

# **BARSHAM AND SHIPMEADOW PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023

At 7.30 pm at Barsham Village Hall

**Present** PM, DA , Judy Cloke

**Public Attendance:**

**Apologies:** ZB & PH ( PH attended by zoom )

**Declarations of Interest:** None

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

These were circulated as a true record of the meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Proposed : PH Seconded: DA PM signed the minutes

**Matters Arising**

**26-0423** Defib monthly battery check done by PM , all okay

**27-0423** RES Solar Farm :A presentation and Q&A was made by Pauric McCloskey, A recap of the meeting was made by JC ( see below )

**Planning Matters:**

None

**Correspondence:**

All forwarded by e mail .

**28-0423** E Mail received from JC Concerning the expected Planning Application for the RES proposed Shipmeadow Solar Farm

This week I attended a meeting of Barsham and Shipmeadow Parish Council, at which RES made an online presentation to Councillors.

I have also recently visited Dawn Chorus Holidays , the owners of which raised their concerns with me .

I asked RES some of the questions which you posed to me and can offer the following information :

The top height of the units will be 3.6 metres, tilting down to about .7m or .8m. RES did not say at any time they would be 1.5m high.

RES reassured they are creating a solar farm only , they do not have the expertise or willingness to install battery storage , these panels will feed 40mgw into the grid and the reason for using the site they are looking at is because of the capacity at the St Lawrence substation to take the power – this is what UK Power networks offered them .

They have been in close contact with the Biodiversity officer at East Suffolk Council and will be enhancing the existing hedgerows with tree planting , so the units will be well screened . There will be permissive footpaths.

The fields to be used are currently heavily cultivated . Once the solar panels are installed there will be sowings of wildflower meadows, installation of beehives, bat boxes, animal and insect habitats and sheep will be brought in to graze, increasing the biodiversity hugely.

A new road to the site will be created from the B1062, this should carry 60% of the construction traffic , reducing the impact on the current narrow lanes, this road will be retained for site access only when the site is complete.

This project as proposed now covers a smaller area because RES have listened to what the community has said.

There will be support for local community projects , Ringsfield Hall was mentioned particularly.

A further public information meeting with the revised plans will be held soon.

### **Financial Matters:**

**29-0423** Account balance stands unchanged from last month at £6225.62

### **Payments to be approved:**

**30-0423** SALC Invoice 26917 Membership 2023/24 for £192.55 to be approved at next meeting

### **A.O.B.**

**31-0423** PH reminded that the expenses for PC Election need to be completed

Next scheduled meeting : Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 after the AGM has been held  
There being no more business , the meeting was drawn to a close at 9.10 pm

Signed:

Dated: