on line please go to www.broadland.gov.uk and follow the links through to planning.

It should be noted that Councillors Mr J F Fisher, Mrs K Vincent and Mr J M Ward will or could be making comments on the planning applications at this meeting as a non-statutory consultee on behalf of the Town Council. However, as all three Councillors are on the Planning Committee of Broadland District Council, they would like it made clear that their views could change at those meetings when more information could lead them to a differing view than that expressed at this meeting. To this end they will be abstaining from voting on planning matters.

This Meeting is open to the Public and the Press. Copies of this Agenda and Draft Minutes referred to above are available from the Council Office. Signed copies of the Minutes may also be downloaded from the Council's website www.sprowston-tc.gov.uk (go to Agenda and Minutes page). They are available (unless marked confidential) for public inspection at the Council Offices during public opening hours.

In the interests of openness and transparency, Councillors and members of the public are reminded that the law permits any person to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of a meeting of the Council. The Council request that anyone wishing to record the meeting lets the Council know beforehand so appropriate arrangements can be made to facilitate the recording.

MEETING OF SPROWSTON TOWN COUNCILLORS – 22 FEBRUARY 2023

At the meeting of the Sprowston Town Council held at the Council Chamber, Recreation Ground Road, Sprowston on Wednesday 22 February 2023, the following Councillors were present: -

Mr W F Couzens – Chairman

Mr A J Barton - Mrs J Leggett
Mr M A Booth - Mr J H Mallen
Mr M G Callam - Mr G S Tingle
Mrs B J Lashley - Mr J M Ward

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer
Mrs E Elliot - Committee Officer

No members of the public were present

23/048. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

Councillor	Minute No. and Heading	Nature of Interest
Mr M G Callam	23/0188 - Planning	Managing Trustee of Sprowston Methodist Church

23/049. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Written apologies for absence were received and accepted by the Council from Ms D Coleman, Mr J F Fisher, Mr R J Knowles and Mrs K Vincent and verbal apologies from Ms C T Rumsby.

23/050. RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS

On the motion of Mr W F Couzens, seconded by Mr M G Callam it was **RESOLVED**, that the meeting be adjourned to receive residents' and councillors' questions on matters concerning the town. Residents and councillors were reminded that their questions should be addressed to the Chairman who would, assisted by the Town Clerk, reply.

As there were no questions the Chair reconvened the meeting.

23/051. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council's meeting held on 11 January 2023, having previously been circulated to all Councillors were subject to the following amendments

Minute 23/029 (2), **delete** contract office and insert **Contracts Officer**

Minute 23/034 (2), paragraph 2 delete care and insert cars

23/051. MINUTES (CONTINUED)

confirmed and signed by the Chair of the Council.

23/052. ACTION FROM MINUTES

There were no actions or responses arising from the minutes.

23/053. CORRESPONDENCE

(1) County Deal for Norfolk - Consultation

In response to a question from Mrs B J Lashley, Mr J M Ward explained the County Deal funding of £20m annually for a period of 20 years would not increase with inflation.

A meeting was due to take place between leaders of District Councils and Conservative MP's working to get an improved offer in due course.

Mr W F Couzens reported community drop-in events were being held at Sprowston Library and the Forum.

Council noted Norfolk County Council's invitation to comment on the County Deal for Norfolk and it was agreed Councillors respond to the consultation on an individual basis.

(2) Greater Norwich Plan - Consultation

Council noted the Greater Norwich Local Plan update.

23/054. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME EMPLOYER RATE

Mr A J Barton proposed, seconded by Mrs J Leggett for the Town Clerk to be authorised to:

- (1) confirm receipt of Norfolk Pension Fund's letter explaining the employer contribution rate.
- (2) Acknowledge the revised provisions from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026. On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

23/055. COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S CHAIN OF OFFICE

Council considered a quotation with two options for the refurbishment of the Chairman's chain of office.

Mr J M Ward said the chain of office was an important part of Sprowston's history and he supported the purchase of additional links to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and King Charles III Coronation.

RESOLVED

- (1) to accept the quotation from Thomas Fattorini Ltd for:

23/055. COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S CHAIN OF OFFICE (CONTINUED)

- (a) eight additional chain links, one Platinum Jubilee link and one Coronation link with centre option B at a total cost of £2,577.23 plus VAT.
 - (b) new block fitted case at a total cost of £319.93 plus VAT.
- (2) to fund 10 additional chain links and block fitted case for the Chairman's chain of office from the underspend in the Platinum Jubilee and 2022 fete budget.

23/056. PARISH ELECTIONS 4 MAY 2023

Council noted the details of Parish/Town Elections to be held on Thursday 4 May 2023.

23/057. LOCATION OF DOG BINS ON WHITE HOUSE FARM ESTATE

Given the difficulty interpreting symbols for locations of various bin types on planning application 22/1648 it was agreed Mrs J Leggett to organise and attend a TEAMS meeting with the District Council's Planning Officer and Cllr. M B Booth.

23/058. VIKING CENTRE

Further to his written report and in response to Councillors questions the Town Clerk advised that:

- He hoped to have approval from the Planning Authority within the next few weeks.
- Licenced operatives recycle a majority of waste collected.
- The site will be secured before full development commences.
- Neighbouring properties and businesses will be advised in writing regarding parking in the Viking Centre car park.
- Promotional signage will be sourced and erected and the for-sale sign removed.

Mrs B J Lashley proposed, seconded by Mrs J Leggett Council exercise the Option to Tax on the Viking Centre, Tills Road, Sprowston (former Royal Bengal Restaurant/Viking Public House), effective from 1 March 2023 and to hereby authorise the Town Clerk to sign all necessary documentation in connection therewith. On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

Mrs B J Lashley referred the Town Clerk to a NALC Newsletter on VAT and sporting fees.

23/059. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from Mr J M Ward.

Mr J M Ward also verbally reported:

23/059. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (CONTINUED)

- (1) Norfolk County Council had set its latest budget with no amendments. All political parties agreed a budget of £1.8m which included £58m savings and equated to a 4.99% increase on the previous year.
- (2) Hedgehog signage was progressing.
- (3) Broadland District Council were meeting to discuss a levelling up paper.

Mrs J Leggett verbally reported that food waste collection across the Broadland district had doubled improving their recycling rate.

Enforcement parking at Falcon Road East had not progressed and PC Graham Gill will request Civil Parking Enforcement officers to attend.

Mrs K Vincent verbally reported she had contacted:

- (1) Norfolk County Highways about ownership of land at the Viking Centre and understood this had helped to move things forward.
- (2) the Highways Engineer, Richard Pearson, to ask whether she could use her Norfolk County Council Members Highways Grant to fund the proposed safety railings outside White Woman Lane school.

23/060. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, ALLOTMENTS, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

1.1 Installation of New Cold-Water Main to the Recreation Ground

Council considered the quotation for installation of a public drinking fountain at Sprowston Recreation Ground.

The Town Clerk explained there was no allocation in the 2022/23 budget for a water fountain and this would have to be funded from reserves.

Mr J M Ward proposed, seconded by Mr M A Booth to accept the quotation from PJ Plumbing, Heating & Maintenance Ltd for installation of a junior public drinking fountain at Sprowston Recreation Ground at a total cost of £1,221.00 plus VAT. On being put to the vote the motion was CARRIED.

1.2 Resurfacing of Footpath at Recreation Ground Road

It was noted the length of Council-owned footpath between the bike track and the Dixon Road footpath "dog leg" had been repaired and patch surfaced to remove raised areas and other potential tripping hazards caused by root ingress from adjacent trees.

CEMETERY

2.1 No matters were reported

23/060. REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK (CONTINUED)

STREET LIGHTING

3.1 No matters were reported

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

4.1 Health and Safety Consultation

Council noted a locally-based health and safety consultant had been engaged to provide updated risk assessments and safe ways of working for all Council staff's major activities.

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

5.1 No matters were reported

ATTACHMENTS

6.1 Drinking fountain (1) Possible location

6.2 Drinking fountain (2) Specification

6.3 Drinking fountain (3) Quotation

23/061. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr W F Couzens, seconded by Mr M G Callam it was **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting for a short break.

The meeting was reconvened.

23/062. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Minutes of the Recreational Facilities Working Group held 10 February 2023 would be circulated at the next Council meeting.

23/063. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Council noted the written report from Mr W F Couzens.

23/064. BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL'S NEW PUBLIC ACCESS PLANNING PORTAL

Council noted Broadland District Council's Guide to using Public Access.

23/065. PLANNING

The Town Clerk reported that observations had been requested by the District Council's Head of Planning on applications received since the last meeting.

Having considered each application and the accompanying plans the Council

RESOLVED

23/065. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

(a) to raise no objection to the following application:

20230244 - extension to ground and first floor at 2B, Edwards Road, Sprowston.

20230162 - rear extension and removal of roof, reconfigure and rebuild with loft conversion at 67, Russell Avenue, Sprowston.

20230186 - replacement wooden dormer windows with double glazed wooden units at 92, Wroxham Road, Sprowston.

20230190 - demolition of single garage and replacement double garage at 23, Lone Barn Road, Sprowston.

20230117 - single storey rear extension with lanterns to replace existing and raise existing garage roof at 58, Barkers Lane, Sprowston.

To oppose the granting of planning application 20230188 - installation of a 17m high slim-line monopole supporting 6 no. antennas, 1 no. wraparound equipment cabinet at the base of the monopole, 2 no. equipment cabinets, 1 no. electric meter cabinet and ancillary development thereto at Grass Verge of Cozens-Hardy Road, Sprowston.

Whilst the Council acknowledges these services are required, they considered the proposed installation of a monopole and associated cabinets at this location to be prejudicial to road safety and pedestrian safety.

The installation of an additional four cabinets to the existing two in the proposed location would obstruct the view to the right of vehicles exiting the Church car park, seriously restricting sight of oncoming traffic from Wroxham Road. Vehicles will have to pull further into the road than they currently do before being sure it is safe to drive away.

The Church car park is heavily used by various community groups, Sprowston Nursery Playgroup and worshippers. It is also a drop off and pick up point for parents of a number of high school students.

The proposed location is close to the junction of Cozens Hardy Road and Wroxham Road, directly opposite the entrance to the Chestnuts. This area is often congested with cars parking on both sides of the road. The addition of maintenance vehicles to service the installation will further exacerbate the situation.

Given the high level of footfall, particularly children of school age, restricting pedestrian access to the verge on this narrow pathway will create a bottleneck and encourage walking in the road.

Residents are prohibited from planting trees, hedges or any plant on the highway verges as they might hinder traffic, cause distraction or reduce visibility. A structure of this scale at this location will certainly achieve all three.

23/065. PLANNING (CONTINUED)

A 17m high monopole would dwarf any other structure in the surrounding area and is out of keeping with the street scene. Locating such an obtrusive structure outside a religious building and place of worship was considered to be insensitive.

Other considerations are potential noise nuisance from fans to visitors at the community Church-garden and inconclusive evidence on the affects to human health.

23/066. SCHEDULE OF DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS

Responding to a question from Mrs J Leggett regarding invoice 014844360123 Barclaycard - PDQ payment machine the Town Clerk confirmed he would be looking at less expensive options now more third- party providers were available.

The schedule of direct debit payments to 22 January 2023 totalling £22,829.81 was approved and noted.

23/067. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS 1 FEBRUARY 2023

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of invoices to pay to 22 February 2023 totalling £23,966.78.

Responding to a question from Mr M G Callam the Town Clerk explained:

Invoice SCN-2474 - Get Me Out The Four Walls was a refund for room hire which the hirer had paid twice.

On the motion of Mr A J Barton, seconded by Mr J M Ward it was **RESOLVED** that payment of the schedule of invoices to 22 February 2023 totalling £23,966.78 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr W F Couzens and Mrs J Leggett.

The Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented the schedule of invoice payments made to 22 February 2023 totalling £1,321.51.

On the motion of Mr M G Callam, seconded by Mr J H Mallen it was **RESOLVED** that the schedule of invoice payments made to 22 February 2023 totalling £1,321.51 be approved and the schedule authorising payment signed by Mr W F Couzens and Mrs J Leggett.

23/068. SCHEDULE OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS & BARCLAY VISA DEBIT

The schedule of credit card and Barclay Visa Debit payments to 22 February 2023 totalling £1,296.08 was approved and noted.

23/069. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Mr W F Couzens proposed, seconded by Mr M G Callam to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting for the remaining business because otherwise information

23/069. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (CONTINUED)

prejudicial to the public interests which is exempt by virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings Act) 1960 Section 1 (2) would be disclosed to them.

23/070. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

Council expressed frustration with the length of time enforcement reference 2018ENF480 was taking to be resolved with no update since 3 December 2022.

It was agreed the Town Clerk to contact Miss P Maryon to express the Council's concerns.

There being no other necessary business the Chair of the Council thanked Councillors for their participation and declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

15 March 2023

Chair



NORFOLK
LIEUTENANCY

NEWSLETTER

February 2023

The Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Consort



This newsletter contains information concerning celebratory and community events that will take place over the Coronation Weekend between Saturday 6 and Monday 8 May 2023.

The Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Consort is an occasion for national celebration and unity. The aim of this newsletter is to set out the sequence of events that have been announced as part of a weekend of celebrations, and to help signpost further information and sources of support, for the benefit of local and community leaders, and event organisers in Norfolk. Subsequent newsletters will be distributed by the Norfolk Lieutenancy office as further details become clear.

Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort hope the Coronation Weekend will provide an opportunity to spend time and celebrate with friends, families and communities across the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth. Their Majesties are looking forward to marking the occasion with the public throughout 2023.

National Sequence of Events

Saturday 6 May 2023. The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort will take place at Westminster Abbey. The Service will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Service will reflect the Monarch's role today and look towards the future, while being rooted in longstanding traditions and pageantry.

Across the Coronation Weekend, there will be further opportunities for people to come together in celebration of the historic occasion.

Sunday 7 May 2023. The Coronation Big Lunch is an initiative at which neighbours and communities are invited to share food and fun together. The Coronation Big Lunch will be overseen and organised by the Big Lunch team at the Eden Project.

Sunday 7 May 2023. A special Coronation Concert will be staged and broadcast live at Windsor Castle by the BBC and BBC Studios, with several thousand pairs of tickets to be made available via public ballot. Those wishing to enter the public ballot for tickets, live until 28 February 2023, can do so here: <https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/coronation-concert>

Monday 8 May 2023. Members of the public will be invited to take part in The Big Help Out, which will encourage people to try volunteering for themselves and join the work being undertaken to support their local areas.

Sources of help

The Coronation Big Lunch – The Eden Project will be making available information packs full of ideas, inspiration, top tips and the practical bits to help get your Coronation celebration started. Further details for event organisers can be found here: <https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch> Your Local Authority will be able to advise on the process for requesting road closures.

The Big Help Out – This initiative is being organised by The Together Coalition and a wide range of partners such as the Scouts, the Royal Voluntary Service, and faith groups from across the UK. Further details can be found here <https://thebighelpout.org.uk/>

The National Lottery Community Fund – The fund is supporting communities across the UK to come together to mark the Coronation. Funding of up to £10,000 is available for Coronation related events and activities via the National Lottery Awards for All programme. The programme does not have a deadline, but it can take up to twelve weeks from the date of application submission for successful groups to receive funding. In other words, applications for events around the Coronation weekend would need to be made without delay. The funding criteria terms and conditions can be found at:

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-england>

Coronation Emblem – The official Coronation emblem is now available for use for all activities associated with the Coronation including community and national events, publications, retail, and merchandising. The emblem along with guidance notes on its use can be downloaded here <https://www.royal.uk/coronation-emblem>

Local events and activities

All our communities across Norfolk are encouraged to take part in local events and activities – particularly with Big Lunch initiatives, and the Big Help Out. Communities are encouraged to be creative and to adopt their own ideas for celebrating this national moment. As planning gets underway the Norfolk Lieutenancy hopes to build a picture of local events and activities with the aim of enhancing awareness and signposting what is going on in Norfolk. Further details and helpful guidance will be posted on the Lieutenancy website in due course.

In some cases, local authorities and other grant funders may make available grant funding to support specific activities.

It is anticipated that churches and other places of worship will be holding celebratory services on the day before and the day after the Coronation. The Church of England website is expected to provide further details in due course.

About the Norfolk Lieutenancy

His Majesty The King appoints a Lord-Lieutenant as his representative in each county. The Norfolk Lieutenancy represents the Crown's lifelong commitment to the wellbeing of the entire community.

It offers active support to the voluntary, commercial, social and spiritual lives of its citizens, also aiming to: respond when approached; assist when invited; improve where possible; sustain where necessary; encourage where practicable; and in all its actions to consider the interests of the whole of Norfolk.

The Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk is The Lady Dannatt MBE. The Lord Lieutenant is supported in her role by a number of Deputy Lieutenants who are widely representative of the county in many respects.

The Norfolk Lieutenancy is keen to help and support local events and activities in any way that it can. All matters relating to the Norfolk Lieutenancy, including invitations, can be addressed to:

Lieutenancy Office
Norfolk County Council
Martineau Lane
Norwich
NR1 2DH

Email: lord-lieutenant@norfolk.gov.uk

Twitter: Norfolk Lieutenancy Office Team @lord_lieutenant

Guy Ranaweera

From: Norwich Western Link <Norwichwesternlink@norfolk.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 February 2023 17:07
To: Guy Ranaweera
Subject: Norwich Western Link project update and introduction from Cllr Graham Plant

Dear all,

This will be the first time that some of you will have heard from me since I have taken over as Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure from Cllr Martin Wilby. For those of you who aren't aware, Martin has sadly had to step down from this role for health reasons. Martin held this position for several years and oversaw some fantastic improvements to the county's transport networks, so I want to put my thanks to him on record and acknowledge that I have some big shoes to fill.

I'm a longstanding county and borough councillor representing Gorleston in the east of the county. I've also served as Deputy Leader on the county council since 2019, so I have a good understanding of the county's transport needs and priorities, including of course the Norwich Western Link.

I have been getting more up-to-speed on the details in the last few weeks though, including spending a morning last week visiting the area around where the new road would be built. I was really struck by how narrow many of the local roads are, some single track and others not much more than that. And yet there are already thousands of vehicles trying to get through this area from the west to the north of the city every day, and these numbers are expected to increase significantly.

It's clear that these roads were not designed to take this level of traffic, and there are all kinds of knock-on impacts including on road safety, air quality in communities, and longer and less reliable journey times. This will continue to be the case until a high standard alternative route is provided - the Norwich Western Link.

Our current focus on our Norwich Western Link project is on developing and finalising the planning application documents ahead of submitting them to the local planning authority. In our next report to cabinet on the Norwich Western Link, council officers intend to ask cabinet members for approval to submit the planning application for the project. You may be aware that we had originally indicated this would be considered at the upcoming March cabinet meeting.

We want to make sure we have enough information and certainty around the national investment in the project via approval of the project's Outline Business Case to make an informed decision. We've therefore decided to wait to bring a report to cabinet until we have all the information we feel we need to make this decision. I hope we'll be able to confirm which meeting of cabinet the report will be considered at shortly, and I'll email you again at this point.

I understand many people are keen for us to get on and deliver the Norwich Western Link, especially those residents and businesses that are worst affected by the traffic problems to the west of Norwich. We're keen to keep making progress on this much-needed project too. However, it's important that we get this right and waiting to bring this report to cabinet really is the most responsible course of action.

For those of you who responded to our pre-planning application public consultation last year, we still intend to provide a summary of the results in the next cabinet report. The comments we

received, along with lots of other information including advice from statutory bodies and data from our on-site surveys, are all being considered as part of the development of the proposals that will go into our planning application.

Best wishes,

Graham

Cllr Graham Plant

Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure

Norfolk County Council

| Tel: 0344 800 8020 | Website: www.norfolk.gov.uk/nwl

County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH



Norfolk County Council   



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To see our email disclaimer click here <http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/emaildisclaimer>

From: Sandra Betts [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 March 2023 16:51
To: [REDACTED]

Cc:

Subject:
Attachments:

Chairs, Councillors and Clerks,

We believe you may appreciate an update concerning the DCO application by Equinor for the SEP and DEP offshore windfarm projects. Following the initial questions and hearings held by the Planning Inspectorate Examining Authority (ExA) between 17-20 January 2023 and their subsequent site visits, the ExA issued a list of questions to Equinor on 27 January 2023 which ran to 126 pages. This list formed part of what is referred to as a “Rule 8 Letter” and is a formal part of the DCO application examination. We believe the length of this letter reflects both the thoroughness of the ExA, which is greatly encouraging to our cause, and also the significant shortcomings in the current proposals included by Equinor in their draft DCO. The first deadline for response by the applicant to the points raised was 20 February 2023. This date was also the deadline for us to provide summaries of the points which we raised during the January hearings and to submit Written Representations on specific topics which we wish the ExA to consider.

On behalf of the Norfolk Parishes Movement for an OTN we submitted two papers: one putting forward our case for moving the grid connection point for these projects to an existing substation at Walpole on the Norfolk-Lincolnshire border and; one requesting an immediate halt of the onshore part of the Hornsea Three and the Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas projects, while an independent review of the case for an OTN is carried out. All documents submitted to the ExA, including these papers are now available on the Planning Inspectorate website at: [Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://planninginspectorate.gov.uk). However, we attach below the documents we submitted, for

your convenience. Further hearings before the ExA are now scheduled for 22-24 and 29-31 March 2023.

There is still a long way to go with fighting this application. The current public examination process will close on 17th July 2023. The final report and recommendation by the ExA to the Secretary of State (SoS) will be sent 3 months later (although unseen by the public) and the SoS delivers his decision 3 months after that – so by 17th January 2024. We fear it is pretty unlikely (though not impossible) that this DCO application will be refused by the SoS – there is after all a presumption in NSIP applications that they are necessary for the good of the country. However, we are heartened by the approach of this particular Examining Authority panel and we shall continue to use our best efforts to persuade the ExA to take up our call for an OTN with the SoS.

In relation however to their specific consideration of SEP and DEP (the application in front of them), probably the best we can hope for is that they might recommend to the SoS **refusal of the application in its current form** and that the SoS should take up with National Grid and Equinor the transfer of the grid connection point from Norwich Main to Walpole.

The SEP/DEP project has one unique characteristic in terms of Norfolk, in that it is a *near-shore* wind farm, close to The Wash, and an alternative, much less damaging, onshore grid connection could be made available. There is considerable evidence for the viability of a connection at Walpole or the adjacent Sutton Bridge and written evidence has been submitted to the Examination on this issue from several Interested Parties.

As Walpole is just 7 miles from the coast, this would eliminate the need for the current 60 km cable path and avoid almost all of the cumulative impacts affecting those communities in Norfolk already facing disruption from the Hornsea Three, Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas cable paths.

As regards the above point, you might like to watch the recorded video of the Open Floor Hearing on Jan. 17th, attached here:

<https://youtu.be/YqBkBFDBLDI>

paying particular attention to the contribution of Jerome Mayhew MP near the end, who endorsed and built upon all our earlier presentations to make a very powerful suggestion to the Panel.

To help us with fighting our case could we ask if you would consider taking 2 simple actions:

1. Please send us as soon as possible the 2 top concerns for your parish arising from the SEP and DEP proposed projects. Please send via email to [REDACTED] - just a couple of sentences will do. For example, they might be about noise, traffic, health and well-being, environmental issues, sequential development, impacts on local businesses, tourism etc., etc. This will provide us with hard evidence of the concerns across the county and could be powerful information to share with the Planning Inspectorate in support of our case that the cumulative impacts for local communities are unacceptable.

2. Please send a copy of the attached written submission on the case for an OTN to your local MP and ask them to draw it to the attention of the Secretary of State for Climate Change and Net Zero, Grant Shapps.

We will continue to keep you updated as the examination progresses and thank for your continued support.

With best wishes,

Sandra Betts
Barford & Wrampingham Parish Councillor

Alison Shaw
Oulton Parish Councillor
pp. The Norfolk Parishes Movement for an OTN

Sent from my iPad

Guy Ranaweera

From: Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk
<opccn@norfolk.police.uk>
Sent: 02 March 2023 09:37
To: Guy Ranaweera
Subject: PCC News Round-Up - January/February 2023

[View this email in your browser](#)



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
FOR JUSTICE, FOR SAFETY,
FOR NORFOLK



PCC News

January/February 2023

Welcome to your regular news update from Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Giles Orpen-Smellie.

For more information on the role, responsibilities and work of the PCC, [please visit www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk).



One to One Project invites PCC to newly refurbished counselling rooms

King's Lynn-based charity, the One to One Project, welcomed Norfolk's PCC, Giles Orpen-Smellie, and Norfolk Constabulary's District Commander, Wesley Hornigold, on a tour of its newly refurbished counselling rooms.

[Find out more >>](#)



Unanimous Panel support for new Norfolk Policing Budget

Giles Orpen-Smellie's proposals for the 2023/24 Norfolk policing budget received a unanimous endorsement from the county's Police and Crime Panel.

[Read more >>](#)



Norfolk's PCC poses questions to Norfolk's Chief Constable

Giles has held his first accountability meeting of 2023 with the Chief Constable Paul Sanford and senior colleagues.

[More information >>](#)



Giles responds to the latest release of crime statistics data

Norfolk's Police and Crime and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has responded to the latest release of crime statistics data for all forces in England and Wales from the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

[Find out more >>](#)

The next PCC Accountability Meeting (PAM), where the PCC holds the Chief Constable to account for policing in Norfolk, will take place on Wednesday 19 April 2023.

The meeting will be held at the PCC offices in Wymondham and a recording will be published on our website after the event.

For more information on PAMs visit our website [here>>](#)

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Our mailing address is:

Office of the Police and Crime and Commissioner for Norfolk
Building 7, Falconers Chase
Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0WW
United Kingdom

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