

Minutes of Meeting

Meeting title	Community Liaison Group – Old Leake
Location	Old Leake Community Centre
Date/ time	5 May 2026, 7pm
Attendees	Andrew Acum – Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind – AA Helen Crawford – Fishtoft Parish Council - HC Philip Lapczuk – Hutton Parish Council – PL Jenny Marsden – Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind - JM Greg Tomlinson – Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind - GT David Wright – Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind - DW
Apologies	
Purpose of meeting	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. Chair's welcome, terms of reference and introductions

GT opened the meeting and attendees introduced themselves.

The group was reminded of the terms of reference.

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

2. Project Refresh and Update

The group was given a reminder of the background of the project (see power point slides).

It was noted that there had been extensive consultation throughout the development of the project and this had resulted in changes to the project including moving the onshore cable route.

Consent was granted for the project in February 2026. The project is now procuring assets and services, and is out to market for main asset packages.

An explanation was given about what the DCO award means: that the project has been formally approved by Government and can now go ahead, albeit construction will not start yet. The next steps will be to secure a route to market, progressing project financing arrangements and preparation for construction which is expected to commence in 2028. Onshore construction will complete in 2030 in time for the Grid Connection.

The next phase includes detailed design, further survey works and agreeing detailed plans with Lincolnshire County Council. It was stressed that management of impacts like traffic, noise and disruption is a requirement of the DCO. Detailed plans will be agreed before construction starts to reduce impacts on local communities as much as possible.

Outer Dowsing team reiterated the wish to keep a two-way channel of communication with the community open throughout this period and in the lead up to construction. It was discussed that a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) will be appointed before construction starts to assist with timely resolution of queries or issues. The project will continue to encourage ongoing engagement which will include the continuation of Community Liaison Group (CLG) meetings.

PL asked if the project was using HVDC technical. GT confirmed that the entire project is HVAC and there would be no need for a converter station.

PL also asked about timescales and whether it would have been easier to go the shorter distance to Lincolnshire Node. DW responded that the National Energy System Operator (NESO) decides the connection point and it was through the connection process that it was determined Outer Dowsing would connect at Weston Marsh as this would allow a connection by 2030.

JM asked if the group had any experience engaging with a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) on other projects such as Triton Knoll. PL mentioned that previous CLOs had not been as connected to the community as he would have liked after construction started. Outer Dowsing team stressed that they are keen to learn lessons from other projects prior to construction and will maintain the project's approach to community engagement in the local area, as well as appointing a CLO for the construction period.

PL also raised concerns about some roads not being suitable for heavy vehicles. The project responded to say that contractors would have to follow the traffic management plan which uses the haul road wherever possible,

and utilises main roads not smaller roads. Construction road condition surveys will be carried out with repairs completed wherever necessary. DW said that under the terms of the DCO, all haul roads and accesses are temporary and have to be removed afterwards. However, it was noted that landowners can apply for a Section 278 Agreement which can allow the works to be left in place.

3. Land

The team shared an update that had recently been shared with landowners. The main points were that the project will conduct various surveys in the run up to construction in Q1 2028 (at the earliest). See slides for the detailed timeline. Outer Dowsing shared that there will be continued liaison with landowners throughout the survey work. Any queries related to land should be directed to the ODOW land agent via outerdowsing@dalcourmaclaren.com or 0333 188 5374.

DW shared Outer Dowsing's approach to land rights. Even though the DCO granted CPO powers to Outer Dowsing, ODOW's preference is to secure rights voluntarily. Compulsory acquisition will only be exercised where it has not been possible to reach a voluntary agreement. An update was given showing that the majority of landowners along the route have signed Heads of Terms with the project, and nearly two thirds of landowners have signed option agreements.

4. Archaeological trial trenching

An update was given on archaeological works. Nearly 400 trenches have been excavated but the majority of trenches contained no archaeology of major interest.

Findings included:

- Postmedieval ditches
- Potential Iron Age archaeology including intact horse and cow skulls and pottery
- Potential intact Roman pottery
- Potential medieval pottery
- Potential Salt-working activity

5. Outer Dowsing in the Community

The project gave an update to the group that the Outer Dowsing Energise Workshops launched in 2025 had now been delivered to 14 secondary schools and over 50 primary schools.

The project team also updated the attendees on the careers outreach and engagement, reaching over 10,000 young people in the last 12 months by attending careers fairs and outreach events.

6. Virtual work experience

The team updated the group on a pilot run by Business Lincolnshire that offered a virtual work experience to secondary school pupils. Rather than conventional work experience held in the place of work, this pilot offers in-school workshops, where students were given real-life scenarios and they had to come up with plans to solve these challenges.

7. Youth Representative

The Outer Dowsing representatives enquired with the community liaison group members to see if they would approve of inviting a youth representative. This would be a KS4 student (15/16 years old) who would join CLG meetings to represent the younger members of the community.

This would require a guardian or parent to act as a chaperone, but would give participants an opportunity to engage and also to gain work experience that they can add to their CV.

The project is proposing to seek applications via young farmers and local school groups with a selection committee to be formed if a number of candidates come forward.

The Youth representative idea was gladly received by all attendees. It was pointed out that in Boston as part of the "Pride in Place" workstream young people had been consulted on the town refurbishment of £20m which had worked well and resulted in useful meaningful feedback.

Outer Dowsing will launch the scheme via the newsletter and promote to teachers with a view to having the youth representative in seat for next meeting

8. AOB

PL advised no longer than six months between CLGs to maintain local engagement. He said that the CLGs were a good forum for discussing the project and ensuring that factual information about the project is shared.

9. Chair's closing remarks and next steps / next meeting

The Chair thanked everyone for their time and participation and explained that next CLG is expected to be towards the end of this year, but the team will be in touch with details nearer the date.