

Minutes of Meeting.

Meeting title	Cable Route South Community Liaison Group
Location	The Beonna at All Saints, Bennington
Date/ time	Tuesday 2 July 2024 7pm – 8:30pm
Originator	ODOW
Attendees	Andrew Acum – ODOW – AA Jenny Marsden – ODOW - JW David Wright – ODOW – DW Sarah Sharpe – Boston Borough Council - SS
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.
	<p>1. Chair's welcome, terms of reference and introductions</p> <p>JM 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 posted on the website.</p>

	<p>2. Project Update</p> <p><u>Project Timeline:</u> The 25,000-page application has been accepted and the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) will pull issue a timetable for the hearings in August. The project anticipates a consent decision by summer 2025. Subject to a consent decision from the Secretary of State, there will be a period to discharge any conditions prior to construction starting from 2027. Construction will last approximately 3 years and it is anticipated that the project will start to generate power in 2030.</p> <p><u>DCO Examination Process:</u> The Relevant Representation period has now closed and representations are available to view on the PINS website. A total of 95 representations were received including one from Fosdyke Parish council and one from Well Parish Meeting. A number of representations were submitted by landowners.</p> <p>The next stage will include a Preliminary Meeting where the examination panel will commence the 6-month Examination process. The hearings are expected to take place between October 2024 and March 2025.</p> <p>The full examination process will take around six months with issue-specific hearings taking place over this period. The five inspectors will inspect the application and focus on areas of interest and to reflect the representations that have been received. There will then be hearings on specialist subjects.</p> <p>The inspectors will then have three months to write a report recommending approval or refusal and this will be sent to the Secretary of State who then has three further months to make a decision.</p> <p>Landowners in the area will receive a 'Rule 8' letter from the Planning Inspectorate detailing the</p>
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		<p>examination process and this may generate some queries to local councillors.</p> <p>Residents can sign up for project updates on the PINS website which will provide notification of key milestones such as when the Rule 8 letters are being sent out.</p> <p>Action: JM will write to all CLG members and let them know that they can sign up for the PINS updates.</p>
	<p>3.</p>	<p>Survey Activity</p> <p>Further survey work is being undertaken across the area. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offshore geophysical surveys from July until later this year. • Onshore geophysical site investigations – in fields – these were completed in June.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Onshore geotechnical boreholes and trial pits were completed in May. These will allow the engineers to have a better understanding of the subsurface geology for HDD and the substation work. Nearshore geotechnical seabed survey off the coast from Anderby Creek is due for completion by the end of July and a jack-up barge will be visible from the beach. At the closest point, it will be 500m from the shore. It is being undertaken during the summer for weather, speed and safety reasons. It will give the engineers an idea of what they will be drilling through and help them design an optimal route. Workers will be ferried in and out from Skegness Yacht Club. Onshore Archaeology trial trench excavation in fields along the route would take place between July-October (est.). This will involve trenches 30-50m in length at locations identified by the geophysical surveys. <p>SS said that she had seen some posters around the village and this had generated some interest on the Facebook page. DW said the signs had all been placed in the same places so that people would realise that it is the same project and not a new one. The signs are on the main roads and on any unregistered land. There may be more notices to go up as sometimes PINS ask for the examination timetable to be displayed along the route.</p> <p>DW said that people will see machinery in fields, but this is just survey work and doesn't mean the project has started yet.</p>
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	<p>4. Outer Dowsing in the community</p> <p><u>Young Engineers</u></p> <p>The ODOW team will attend the Future Fest careers event in Boston to encourage students to consider a career in offshore wind. This is in addition to a previous event at John Spendluffe College that the team attended.</p> <p>The team aims to continue to engage young people in the area to promote STEM skills and is exploring the possibility of purchasing learning equipment to do work with primary schools.</p> <p><u>Lincolnshire Show</u></p> <p>Outer Dowsing was proud to sponsor the show this year for the first time. As one of Lincolnshire's flagship events it was important that we were able to show support for the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society and all that they do to celebrate and support rural Lincolnshire. It also provided a good opportunity to answer questions about the project to interested parties such as landowners and primary schools.</p> <p><u>Community benefit fund</u></p> <p>The formal CBF will launch in 2027 when the project reaches financial close.</p> <p>Ahead of the Community Benefit Fund (CBF), the project is exploring options to support a small number of projects in line with our themes. Most projects proposed so far were more aligned with the CBF. Therefore, ahead of the CBF launch the project will likely focus on developing STEM and Nature Positive related activities such as outdoor learning with local schools, planting/bio-diversity projects and wind workshops.</p>
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	5.	AOB SS said the only feedback she had was regarding the lady who was concerned about giving out her bank details and questions about the signs that had appeared along the route.
	6.	Chair's closing remarks and next steps / next meeting The next CLG is expected to be in the late Autumn but JM will be in touch with details nearer the date.

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