

PPES Supporting Documents - 19th June 2025

PP25/6-015 Minutes

To resolve to approve as a correct record the notes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24th April 2025 and to authorise the Chair to sign the official minutes.

<https://holbeach.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/1510/2024-5-12-ppes-draft-notes-24th-april-2025>

PP25/6-016 Clerk's report

1. To receive a report from the Clerk.

PP25/6-017 Planning applications

1. To resolve to agree the planning responses:

Fair View Holbeach Drove Gate

H09-0544-25 - Rear extension to dwelling

2. To resolve to agree the way forward with the Meridian Solar development.

Objection Letters from Parishioners:

a. Stage Two Consultation

Objection to Proposed Solar Farm by Meridian Solar

We have lived in Holbeach Drove for nearly 40 years and have enjoyed being surrounded by open countryside looking out onto fields of crops with all the wildlife that thrives within those fields.

We strongly object to the proposed Solar Farm by Meridian Solar for the following reasons:

1

SIZE - The size of the proposed project is more than ten times that of any other current solar farm and is totally out of all proportion to the area. This would lead to total industrialisation of our valuable and quality farmland

2

FARMLAND - The proposal would take away some of the finest agricultural land in the area, if not the country. Much of this land is designated as Best and Most Versatile (BMV) and its use for solar farms should be kept to a minimum and as a last resort as defined in The National Policy Statement and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

3

FOOD LOSS - We should be focussing on producing our own food and placing less reliance on importing from abroad – thus reducing our carbon footprint. This also gives us more security in a very volatile and dangerous world. The Government has just announced that we are on a War Footing and we should therefore be putting even more emphasis on growing our own food to give us the food security we need. All the electricity in the world is no good if we don't have enough food

4

STEEL PILES - The siting of 375,000 steel piles and the related concrete will mean that the land will be unsuitable to be brought back as agricultural land in the future. The process for manufacturing and siting the piles is also environmentally unfriendly and will negate any benefit to be derived from the solar farm

5

FUTURE FOR SITE - We further understand that when the solar panels have reached the end of their life, there is no intention in any event to return the land back to agricultural use so will be

considered as brownfield. This could then be used for any building projects and the opportunity to grow our own food would be lost forever

6

GLOBAL WARMING - Temperatures will rise in solar farms and as global warming is becoming of concern this can only add to that worry

7

FIRES - Studies have shown that the batteries are likely to overheat and cause fires. We understand that fire departments are unable to put these fires out and they have to burn out themselves resulting in toxic fumes and the possibility of causing wild fires. We have seen recent incidents of wild fires and the devastation they can cause to rural communities. This will be an ongoing threat and worry to local residents as the current plans are to site the battery storage units very close to residences

8

FLOODING - In recent times the fields are increasingly flooding due to the heavy and prolonged periods of rain. Siting solar panels can only increase this threat due to the amount of concrete pumped into the land and the lack of vegetation to soak up water as well as less open ground for it to soak away into

9

WILDLIFE - Our wildlife would no longer have anywhere to live and thrive. We have numerous deer, foxes, hares, rabbits, hedgehogs as well as many different species of birds. Many of these creatures are on endangered lists and this will only add to their demise

10

LOCAL ECONOMY - There is no gain to the local economy or community from this proposal. The food produced from the agricultural land would be lost and any energy derived from the solar farm would be used elsewhere in the country or even abroad

2

11

CONSTRUCTION - We are very concerned about the construction phase of the proposal, particularly in relation to the roads. The site traffic would be considerable and large and our roads are just not up to this extra burden. They are narrow with drains on either side and extremely soft verges which makes passing an oncoming vehicle extremely treacherous. There have been numerous accidents with vehicles ending up in the drains

12

PYLONS - We are extremely concerned about the size and number of the pylons that will be required to connect the solar farm to the National Grid. We understand these to be 50m high which is out of all proportion to the villages and surrounding countryside. We also worry about the health implications of having the pylons so close to homes

13

COMPULSORY PURCHASE We have heard of other projects sending out letters indicating land and homes may be compulsorily purchased and this would be a huge worry for us

We realise that green energy is a priority but solar panels should be sited on brownfield sites, on industrial buildings and on contaminated or industrial land. We don't see any evidence that this alternative siting has been sought

Please don't ruin the planet trying to save the planet!

b. STAGE TWO CONSULTATION

Objection to Proposed Solar Farm by Meridian Solar

We strongly object to the proposed Solar Farm by Meridian Solar for the following reasons:

1

This should not be sited on prime farmland (Grade 1,2 and 3) but should be on brownfield, industrial or contaminated land. As we live in a very volatile and unsafe world we need all of our food security.

2

It is our understanding that the site will not be returned to its former condition at the end of life of the solar farm meaning the land will become brownfield and food production will be forever lost

3

The production of solar panels together with the infrastructure needed for the site is environmentally bad as is the decommissioning and recycling (or otherwise) of same therefore destroying any benefit derived from the project

4

The site will ruin the rural nature of the land and countryside as well as interfere with the lives of the animals and birds that have their habitats in the area

5

There is a definite risk of fire from the battery storage units and these should not be sited near houses. We do not see that you have included any mitigation or risk assessment of potential fires or how the fire departments would handle them

6

The roads in the area are very narrow, in some cases only wide enough for one vehicle. The ground is also very soft with negligible verges and drains on either side. These will be totally unsuitable for the large amount of HGV's that will be here during construction

7

As the 375,000 piles will be set in concrete this does not sit comfortably with protecting our environment. Not to mention the production and transportation of all materials from across the world

8

The 50m pylons will be totally out of all proportion for the area and these together with the solar farm will completely industrialise our County. We are also concerned about health risks associated with pylons

9

During the construction phase we have heard of other communities having the value of their properties drop by 30%. As the construction can take many years this is something we find totally unacceptable

Although renewable energy is something we support, it should be sited in the right place. Prime agricultural land is not the right place – it should be brownfield, industrial or contaminated land

PP25/6-018 Speeding

1. To resolve to agree the SID locations for July.

2. To resolve to agree quotes for 2 solar powered Speed Indicator Devices.

[Quotes requested from ElanCity / Uniparservices / Unipart Dorman / Westcotec / Start Safety / Stocksigns](#)

3. To receive an update on Edinburgh Walk following an email from Lincolnshire County Council.

Thank you for your email regarding Edinburgh Walk.

While we understand and appreciate the concerns raised by residents, our initial assessment suggests that implementing a one-way system may not lead to an overall improvement in safety. The current arrangement, where vehicles must navigate on a give-and-take basis when meeting traffic from the opposite direction, tends to naturally moderate vehicle speeds.

Our experience has shown that introducing a one-way system can reduce vehicle conflict but often results in increased traffic speeds, which could potentially create new safety concerns.

We're sorry we cannot be more supportive of the proposal at this time, but please be assured that we will continue to monitor the situation and consider any further suggestions.

4. To resolve to agree to request the results of a recent Archer Survey on Barrington Gate.

PP25/6-019 Properties

1. To receive an update on Electrical Installation Condition Report on council properties.
2. To discuss and resolve to agree the way forward with a Council property.
3. To resolve to agree way forward with Project Management for Park Bungalow.

Good Afternoon Jan,

Following our discussions, as the project is a renovation and on a fairly small scale then I wouldn't think you would not need to go into a project manager.

I think with the appointed contractors insurance, quotation, project timeline along with yourself and the responsibility all parties take through the Building Control process and inspections that should cover all basis on this project.

4. To resolve to agree quotes on Building Regulations for Park Bungalow.
5. To resolve to agree the rent increase for Holbeach Bank Playing Field.
6. To resolve to agree a response in regard to a replacement noticeboard at Holbeach Hurn Village Hall.



7. To resolve to agree to obtain quotes for the fence around Park Bungalow.
8. To resolve to agree to obtain quotes for fencing around Park Road Cemetery.
9. To resolve to agree the location of the noticeboard for the Cemetery Chapels.
10. To receive an update on the change of name of a Council Tenant.
11. To receive an update on the works to the Pavilion at Carter's Park.

PP25/6-020 Budgets

1. To review current budgets and spends.

PPES BUDGET											
BUDGET EXPENDITURE											
BUDGET HEADINGS	Speeding Costs	Professional Fees	Changing Places Toilet	4 High Street Repairs & Maintenance	4a High Street Repairs & Maintenance	2 High Street Repairs & Maintenance	Coubro Chambers Repairs & Maintenance	Defibrillator	Council Tax Properties	Cemetery Chapels Electricity	YEAR
Budget Allocated 2025/26	£2,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,500.00	£500.00	£11,000.00	£500.00	£4,000.00	£2,000.00	£300.00	£400.00	
Total	£2,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,500.00	£500.00	£11,000.00	£500.00	£4,000.00	£2,000.00	£300.00	£400.00	£23,200.00
Expenditure											
Expenditure Details	Speeding Costs	Professional Fees	Changing Places Toilet	4 High Street Repairs & Maintenance	4a High Street Repairs & Maintenance	2 High Street Repairs & Maintenance	Coubro Chambers Repairs & Maintenance	Defibrillator	Council Tax Properties	Cemetery Chapels Electricity	YEAR
Installation of Post - Boston Road North & 10 Speeding Signs	£400.00										£400.00
Boston Road North Post - Resident Payment	-£200.00										-£200.00
Total	£200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£200.00
TOTALS	Speeding Costs	Professional Fees	Changing Places Toilet	4 High Street Repairs & Maintenance	4a High Street Repairs & Maintenance	2 High Street Repairs & Maintenance	Coubro Chambers Repairs & Maintenance	Defibrillator	Council Tax Properties	Cemetery Chapels Electricity	Total
Total Expenditure	£200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£200.00
Budget Remaining	£1,800.00	£1,000.00	£1,500.00	£500.00	£11,000.00	£500.00	£4,000.00	£2,000.00	£300.00	£400.00	£23,000.00