

Fulstow Parish Council Minutes

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Extraordinary Meeting Regarding The Grid Update

Location: Fulstow Village Hall

Date: 22nd February 2024

Time: 7pm

In attendance: Cllr Flinn, Cllr Guillatt, Cllr Larder, Cllr Mann & Cllr Pike. There were also 44 members of the public in attendance

Minutes taken by Clerk & RFO M Lawson

1. Apologies for absence from Cllr Lawson and Cllr Leonard were received and accepted by the Council
2. Declaration of personal/prejudicial interest – No declarations of personal/prejudicial interest were made
3. Chairman's introduction - Cllr Larder welcomed the public to the meeting and explained that as a Parish Council they could only deal with facts regarding the National Grid Upgrade. He also asked that everyone respect other people's views and not to interrupt people when they are speaking. He explained that everyone here had the right to speak and express their own opinions. He then went on to suspend standing order points to allow members of the public to speak for longer than the normal allocated time. He then invited members of the public to speak
4. Public participation - Members of the public addressed the Council with a number of points against the proposed pylons. A selection of the points given were
 - The effects on tourism could be huge
 - The negative effect on food supply due to loss of arable land.
 - Where will the pylons be manufactured and who by?
 - Will pylons be manufactured and delivered on a net zero basis?
 - Costings were not clear or precise, they were very basic. They did not include compensation to communities or individuals along the route of the pylons.
 - National Grid claims that the proposals were the most cost effective with offshore cables 2nd and underground cables the most expensive. These costings have not been fully investigated by National Grid so cannot be relied on.
 - No restriction are put upon the distance between pylons and houses which raised Issues on radiation and the detrimental effect on people's health and noise pollution.
 - Devaluation of house prices
 - Concerns regarding archaeological losses were expressed
 - What effect would they have on marshlands, wildlife and migratory birds
5. End of public participation – A show of hands resulted in unanimous 44 people against the pylons and 0 people supporting the pylons
6. Action points – The Parish Council agreed to support the objections against pylons.
The Clerk will
 - give feedback against the pylons to National Grid via their online consultation
 - emailing Victoria Atkins MP, & completing her survey against the pylons
 - emailing OFGEM, who are Great Britain's independent energy regulator.
7. Date of next Parish Council meeting – 14th March 2024