

**Minutes of Little Bealings Parish Council meeting held at Bealings Village Hall at 7.30pm
on Monday 28 May 2012**

Present: Mrs F Rogers, Mr P Carr, Mr D Wilson and Mrs M Wilson

Also present: a farmer of land affected by the preferred onshore cable corridor for the East Anglia Offshore Windfarm (EAOW)

In attendance: Mrs C Ramsden, Clerk to the Council

During the period of public participation before the meeting the farmer said that he was in favour of the applicant's preferred onshore cable corridor (POCC), as Alternative Option A route (AOA) would mean more disturbance to agricultural land and land in other private ownership. He did not think that the route of the Fynn Valley Walk would be affected by the POCC route. Using AOA might mean less disturbance for Gt and Lt Bealings, but would merely disturb other properties instead. He did not think that the POCC would disturb the football pitches and golf course to the east, but would be routed to avoid them and the setting of Seckford Hall. He also thought that the disruption would not be that great, with the route passing under roads. Alternative Option B route (AOB) was not a realistic option in view of the impact on so many properties.

**Councillor
Actions**

1 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Dr C Rowe and Mr B Rufford.

Mrs Wilson and Mr Wilson declared an interest in the item concerning the route of the EAOW cabling as the owners of property in the parish affected by the alternative routes.

2 Planning

The content of the EAOW: Great Bealings and Little Bealings Report dated May 2012 was considered and the following points made in discussion of the merits of the alternative cabling routes contained in the report:

- that there was very little housing affected by AOA which avoided any village
- that the impact of AOA on Queech Wood could be avoided by amending the route to pass to the north of it
- that AOA had no impact on the Fynn Valley Walk
- that agricultural land would be affected by all routes but that it would be reinstated; the applicants had said there would be no long term impact on farmland. Appropriate reinstatement was a matter to be addressed by individual farmers in reaching agreement with the applicants.
- that less Environmentally Sensitive Area (Agreement) land was affected by AOA than by the POCC
- that the report did not include a comparison of the impact on Special Landscape Area land
- that the impact of AOB on the village and private property was too great for this route to be acceptable
- that the POCC had experienced significant recent flooding.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED:**

- To thank the applicants for the report and the constructive approach to addressing the Council's concerns and advise them:
 - That the Council agreed that the impact of AOB is unacceptable
 - That the Council did not agree with the report's conclusion that the POCC is the route with the least environmental impacts and concludes this route to be AOA. This is because:
 - ❖ the impact of AOA on Queech Wood could be avoided by amending the route to pass to the north of it
 - ❖ AOA has no impact on the Fynn Valley Walk, a promoted and very well used route
 - ❖ less Environmentally Sensitive Area (Agreement) land is affected by AOA than by the POCC
 - ❖ agricultural land would be affected by all routes but would be reinstated with no long term effect, as advised by the applicants previously
 - ❖ the report does not include a comparison of the impact of the alternative routes on Special Landscape Area land.
 - That the impact of the POCC on the parish is significant while AOA affects very little housing and no communities
 - That as the Council's priority remains to protect the parish from the impact of the cabling it therefore maintained its objection to the POCC
 - That further information on the future proofing of the project would be welcome
 - To advise Great Bealings Parish Council of the Council's resolution and consider further joint action with that Council as appropriate.

3 Correspondence

It was **RESOLVED**:

- Not to support the Planning Applications (Appeals by Town and Parish Councils) Bill.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 2 July 2012.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.00pm.