**Minutes of a Meeting of Paston Parish Council held on**

**Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 7.00pm in**

**St Margaret`s Church, Paston.**

**Present**: Nick Bardswell (Chairman), Boo Tumber (Vice-Chairman), Maggie Brett, Ashlee Cotter, Denise McKeough, Dee Holroyd (clerk), Cllr Pauline Porter (NNDC), Victoria Crawford (Murphy Group) and William Sealy (RWE offshore windfarm installation). One member of the public.

1 **Apologies for Absence**: Pip Clabon. Ed Maxfield (hoping to come on from Trimingham parish council’s meeting)

2 **Declarations of Interest**: none

3. **Presentation by Victoria Crawford (Local Liaison Officer - Murphy) and William Sealy (Commercial Liaison Officer of RWE):** William Sealy showed a series of slides, the first depicting a map of the route the cabling will take, running approximately 60 kms southwest from Happisburgh via a number of access sites in North Walsham, Aylsham, Reepham, East Dereham, ending in Necton, near Swaffham, where the DC would be converted to AC to go into the grid. The Paston site was carefully checked for archaeological works before work began and is now completed and ducting work will begin there in June. The cable will go through ducts laid in trenches and protected by a strong protective plate. All topsoil will be carefully removed and replaced on completion. Replanting of any trees which might have to be removed will be done in consultation with the landowner. All access points should be completed by April. 276 turbines will be erected across the Norfolk Offshore Wind Zone at three neighbouring sites, thirty miles offshore. The first turbines are expected to be in place in around 2027/2028, with the whole zone to be completed late 2030/31. Together, they will produce 4.2GW of green electricity, enough for over 4 million homes.

Community Fund is in place for green initiatives for all parishes, and their neighbouring parishes through which the cabling is to go. Access via the Norfolk Community Foundation

The head office for the project is in Aylsham. There is a lot of information available at <https://norfolkwind.me/Enews>. Nine information events have been held in villages along the route as well as at the Norfolk and Aylsham shows..

**4. Cllr EM**: intended to come on from Trimingham Parish Council meeting but time overtook him. He had sent his report which had been circulated.

**Cllr PP** told the meeting that Bacton was a potential site for a small, very safe and self-maintaining, nuclear reactor. These small reactors created no waste and had been used in Canada and the USA for some 50 years

**5 Minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2024**: were agreed and signed by the chairman, proposed BT, seconded DM.

6 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**: Bears Road repairs. Highways had agreed to carry these out. DH to send a reminder.

7. **Parish Councillors reports:**

NB reported that bottles of drinking water had been delivered in Paston during the recent mains water leak and opinion in the village was that this should have been publicised by a notice in the village centre and messages. Otherwise it was considered that local people had been kept well informed

NB reported on the Sir William Paston charity: the trustees having promised to keep the PC informed of any major developments. Prior to the meeting he had copied and pasted the following response from the Charities Commission to the trustees’ request to amend the charity’s objects. The amendment was to turn it into a charity to provide alms houses accommodation legally and also to benefit the village generally. The Almshouses Association had approved the changes.

“SIR WILLIAM PASTON - 245355

Thank you for submitting the application to change your charity’s objects clause.  Your request has been successful and you now have the Charity Commission’s formal consent under s.280A of the Charities Act 2011 (as amended) to amend the objects clause to read:

1 the provision of alms-house accommodation for persons in housing need who are residents of the Parish of Paston Norfolk or have relatives living in Paston  
  
2 Such charitable purposes (according to the law of England and Wales) for the benefit of the parish of Paston and its residents as they see fit from time to time, in particular but not limited to providing assistance for children and residents in need and preserving and improving the environment of the village of Paston in relation to its recreational facilities, its amenities and its animal and plant life.”

  The trustees were also amending the governing document to enable four trustees to be appointed, which the Almshouses Association had recommended.

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8. **Financial Report:** The precept had been agreed at the November meeting and would remain unchanged at £7,264. The bank reconciliation and cash book had been circulated, showing a current credit balance of £11,961.85.

Expenditure since the November meeting had been:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 30/11/2024 | Unity | 6.00 |  | Bank charges |  |  |  |
| 06/12/2024 | D C Holroyd | 278.70 |  | Salary/  office |  |  |  |
| 31.12.24 | Unity | 6.00 |  | Bank charges |  |  |  |

9.  **Next meeting:** 6th March 2025 at Paston church**.**