

Minutes of Meeting.

Meeting title	Landfall Community Liaison Group		
Location	Hogsthorpe Village Hall, Hogsthorpe		
Date/ time	Wednesday 31st January 2024 7pm – 8:20pm		
Originator	ODOW		
Attendees	Sophie Brown, ODOW - SB Dan Clark, ODOW – DC David Wright, Land Manager, ODOW – DW		
	Hannah Fairfield – Willoughby & District Parish Council – HF Dot Morley – Bilsby Parish Council – DM Norman Simmonds – Bilsby Parish Council – NS Pat Wilson-Brown – Bilsby resident – PWB Tony Wilson-Brown – Bilsby resident - TWB		
Apologies	None		
Purpose of meeting	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.		
	To act as a two-way communication channel between local communities and the project team.		
	To help foster local involvement and ownership of the project.		
	1. Chair's welcome, terms of reference and introductions		
	DW and SB opened the meeting and attendees introduced themselves.		
	The group was reminded of the terms of reference.		
	The minutes of the last meeting were approved. DM and NS mentioned they did not receive the last minutes and have requested to send them directly rather than to the clerk. PWB and TWB identified themselves as residents, not current councillors, and PWB identified herself as an ex-councillor.		



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 many 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.

TWB asked if this was available online, DW confirmed that it is available online.

DM reiterated her concern about lorries, as mentioned in the last meeting, and the fact that these lorries should not travel on minor roads, especially considering drivers who misbehave. DW stated that Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind would closely manage contractor performance to ensure minimum disruption where possible and any drivers who did not comply with the traffic management plan and terms of their contract would face consequences.

TWB asked how the responses had been from the consultation. DW confirmed they had been mostly positive and constructive feedback was useful and was being taken into consideration in project planning.

NS spoke about the map that was on display and that there was nothing on Mablethorpe. With big



cables going under the sea from other companies, he asked whether ODOW would be using their trenches to work with other companies to minimise future disruption. DW confirmed that this would not be the case. NS said that he understood that cables were purpose-built for each project but that this was not sustainable for the local region and asked why ODOW had not been more strategic. DW said that there have been cases in the Northwest of England and also in Scotland where different projects have clustered together but that was a matter for the National Grid to comment on.

DW added that the process for gaining seabed space for the project was part of the Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4 that was managed by the Crown Estate and also included sites off the West Coast of England and the English Channel.

NS asked how ODOW proposed to get power from the turbines into the Grid. DW confirmed that this would be via a new substation and that the location had been confirmed near Surfleet.

3. Category 3 Communications

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.



4. CBF Boundary and Themes Review

The aim of the fund is to bring long-lasting value to the communities closest to the project.

The team has proposed four themes of focus themes the project hopes to support in the local community.

Proposed 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.

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.

It is likely that the project will appoint a third party to administer the fund.

The project wants to incorporate learnings from other developers and feedback gained from the community consultation events.

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 grassroots 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.

PWB asked if communities are asked if they would like to receive funding or is it offered. DW confirmed that organisations have to apply for funding and if they have a scheme that would benefit from the funding then they should apply.

TWB asked if the funding is equally split per square mile. DW said that it is likely that projects with a larger impact will receive more funding and that more funding is also weighted to projects closer to the substation. Also, parish councils which are subject to the cabling inconveniences will also be considered.

SB reiterated that the eligibility criteria and themes presented were proposals only to seek their feedback on. Formal criteria would be shared when the fund is launched.

DW said that community work had already started, including volunteering with the Boston Woodland Trust. He said that he anticipated that a lot of funding would be approved around post 2025 period when construction works start and that it would be available around 2026.

NS asked if this information would be available on the website. DW confirmed that it would, but this was a sneak peek for councillors to understand the types of projects that would be considered.

DM asked for confirmation on whether those along the roads where construction traffic was coming would benefit, such as Alford and Bilsby where they would experience more traffic along the A-road, even though the compounds would not be nearby. DW said that they would take this feedback for consideration.



	NS reiterated the importance of this information going on the website so that councillors can signpost organisations to the page.
5.	Timeline 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.
	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 cross-examine the team on the plans. If approved, consent would be granted in 2025, with constructions starting earliest 2026 and commercial operations commencing in 2030.
	TWB asked what they would be using for the temporary haul road and whether chalk would be used. He stated that chalk caused a lot of issues last time in previous projects. DW said it would depend on multiple factors such as weather and ground conditions as to how construction work would proceed.
6.	AOB None
7.	Chair's closing remarks and next steps / next meeting
	The next CLG is expected to be in the summer but Jenny Marsden will be in touch with details nearer the date. his email will come from contact@outerdowsing.com, please ensure it is added to safe mailing lists.
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Start on time	Finish on time
Set out your ground rules	Publish minutes / actions
Stick to the agenda	Continuous improvement