

GREAT GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Caroline Emeny
Parish Clerk
T: 01986 798422
E: gtglemhampc@gmail.com

c/o 2 Old School
Laxfield
Suffolk
IP13 8DL

MINUTES OF THE 238th MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL Held by Video Conferencing on Wednesday 17 March 2021 at 7.00 pm

Present: The Chair Cllr Gathorne-Hardy and Cllrs Beaumont, Benson, Cross, Debenham, French, Lissaman, Mercer and Wright. Also in attendance: 7 members of the public, and a representative from Low Carbon for some of the meeting.

1. **Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the 238th extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council. The Virtual Meeting Protocol was summarised.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

All Councillors were present therefore no apologies.

3. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

Cllrs Gathorne-Hardy and Cross both declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 but will remain in the Meeting. They will however both refrain from voting on the planning application. Members were reminded of their obligations under the Suffolk Code of Conduct including the Nolan Principles of Public Office.

4. **Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of 10 February 2021 were unanimously approved for signing remotely by the Chair. Any matters arising will be dealt with at the next full meeting on 5 May.

5. **Presentation by Low Carbon followed by Q&A session**

The presentation was brief and in no specific detail. No new information from the planning application itself was available to share verbally with the Parish Council in order for them to make an informed decision. The representative was totally unprepared for the meeting.

6. **Public Forum**

Questions were asked of the Low Carbon representative by both Councilors and members of the public present. No satisfactory answers were received.

7. **To consider planning application DC/21/1001/FUL**

It was agreed additional informed information was required from Low Carbon. Visuals are required covering every viewing angle of the proposed solar farm. How many people were consulted by post? What benefit will it bring to the Community? It was noted the very large scale of it will take up all of the 50 megawatts current spare capacity of on the grid. The overall feeling was one of disappointment at the lack of information presented. The Council unanimously agreed that an objection to the application was appropriate on this basis. The application deadline is 1 April. It was resolved to hold back from submitting a response on the planning portal until more information i.e visuals are received and a report from District Cllr Cook who is attending a meeting with Low Carbon on Friday afternoon. Once that additional information is shared with the PC, a decision will be made on how to proceed.

8. **General Governance**

The internal auditor was unanimously approved once again as Trevor Brown, the fee remains the same as last year at £50.

9. **The next meeting** will take place on Wednesday 5 May 2021 via Zoom. This will be 2 back-to-back meetings incorporating the Annual Meeting of the Parish (APM) at 6.30pm followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (AGM) at approximately 7pm. Both meetings will be held virtually.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm