

**Pre-meeting Reports  
16 October 2018**

**119. Public Forum**

Residents, including representatives of Save Our Sandlings, made various representations to Council on reasons the new SPR proposals for siting onshore substations at Broom Covert should be robustly refused. The plans were within the AONB and on land designated for wildlife. Some of the representations made are below.

There was concern the consultation was not legal due to the short timespan but it was pointed out by someone who had investigated this that it was the minimum time allowed and was legal. There was concern that any advice the principal councils took on this item was independent and unbiased. There was disappointment that a more overarching and strategic view had not been taken on the whole energy industry in this area. Full agreement that both Friston and Broom Covert were unacceptable and the landfall at Thorpeness was a travesty. Another solution needed to be found.

It was believed and hoped that the Town Council had not had Broom Covert in mind when they had asked SPR to look at EDF land.

There must be much more emphasis put on the balance between industry and the quality of life, community and tourism. The current and future plans completely eroded this.

Many comments on the adequacy of the consultations to date, the efficacy and lack of transparency of the RAG system and the professionalism of the presentations at the public meetings. The lack of answers to questions at these meetings had been frustrating and aggravating.

Other areas along the coast needed to bear some of the energy burden. National Grid were the culprit and were a secretive and unaccountable organisation who couldn't be contacted.

The AONB designation needed to be upheld, especially by the principal authorities. The Broom Hill site suffered from rising ground, the proposed building was too high and the lighting too intrusive. It was a habitat creation/mitigation area and not just reptile receptor land and could not be meaningfully replaced now by EDF should SPR use the site.

A resident asked that [www.saveoursandlings.org.uk](http://www.saveoursandlings.org.uk) be advertised for residents to get further information on this.

*During the above item, the time reached 7.30pm, it was proposed by Cllr Ginger and seconded by Cllr Harle and agreed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the public session to complete.*

**At an extraordinary meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on  
TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2018 at 7.47pm**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor Mrs L Hill (in the Chair)**  
**Councillor D Bailey**  
**Councillor Mrs S Betson**  
**Councillor D Boast**  
**Councillor Miss F Casagrande**  
**Councillor T M Cooper**  
**Councillor Mrs S M Geater**  
**Councillor C Ginger**  
**Councillor P Harle**  
**Councillor T E Hodgson**  
**Councillor W H Howard**  
**Councillor J N Last**  
**Councillor S Levermore**  
**Councillor D Morsley**  
**Councillor S O'Reilly**

**120. Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Casagrande and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 2 October 2018 be signed as a true record.

**121. Apologies**

All present.

**122. Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Cooper in all planning.

**123. Scottish Power Renewables – Community Consultation Stage 3.5**  
East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two onshore substations.

SPR had held public consultation meetings, including one in Leiston on 9 October, to explain the new plans brought forward since the previous Public Information Days for a substation to possibly be situated on Broom Covert at Sizewell. Their event was well attended and many residents had voiced their concerns there, and again during the public session earlier in the evening before this meeting (noted above).

Members began their consideration by commenting on the inadequate consultation process. SPR may have used the minimum statutory time for this latest consultation but this had not given them enough time to present as much detail as had been put together for the Friston proposal and had not given residents enough time to assess it. SPR stated that they needed to do a robust and fair consultation for the Planning Inspectorate. They have clearly not done this to date (public Information Days were woefully advertised) and have not fulfilled their statutory obligation to fully consult albeit they are within the time limit for this latest phase. It was proposed by Cllr Morsley, seconded by Cllr Betson and agreed that a request be sent immediately to Dr Coffey and

the SofS for them to instruct SPR to extend the deadline for this consultation and to provide more detail.

Members then went on to express concern on the concentration of energy that was being designated to this area with just one national grid line running out. With 30% of the nation's energy being scheduled for these lines security of supply becomes a huge issue. The impact on the AONB is unacceptable and, as with Friston, the countryside is a wholly inappropriate place for continued industrialisation. There has to be sites up and down this coast much more suitable to accept industry than the Sandlings and the AONB. The access road on Lover's Lane was not supported and it was put forward that, should this be thrust upon us, all traffic should go down to Sizewell and use the existing Galloper/Gabbard entrance. With no details of transport requirements provided it had to be assumed that there would be substantial HGV traffic accompanying the cable route and substation site and the B1122 was, albeit the designated HGV route to Sizewell, unsuitable for this projected increase in use. The actual grid connection was not detailed and would probably impose further structures and groundworks around Halfway Houses not included in this consultation.

It was proposed by Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed that the Clerk writes a response to this (3.5) consultation which makes the above arguments for robustly refusing to support the Broom Covert site. It was further proposed by Cllr Levermore and seconded by Cllr Betson that all members previous objections to all the other sites be maintained and that SPR be directed to look for another landfall. Finally, members all agreed that it would be inappropriate to address mitigation at this stage and would be more relevant at Stage 4.

*The meeting took a break between 8.37pm and 8.53pm*

## **124. Planning Matters**

- a) DC/18/3006/VOC – Application Ref DC/17/4645/OUT Date of Decisions 19/04/2018 – Condition Numbers 6,8,9 Conditions Removal: Change of parking layout within the site substitute drawing 1707 PO3 with Drawing 1707 PO3 (rev B) at The Mill, 22 Carr Avenue, Leiston.

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

- b) DC/18//3897/FUL – To construct a new building for use as a Storage and Distribution (B8) facility on a vacant site similar to an earlier building destroyed by fire at 11 Eastlands Industrial Estate, Eastlands Road, Leiston

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

- c) DC/18/3787/FUL – Removal of glass conservatory roof and windows and replacement with newer, energy efficient windows and a lightweight tiled (warmroof) roof. Window and roof frame colour is white and will remain so. The shingle type tiles will be charcoal in colour to best match tiles on house at 4 Woodlands, Leiston

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

- d) DC/18/3278/FUL – Proposed housing development of 3 houses with

associated parking and access at 5-9 Cross Street, Leiston. Members were concerned about the entrance to the site and also noted that the parking provision was only half that required by the Neighbourhood Plan. These concerns had also been noted by Highways and the application was recommended for refusal on these grounds.

**RECOMMEND REFUSAL**

- e) DC/18/3942/FUL – To put in a dropped curb into property to allow access for ambulance to get in at 148 King Georges Avenue, Leiston

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

**125. Questions to the Chairman**

Cllr Betson asked if the chairman was aware that residents had so far donated over £200 toward purchasing a “There but not there” Tommy.

The meeting finished at 9.15pm.

Chair -----

Dated -----