

Minutes of Meeting.

Meeting title	Community Liaison Group – Wainfleet	
Location	Wainfleet Coronation Hall, Wainfleet All Saints	
Date/ time	Friday 2 nd February 2024 7pm – 8:20pm	
Originator	ODOW	
Attendees	<p>Roisin Alldis, ODOW - RA Sophie Brown, ODOW - SB Dan Clark, ODOW - DC Chris Jenner, ODOW – CJ</p> <p>Wendy Bowkett, Wainfleet Town Council, LCC & ELDC – WB Mick Rust, Wainfleet St Mary Parish Council – MR Clive Shrubsole, Wainfleet St Mary Parish Council – CS Kym Wickham, Friskney Parish Council – KW</p>	
Apologies	None	
Purpose of meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To involve key local stakeholders in the design and development of the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind project (landfall, onshore cable route and substation) through presentations, discussions and planned workshop activities. 2. To act as a two-way communication channel between local communities and the project team. 3. To help foster local involvement and ownership of the project. 	
	1.	<p>Chair’s welcome, terms of reference and introductions</p> <p>CJ, RA and SB opened the meeting and attendees introduced themselves.</p> <p>The group was reminded of the terms of reference.</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were already approved and on the website.</p>

2.

Consultation Overview

The project team has worked to engage local communities through extensive consultation.

During the 15 months of 2023-2024, the project has delivered:

- 16 public engagement events
- 8 webinars
- 1491 attendees at engagement events
- 107 written responses
- 74 phone calls
- 246 Completed feedback forms

The project has received a large number of supportive responses and positive feedback on the consultations.

Themes of interest primarily related to onshore matters such as noise, visual impacts and traffic.

Targeted consultation closed on Jan 19th.

KW asked about the works for the overhead lines near to Wainfleet and whether ODOW had any involvement in working with the National Grid so that they would not be overhead, but potentially underground. WB said that is one of the only ways in which, as a councillor, she could see those lines being approved.

CJ stated that it was a separate project to ODOW and that it would be for National Grid to discuss further with them. He said that ODOW was aware of the project and would be seeking regular updates with regards to this, but ultimately this would be for National Grid to develop further with the local community.

MR asked for confirmation if pylons were mentioned at any point and whether ODOW needed these pylons. CJ confirmed that the ODOW project would be linked up to the National Grid at the substation in Surfleet and that it would not be connected to pylons in the Wainfleet area. He confirmed that National

	<p>Grid would need to get their own DCO for these works. WB said that they probably have not spoken with the RAF regarding these pylons either considering they fly low and that it would impact flight routes and training.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Category 3 Communications</p> <p>Category 3 letters were sent out before Christmas. This is a statutory process and the letters were sent to people who may have an interest in land which may be indirectly affected by the project, e.g. by noise, dust, etc.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>CBF Boundary and Themes Review</p> <p>The aim of the fund is to bring long-lasting value to the communities closest to the project.</p> <p>The team has proposed a number of themes of focus - themes the project hopes to support in the local community.</p> <p>Eligibility criteria have been drafted to set out which applications get through the first sift. This ensures the funding is in line with ODOW standards and those of its partners.</p> <p>Draft award criteria outline how the applications will be scored to ensure that the projects with the highest impact and closest to the project are more likely to get funding.</p> <p>It is likely that the project will appoint a third party to administer the fund.</p> <p>The project wants to incorporate learnings from other developers and feedback gained from the community consultation events.</p>

The fund will be launched once consent has been granted and FID has been taken (estimated to be 2025). In the meantime, ODOW will look to fund a small number of more strategic projects, more likely with larger organisations (like the Boston Woods Trust example) as opposed to a larger number of grass-roots projects during the phase before the CBF is launched. ODOW is seeking suggestions therefore for organisations that are active within the themes presented to explore creation of projects in the run up to CBF launch.

CF Themes

The proposed themes for the CBF are:

1. Nature positive
2. STEM and skills
3. Sustainable enterprise
4. Community health and well-being

It is envisaged that CBF support will also include volunteering and staff engagement.

Draft Eligibility Criteria

It will be necessary for the projects to meet certain criteria. These are being explored, but early suggestions include:

- Have a constitution outlining objectives and rules for the organisation.
- Have a bank account or credit union account set up in the organisation's name.
- Be within the eligibility zone.

- Be aligned with CBF themes.

Exclusions

It was proposed that the following exclusions would likely apply to CBF funding:

- Religious organisations, trade unions and political parties
- Promotion of any kind of discrimination (ages, sexes, ethnicities, or minority groups)
- Requests for funding that benefit a single person.
- Requests for funding to pay for salaries or other ongoing running costs (e.g. rent)
- Recipients that promote illegal or unsafe activities
- Retrospective funding or existing loans or debts
- Requests for funding that relate to public infrastructure.
- Members-only sports clubs or facilities unless they are open to the general public.

Draft Award Evaluation Criteria

In order to help select the most impactful projects, criteria such as the following would most likely be applied:

1. Proximity to project
2. Relevance to community

3. Level of impact

4. Ability to deliver results

Proposed Boundary

The initial “yellow line” boundary was drawn 3km either side of the cable route and 5 km around the substation.

However, it is recognised that this is a very rural area and people living in the 3km zone may access services (such as a village hall or sports field) which are outside of the yellow line boundary.

Therefore, if part of a parish lies within the boundary, then the whole parish will be eligible to apply for funding.

CJ mentioned the recent press release relating to a recent contribution from ODOW for the Boston Woodland Trust.

WB mentioned a need for Wainfleet School which wants to create an ecofriendly project with a pond and that it would probably benefit from a project like this. KW also mentioned discussions around a local community garden and potential mental health benefits and whether a project like that would be considered.

CJ said that they would need to apply when the fund is live.

WB asked how much funding was available in total. CJ said that funding is still being finalised and that it would be allocated on a project-by-project basis.

CS asked if the funding would be similar to previous projects.

		<p>CJ said that they were using previous projects as a basis for how to fund the local community. He stated that it would be administered independently as anti-bribery has to be considered in this.</p>

5.	<p>Timeline</p> <p>The project is still on course to submit its Development Consent Order by the end of Q1 2024. Once submitted, the Planning Inspectorate has 28 days to validate it.</p> <p>WB asked about a layby on the maps near the allotments and the problems this would cause if it was a layby. RA said they would come back to confirm what the map represented although they believed that this was merely for consideration and it had since been removed.</p> <p>KW asked if there were specifications for community groups to apply and whether any projects would be considered outside of the boundary even if they were in the same parish council. CJ confirmed that it would be considered but weighted towards areas more affected by the works.</p> <p>Once validated, there will then be an examination period, probably in H2 2024. This is a participatory process where all residents and stakeholders can attend and/or submit questions. The Inspectors will then question the team on the plans. If approved, consent would be granted in 2025, with constructions starting earliest in 2026 and commercial operations commencing in 2030.</p>
6.	<p>AOB None</p>
7.	<p>Chair's closing remarks and next steps / next meeting</p> <p>The next CLG is expected to be in Summer, but Jenny Marsden will be in touch with details nearer the date. This email will come from contact@outerdowsing.com, please ensure it is added to safe mailing lists.</p>

Meeting Protocol	
Distribute agenda before meeting	Fix responsibilities for each item
Start on time	Finish on time
Set out your ground rules	Publish minutes / actions
Stick to the agenda	Continuous improvement