

## LITTLE WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of Little Waltham Parish Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 at 7pm at the Pavilion, The Street, Little Waltham

Present: Councillors                      Antony Kingham (Chairman)  
    John Burrow  
    Rupert Watson  
    Suzanne Walker  
Clerk

Ten members of the public were present

#### **23/130            Apologies**

Received from Councillors Allen and Godfrey.

#### **23/131            Declarations of Interest**

None

#### **23/132            To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

The minutes of the meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were formally **approved** by Councillors as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

#### **23/133            Public Forum – To receive any representations from the Public**

Councillor Burrow explained the background regarding the proposals for the Pylons from Norwich to Tilbury and the fact that the proposals are for 50 foot high pylons to be constructed through the pinch point between Little Waltham and Great Waltham and the fact that this is opposed by the Parish Council. There is a current consultation which expires on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 and the Parish Council has already submitted representations in early July. However, he confirmed that he had attended an engagement event with National Grid on 12<sup>th</sup> July where more information had come to light where a representative of National Grid indicated that if the Parish Council were to make further representations there is the possibility that instead of the pylons the route could be underground. Also, another route has come to light which although National Grid indicates would have less impact on the heritage and residents of the area they are choosing not to pursue. It was noted that there have been some changes to the proposals in certain areas as a result of representations made so it was considered worthwhile making further representations for this area.

Councillor Burrow then took the meeting through a detailed statement and took questions from residents. The statement sets out 4 options in order of priority. The first preference would be for the whole project to be offshore. The second preference would be for the route to be underground and the issue of heritage, listed monuments, the Conservation area, together with the impact on wildlife and the Little Waltham nature reserve as well as residents was highlighted. The third option would be for the route that avoids Little Waltham and Great Waltham and that was proposed by National Grid to be used as it would avoid the area and again impact on heritage and the environment. It was noted that the document produced by National Grid recognises that this route would have the least impact on the area. The fourth

preference would be to move one pylon closer to or behind the copse in Great Waltham and for their to be 35 foot pylons instead of 50 foot pylons.

**23/134 To re-consider the representations to be made in relation to the Norwich to Tilbury National Grid pylon consultation.**

Having considered the draft representations as presented by Councillor Burrow, all Councillors **agreed** to approve and adopt the representations and for them to be sent to National Grid. Also, the representations will be uploaded to the Parish Council website. Great Waltham Parish Council will also be made aware of the representations with the request that they support the points made.

Councillor Burrow had also produced a leaflet for all residents which Councillors **approved** and **agreed** to pay the invoice of £100.00 for printing of the leaflets. Councillor Burrow said that he would like a second leaflet drop closer to the deadline at a similar cost and this was also **agreed** by Councillors.

Meeting concluded at 8.05pm