

Public meeting of Shafton Parish Council

Minutes

Monday 30 January 7pm 2023. Shafton Community Centre

Present

Parish Councillors Cllr Dave North (Chair), Cllr R Booker , Cllr P Archer, Cllr D Hall, Cllr K Wicks, Cllr J Johnson, , and D Gill (Clerk to the Council)

Elected representatives -. Cllr Ashley Peace, Cllr Jeff Ennis,

Guest speakers Lee Adams European Sales Director Enviromena Asset Management UK Limited and Mark Harding - proposals for a solar farm on land at Engine Lane, Grimethorpe.

74. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

75. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Cllr L Knight, Cllr R Swaby, and Cllr Anita Cherryholme.

76. Declaration of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest. (Disclosures of Interests)

Cllr Ashley Peace declared an interest as a member of the planning committee and left the meeting whilst officers from Enviromena gave their presentation.

77. Minutes of the previous meeting, held on Monday 28 November 7pm 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 28 November 7pm 2022 were read.

78. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

58.2 Bulb planting volunteers

The Chair thanked all the volunteers who took part in the daffodil planting on Monday 7 November and stated the bulbs would make a wonderful display.

72.1 Shafton Parish Council Christmas Tree switch on event Thursday 1st December 4:30

The Chair stated that the Shafton Parish Council Christmas Tree event had gone very well.

69.1 Speeding Cars - Damon Brown Barnsley MBC Highways Network Manager

The Clerk reported that Mr Damon Brown Barnsley MBC Highways Network Manager was making enquiries regarding the ownership of the speed indicator

device at the bottom of Dog Hill which had not worked for some time and was in need of a new battery.

The Chair asked the Clerk to contact Barnsley BMC and request more traffic warden patrols.

79. Ratification of the minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

80. Business items

80.1 Proposals for a solar farm on land at Engine Lane, Grimethorpe.

Mr Lee Adams and Mr Mark Harding officers from Enviromena gave their presentation, outlining major plans to create a solar farm the size of more than 160 football pitches which would help power around 20 percent of the borough's homes.

Clean energy solutions company Enviromena operates on an international scale to provide clients with safe, affordable, and reliable solutions to meet their growing sustainable power demands and drive a cleaner future.

Headquartered in the UK with regional offices in Italy and Dubai, Enviromena operates across Europe, the Middle East and Africa and has more than 15 years' global experience in developing, designing, constructing, managing, and operating ground-breaking renewable energy projects.

The proposed site is located off Engine Lane in Grimethorpe comprises of three land parcels.

Development size 217 acres.

No planning application has yet been made to Barnsley Council as they are carrying out consultations first, so far 2000 consultation letters have been sent out to residents.

The site would be protected by CCTV security cameras.

Solar farms make minimal noise.

If the project went ahead a community grant of between twelve to fifteen thousand pounds would be granted to Shafton Parish Council. Enviromena would prefer a renewable energy project but in the past play areas have also been constructed.

A public question answer session then took place.

How long the scheme would last ?

The scheme would last 40 years at the end of its 40-year life span the equipment will be removed and the site restored to its original form.

Would electricity be cheaper for Shafton?

No as energy price are set by regulators.

When would construction start?

At the end of this year if given planning permission.

What are the benefits of the solar farm ?

- It would support the Councils bid to be Net zero.
- It would bring in one hundred thousand pound in business rates.
- Enviromena would try to use local contractors.

How will the solar farm fit in with the landscape there could be glare form the solar panels?

- The site would be screened with hedges if needed.
- The panel are fixed, and highest point is 2.6 m form the ground.
- There would be a landscape and biodiversity plan.

Cllr Jeff Ennis stated that there was an active residents' group in Grimethorpe and as part of the site was located near Grimethorpe he hoped this group could benefit from remuneration form Enviromena.

The Chair thanked Lee Adams and Mark Harding for their attendance.

80.2 King's Coronation

The King's coronation will take place on Saturday 11 May with an extra bank holiday on Monday 8th May.

A general discussion too place regarding marking the day with some kind of event.

Suggestions included:

A similar event to the Queen's jubilee.

Cost, time scales and lack of volunteers were thought to be against this type of event.

Cllr Peace suggested a Picnic in the Park and to asked Cllr Linda Knight if the Shafton Community group were organising anything. This was thought to be a more feasible idea.

It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the next Shafton Parish Finance and General-Purpose committee meeting.

81.0 Public Questions

A member of the public asked if the parish had heard back from Barnsley MBC Highways Network Manager regarding her question to him at the last meeting regarding help with horse safety signage.

The Clerk said he had heard nothing back as yet.

82. Correspondence.

82.1 PLANNING APPLICATION NO: 2023/0005 DESCRIPTION:

First floor rear extension LOCATION: 1 Holly Farm, Shafton, Barnsley, S72 8US Barnsley Metropolitan

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council has received the application referenced above and ask Shafton Parish If they have any objections or comments to make.

The were no comments.

82.2 Bridleway meeting update - and Parish Council Shafton triangle claim

The Clerk stated he had forward on an email to members from Senior Rights of Way Officer giving a Bridleway meeting update and asked for comments in due course when they had time to study the email.

83. Any other business.

Cllr J Ennis It was pointed out that the meetings on- Monday 29 May 7pm was a bank holiday.

It was proposed to cancel this meeting and hold the Annual General Meeting on the 22 May

Agreed

84. Date and time of next meetings.

Monday 27 March 7pm

Monday 24 April 7pm

Annual General Meeting Monday 22 May 7pm

Monday 26 June 7pm