



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on
Wednesday 26th February 2025 at 7:00pm, at the Town Hall, Sleaford**

Present: Councillors Alison Snookes (Chairman of the Committee), Malcolm Offer (Vice-Chairman of the Committee) Nadim Aziz, Pat Cockcroft, Dave Darmon, Linda Edwards-Shea, Ken Fernandes and David Suiter

Also Present: Mr Chris Pilkington (Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

25.18 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

25.19 APOLOGIES

Apologies for the meeting and a reason for absence from it had been received from Cllr Stephen Shanahan-Kluth.

RESOLVED: That the reason for absence of Cllr Shanahan-Kluth be approved.

25.20 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

25.20.1 TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 31 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT INTERESTS UNDER THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

Cllrs Edwards-Shea and Suiter declared that they were members of the Planning Committee at North Kesteven District Council.

25.20.2 TO RECEIVE AND DECIDE UPON REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS TO COUNCILLORS TO TAKE PART IN DISCUSSIONS AND VOTES WHERE THEY HAVE DECLARED DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None.

25.21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

25.22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was noted that the minutes should have read 'D Suiter' rather than 'S Suiter'.

RESOLVED: That with that one amendment the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 5th February 2025, be confirmed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman of the Committee.

25.23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

25.23.1 PLANNING APPLICATION 23/1419/FUL, INSTALLATION OF A SOLAR FARM COMPRISING GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PV PANELS WITH A GENERATING CAPACITY OF UP TO 49.99MW (AC), INCLUDING MOUNTING FRAMEWORK, INVERTERS, UNDERGROUND CABLING, STOCK PROOF FENCE, CCTV, INTERNAL TRACKS AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, LANDSCAPING AND ECOLOGICAL WORKS FOR A TEMPORARY PERIOD OF 50 YEARS. LAND FORMED BY TWO PARCELS OF LAND ON THE EASTERN AND WESTERN SIDE OF MAREHAM LANE BETWEEN THE VILLAGES OF SCREDINGTON AND SILK WILLOUGHBY, SLEAFORD, LINCS

RESOLVED: That the Town Council oppose the application on the same grounds as NKDC planning officers are recommending refusal in their report to the NKDC Planning Committee meeting on 4th March. Namely concerns about the potential impact on heritage assets. Moreover that the Council also object to it on the grounds of the potential impact on biodiversity (e.g. toads, newts and deer) as detailed by other responses to the application, on the grounds of the visual impact on the countryside, the loss of agricultural land and on the grounds of overdevelopment given other proposed solar farms in the district (e.g. Heckington) and the proposed Lincolnshire Reservoir.

25.24 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: To note that the next meeting of the Planning Committee will take place on Wednesday 5th March 2025 at 7pm, at the Town Hall, Sleaford

26th February 2025

Signed:

Date: