

**Minutes of the
Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe
Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting**

**19th December 2022 7pm,
Robin Hood Theatre, Averham.**

Present: Cllrs A Fereday (Chair), Cllrs J Allan, J Miller, I Bradey & Cllr Emeny
Cllr S Saddington (part), Cllr R Blaney

Ex-officio: Sue Jackson, Clerk

Absent: None

26 members of the public were also present

AKS 22-93	Apologies received. Cllrs V Hird and J Towlerton had sent apologies. A vote was held and apologies were accepted.	
AKS 22-94	Declarations of interest from Members in any item to be discussed. Cllr Miller declared an indirect interest and did not take part in the closed session or the vote.	
AKS 22-95	Open Public Session for discussion on the proposed BESS at Staythorpe The following points were raised by the members of the public in attendance:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No BESS this big has yet been constructed in the UK, fewer than 10 have been approved but none so close to houses. • This would have an overbearing impact on the village in terms of noise, flood risk and fire risk. Charging the batteries is proposed for 3am – 5am when all the fans will be running to keep them cool. • This is not a green solution, how does this fit in with NSDC's net green target? • The risk of flooding was not included in any of the application documents submitted to NSDC. The whole area flooded in 2007 Cllr Saddington arrived at this point. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The traffic survey was carried out between 9:30 am and 1:30 pm on a day when the schools were off and there was a rail strike so reducing traffic on the roads • The proposed site entrance is on an oblique bend on a road with a 50mph limit. • The cumulative effect of other proposed solar and BESS facilities both in the parish and surrounding parishes. • The loss of agricultural land impacting on food security when other land is available. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliament is currently debating whether these sites should be considered hazardous • Run off of contaminated water resulting from fighting a fire could not be contained. • According to NSDC's Core Strategy (Fig 4) the landscape character of area is considered to be TW10 – conserve and create. • The environmental impact of batteries brings into doubt how green this solution is. <p>Cllr Blaney was asked when NSDC would make a decision on the application and reported that it may not be until February to allow for all the information to be assessed. The cumulative impact of any other proposed developments can't be a consideration until planning applications are received for them.</p> <p>The statute on decisions is 13 weeks, any extension to that has to be with the agreement of the applicant. If they don't agree either the application will be refused or the application can lodge an appeal for Non Determination but that is a long process so an agreement is better for the applicant.</p> <p>The open session of the meeting was then closed.</p>	
AKS 22-96	<p>Planning Applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22/01840/FULM Construction and operation of a BESS, land south of Staythorpe <p>This was discussed, all councillors supported the views of the public raised at the meeting and added the following additional points:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Allen - NSDC Core Strategy – Scale of developments should be small scale and not detrimental to the area Land is a mix of 3a and 3b agricultural land The inference that it is a good site because of its location near the substation is purely financial. It is possible to locate a site further away from a substation. Proximity to a residential community, fire and flood risk, noise pollution, any archaeology on the land, light pollution from security lights and the siting of CCTV cameras makes it wholly inappropriate. • Cllr Emeny – any safeguards relating to Health and Safety should be included in the conditions if this application is approved because they are frequently ignored. Commercial gain is elsewhere. Anywhere can be connected but this is cheaper because of its location. • Cllr Cobley – Supports every already said this evening and added that the cumulative effect of other proposed sites in the area. Staythorpe only has one road in and out of the village. Any fire at the site would be allowed to burn because there is no way to tackle it and an Evacuation Plan would be needed. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Bradey – Agreed with everything said and added his concerns re the traffic, the entrance would be on an oblique bend. Having read the Development Framework from NSDC it goes against everything stipulated for a rural location. The site may attract crime especially in relation to cable theft • Cllr Fereday – Any flood risk does not appear to have been discussed with the Environment Agency [Who has submitted the application is not a Material Consideration but if the application is approved, any agreements and conditions imposed as part of the approval should be passed on to subsequent owners or operators.] <p>It was proposed by Cllr Cobley that the members objected to the Planning Application 22/01840/FULM. This was seconded by Cllr Emeny and a vote held. The vote was carried unanimously</p> <p>Cllr Blaney said he understood the concerns of the Public and the Parish Council. Chair thanked Cllr Blaney for his input.</p>	<p><i>Not attributed to Cllr Fereday</i> <i>AF</i></p>
	The meeting closed at 8.21pm	

Chairman: 

Date: 16.01.23