

MINUTES OF THE HOLME HALE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 19th November 7.30pm in the Pavilion

Present: S. Broke - Chairman, P. Angus – Parish Clerk.

There were 20 members of the public which included Holme Hale Parish Cllrs W. McNeil, J. Pearson, Dr A. Scarlett, G. Tranter and Necton Parish Cllr P. Hayton.
Susan Falch Lovett and Richard Packham from Vattenfall.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.

2. Vattenfall presentation as follows.

Susan Falch -Lovett gave the following presentation on behalf of Vattenfall

- Introduction
- Overview
- Project decisions – recap
- Timescales (Vanguard and Boreas consultation process)
- Supply Chain update
- Skills and Community Engagement update
- New information Leaflets and Autumn Newsletter
- Contact details

3. Question and Answer session regarding the siting of 2 new substations in the Parish of Necton.

- The Chairman asked how many people attended the consultation meeting in Necton on Friday 16th November – Susan Falch-Lovett said that there were 38 and this is an average amount of attendance at these meetings.
- A member of the public asked where the jobs that had been mentioned in the presentation would be based – the answer was that some jobs could be home based working 2 days a week from home and there will be 1 – 2 jobs at the substation but most employees would need to travel to various sites outside of Necton.
- There was a question regarding the area in which the substations were to be placed which was on high ground and will be very visible to Holme Hale and surrounding villages and why was an area not chosen a few hundred yards N.W which is in a dip – Susan Falch-Lovett gave some explanations in which the public and Cllrs did not think were adequate reasons for this decision, she then said that she would need to ask her colleagues about this and report back.
- There was a question regarding the lighting of the substation and concern that it would need to be lit 24 hours a day due to aircraft – it was explained that the station would only be lit from 7am to 7pm when people were working there.

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4. Open forum – Public response

There were various concerns expressed regarding the size of the area and the visual impact this will have on Holme Hale and the surrounding areas, (earlier Cllr Pearson had shown an example of the size and height of the substation using 225 London double decker buses stacked 5 high x 45 busses long).

There was a view that Vattenfall, when it makes mitigation decisions holds itself accountable by knitting this into the planning Inspectorate process/plans.

There was also a view that there was not enough information or discussion on National Grid substations and associated mitigation.

Susan Falch-Lovett strongly advised the public and Councillors that they should bring all their concerns to one of the Statutory Consultation Meetings that have been planned in November - Norwich 21st, Dereham 22nd, N. Walsham 23rd and Reepham 24th, and to also go on to the Planning Inspectorate website and put their concerns in writing.

The Chairman thanked Vattenfall for giving this presentation.

With nothing more to discuss the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman: _____ Date: _____