LITTLE DUNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an extra-ordinary meeting of Little Dunham Parish Council held on Thursday 10th November 2022 at 8.30pm in the Village Hut.

Present: Cllr Simon Fowler (Chair)
Cllr Malcolm Parker (Vice Chair)
Cllr Jane Harding
Cllr Nina Forsyth
Cllr David Walker

Six Member of the public
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from County & District Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none received.

3. Open Forum for Public Participation

A Village meeting had been held immediately prior to this meeting where members of the public had been able to express their views on the proposed solar farm. An informal vote had resulted in an even split between those for and those against.

4. To consider the following planning application:

3PL/2022/1215/F – land west of Palgrave Road - Construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm with battery storage and associated infrastructure, including inverters, substations, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping

Given that there was no clear steer from parishioners, Council agreed to support the application for the following reasons:

- It is a temporary site, albeit for 40 years, and will be returned to farmland at the end of that period.
- Climate change is the biggest risk facing us and the solar farm will help the UK in reaching its goals in respect of green energy.
- The company appear willing to take on board the concerns raised at the Village meeting in respect of landscape mitigation, traffic management and noise levels.

That being the case, Council unanimously agreed to support the application if the following conditions can be met:

- There must be more landscape mitigation, specifically around the shipping containers and the on-site sub-station.
- The traffic management plan must relate to HGV and all other site traffic.
- The air-conditioning fans must only operate between the hours of 8.00am to 10.00pm.

Council agreed that discussions relating to the Community Fund can take place once more is known.

5. To note the next meeting of the parish council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 5th January 2023 in the Village Hut.

Council noted the date of the next meeting and the Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

Signed: Date: