



~~UN~~APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
PETTISTREE PARISH COUNCIL

ON 22 AUGUST 2025 AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, PETTISTREE

48/25-26 **PRESENT AND APOLOGIES**

Present: Cllr Jones (Chair), Cllr Chilvers, Cllr Harrison and Cllr Smith.

In attendance: A. Staples (Clerk). Apologies received from Cllrs Over, Hayward and Warburg. Their absences were approved. Apologies also received from District Councillor Noble and County Councillor Nicoll.

49/25-26 **COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS AND TO RAISE ISSUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Seven members of the public attended. Issues were raised in relation to agenda item **52/25-26.1**:

- Adverse visual impacts caused to the landscape, highlighting the panels will be highly visible from a significant number of viewpoints in the surrounding parishes.
- BSR's misunderstanding of the guidance on what amounts to a "valued landscape", with which the site confirmed potentially qualifies, it being a river valley and associated with buildings of heritage value.
- Inadequacy of the plans in relation to the location of the fencing.
- Inadequacy of the proposed mitigations.
- Duration of this planning process, taking over four years, causing long-term uncertainty and anxiety to resident in the vicinity.
- Vast number of documents that have now been filed, making the process of objecting very complex for residents.
- Perception of the bias shown by ESC in favour of the developers, seemingly taking great pains to accommodate their issues, whilst paying scant regard to local residents and parish councils.
- Whether ESC truly be considered impartial given the huge cash payments that are being made to them by solar developers for "pre-access advice".
- Traffic implications for Loudham Hall Road, risks to the safety of road users during the construction phase, and during routine maintenance thereafter. The need for traffic management conditions on any grant of permission,

such as lay-bys, one-way routes, etc. to stop opposing traffic meeting head on.

- Traffic implications for Wickham Market, given that is already having to deal with the increase in traffic caused by Sizewell.
- There already being a solar park in the Loudham area; further development is saturating this area of the Suffolk coast.
- Lack of any genuine benefit for residents in this area, who will bear all the inconvenience of the development, whilst all the profits go to companies with no stake in the locality, based overseas.

50/25-26 RECEIVE ANY CHANGES TO MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No changes were received.

51/25-26 RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN RELATION TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No declarations were received.

52/25-26 PLANNING MATTERS – to consider ESC consultation request on:

52/25-26.1 DC/21/5550/FUL; Erection of a solar photovoltaic array, with a total export capacity of up to 21 MW. Each of the solar panels will be mounted on a fixed panel system. The panels are covered by high transparency solar glass with an anti-reflective coating which minimises glare and glint, while aiding in the maximum absorption of the available sunlight. The panels are dark grey/blue in colour and are mounted on a frame of anodized aluminium alloy and galvanized steel; land at Park Farm, Loudham Hall Road, Loudham, IP13 0NW

The councillors discussed the application, and flagged specific concerns, such as: about the impact on the river valley; the risk of flooding from run off onto Loudham Hall Road, an on-going problem which will be accentuated by the panels; the heritage impacts on the many historic properties and viewpoints; the glare that will be caused to users of footpaths that overlook the site from surrounding parishes; the impacts on transport and the unsuitability of the access roads; the inadequate mitigations; and the insufficiency of buffer zones.

A resolution was proposed by the Chair that the parish council should submit a further objection to the development, using the wording of the previous objection updated to include recent changes. This resolution was passed unanimously by the councillors. It was also resolved that the County Council should be approached to ask them to take an overarching view of the large number of energy projects that are impacting on the county.

52/25-26.2 DC/25/2944/TCA; 1no. Walnut – to fell; The Laurels, The Street, Pettistree, IP13 0HU

No objections were raised.



Close of meeting: 19:39

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Jones', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Cllr S Jones (Chair)
11 September 2025**