

CAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL – COMMENTS OF THE PROPOSED HORNSEA PROJECT THREE
WIND FARM ORDER

Cawston Parish Council wishes to offer the following comments on the responses published on 2nd October.

- The OCTMP submitted by the Applicant confirms (para 5.4.1.3) that the latest Highway Intervention Scheme proposed for Cawston is an “alternative” scheme, not an evolution as argued by Vattenfall in the Norfolk Boreas examination.
- This alternative scheme is being examined for the first time in Norfolk Boreas. We have pointed out many flaws and problems and await the Examiners report and conclusions.
- Norfolk County Council have previously stated that, although it may be technically possible, this HIS is not their preferred option. We were concerned to read in their September submission that they have worked in the interests all three proposed schemes, but not Cawston residents. Instead they are worried that the proposed amended text “*may cause confusion and raise an unrealistic expectation among the local community*”. We have to ask - who is acting in the interests of the local community?
- We repeat our request to the SoS to ask him, if he decides to approve the application, to consider strengthening Requirement 18 in a way to guarantee the safety of Cawston residents, their homes and livelihoods.
- Outwith the HIS, Hornsea Three propose to send over 100 cable drum loads, each 3.3 metres wide, through Cawston. The drawing submitted in the OCTMP shows that they can only do this by closing a footpath in the High Street. This will happen several times a day over 2-3 months, trapping residents in their homes and blocking normal traffic movements. We believe that NCC have not yet been consulted on this hare-brained scheme.
- Needless to say, the Applicant makes no mention of any compensation or mitigation for displaced residents, a disregard for our village community common to all of the wind farm developers who plan to use the B1145 through Cawston for their construction traffic and refuse to use viable alternative routes. Cawston Parish Council notes the Secretary of State has requested the applicant provide a detailed compensation plan for kittiwakes but no such compensatory measures are requested for our community when faced with the adverse impacts from construction traffic, which the Secretary of State accepts.
- We repeat here a comment from our September submission “*Paragraph 19.8 of the MtA letter discussed a submission by Cawston residents illustrating the damage and problems that arose when a single such load tried to negotiate the village. At that time the SoS concluded that since this incident took place before the proposed traffic mitigation measures were in place the Hornsea 3 ExA conclusions remained valid*”. We can now see the Applicants proposed measures for this situation; closing the footpath does not change the road geometry which will be precisely the same as was in place when the previous incident occurred and we fear that similar damage to property and traffic problems can be expected.

- In their final submissions on Norfolk Boreas, Vattenfall state “*no abnormal loads will be taken through Cawston as part of the Norfolk Boreas project*” (OTMP para 4.3.2.131). We fail to understand why Hornsea Three cannot make the same commitment and request you to insist on this if your decision is to approve the application.

Cawston Parish Council
2nd November 2020