



Planning Inspectorate  
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

## Hearing Transcript

<b>Project:</b>	Sea Link
<b>Hearing:</b>	Transcript of Open floor hearing 1 (OFH1) – Session 5 Part 1
<b>Date:</b>	6 November 2025

**Please note:** This document is intended to assist Interested Parties.

It is not a verbatim text of what was said at the above hearing. The content was produced using artificial intelligence voice to text software. It may, therefore, include errors and should be assumed to be unedited.

The video recording published on the Planning Inspectorate project page is the primary record of the hearing.

FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

00:00:09:03 - 00:00:42:24

Good evening, everyone, and welcome. Can I just confirm that everyone can hear me clearly. Great. Um, can I also confirm with Case Team that the live streaming and recording of this event has commenced? Thank you. It's now 5:30 p.m., and this open floor hearing in relation to the Sealink project is recommenced. Thank you all for attending this hearing. My name is Richard Hunt. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered environmentalist. Together with my fellow panel members, I've been appointed by the Secretary of State to examine this application.

00:00:44:26 - 00:00:54:10

I'll now ask my fellow panel members to introduce themselves. Good evening. My name is Luke Regan. I am a planning inspector and a chartered transport planner.

00:00:55:29 - 00:01:06:21

Good evening. My name is Sarah Holmes. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered civil engineer. And I've been appointed by the Secretary of State, with the lead member of this panel to examine this application.

00:01:08:01 - 00:01:13:27

Good evening. My name is Nancy Thomas. I am a planning inspector and a chartered town planner.

00:01:16:08 - 00:01:20:29

Good evening. My name is Steven Ranney. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered town planner.

00:01:22:11 - 00:02:04:26

I can confirm that all members of the examining authority have made a formal declaration of interests, and that there are no known conflicts of interest with regard to us examining this application. Together, we constitute the examining authority for this application. There are other colleagues from the Planning Inspectorate with us today. For those who are present in the room, you may have already spoken to or heard from Louise Haraway, who is the case manager for this project. Mrs. Haraway is accompanied by one of our other case managers, Amina Khan, and our case officer, Emma Smith. For those of you who have joined us virtually, although I believe our virtual attendees know we have got some virtual attendees.

00:02:04:28 - 00:02:37:12

Sorry. Um, you will have spoken to Caroline Allen and Harpreet. Call our case officers in the joining conference. Together they are the case team for this project. And if you have any questions or queries, they should be your first point of contact. The contact details can be found at the top of any letter you've received from us, or on the project page of the National Infrastructure website. Before we consider the items on the agenda this evening, we need to deal with a few housekeeping matters. I'll try to get through these as quickly as possible.

00:02:38:04 - 00:03:04:11

Can everyone attending please make sure that your phone is switched off or turn silent? No fire test is planned for this evening. Should an alarm sound, it will be an emergency and will need to vacate the building. Emergency exits are located in the corners of the room and the doors through which you entered. The fire assembly point is on the lawn at the front of the building. If anyone needs assistance, can you please let the case team know?

00:03:05:29 - 00:03:45:06

Toilet facilities, including disabled facilities, can be found in the lobby. As far as I'm aware, no requests have been made for any special measures or arrangements to enable participation in this meeting, such as needing to take a break for medical reasons or having to leave the event at a certain time. If anyone does need a break or extra support later on, then please, please do let the case team know this event is being live streamed and recorded. Our letter of 19th September, which will refer to as the rule six letter, explained that because we retain and publish the digital recordings, they form a public record to which the General Data Protection Regulation, or GDPR, applies.

00:03:46:04 - 00:04:17:07

The Planning Inspectorate publishes and retains recordings for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's Decision on the Development and Consent Order. So if you participate in this meeting, it's important that you understand that you'll be recorded and that you can sense the retention and publication of the digital recording. We're aware of a number of people who've let us know they don't wish to be filmed, and the audiovisual team are aware of this, and those people have been seated in the location, which is not covered by the cameras. This will all also be taken into account for those speaking in this hearing.

00:04:18:10 - 00:04:21:21

Does anyone else intend to film or record this meeting?

00:04:25:20 - 00:04:55:28

Nope. Okay. We'll only ever ask for information to be placed on the public record. That is important and relevant to the planning decision to avoid the need to edit the digital recordings. What we would ask is that you try your best to not to add information to the public record that you would normally wish to be kept private or confidential, such as your address, details, financial circumstances, or details of medical conditions. If you do feel the need to refer to something that's private and confidential.

00:04:56:20 - 00:05:07:27

Could you please discuss this with the case team first to explore whether this could be submitted in writing and redacted? Does anyone have any questions with regards to this matter, either in the room.

00:05:10:10 - 00:05:11:22

Or online?

00:05:14:23 - 00:05:15:08

Nope.

00:05:17:08 - 00:05:47:21

For those attending virtually. Can I repeat the request made in the arrangements conference that to minimize background noise, you make sure your phone is switched off or turned silent and that you stay muted with your camera turned off unless you are speaking? I'd also ask that if you want to speak, you switch your camera on and either use the raise your Hand function in teams or ask to speak at the appropriate time. Can I also remind people that the chat function on teams will not work? So please do not try to use this to ask any questions or post any comments.

00:05:48:29 - 00:06:07:13

For those people watching the live stream, should we at any point during the proceedings this evening, we'll have to stop the live stream to give us clear recording files. As a result, at the point at which we start the meeting and the live stream, you'll need to refresh your browser page and we'll remind you of this again should we need to adjourn.

00:06:10:03 - 00:06:16:19

We have had members of the press in attendance during the course of this week. Is anyone from the press here today with us?

00:06:18:27 - 00:06:19:12

No.

00:06:21:13 - 00:06:58:18

I just want to say a little bit about conduct during this hearing. We understand that people have strong feelings about the proposed development, but it's important to recognize that we have a process to follow. We therefore ask for good manners and respect to be shown to each other throughout this hearing. As such, we want everyone to have an opportunity to speak. Please don't talk over anyone when they're speaking. Additionally, we ask for no clapping, cheering, or booing as we need to be able to hear what people are saying. We don't want anyone speaking time to be affected, so please be polite to each other as everyone deserves the same level of respect, even if you don't share the same views.

00:06:59:22 - 00:07:10:12

We also understand that some people feel nervous when having to speak in public. Please be reassured that we understand and that if you stumble over your words or need to repeat something, this isn't a problem.

00:07:11:27 - 00:07:16:22

Are there any comments or questions regarding any of the points that I've made, either in the room

00:07:18:13 - 00:07:19:18

or online?

00:07:25:14 - 00:08:03:15

At this hearing, which has been split over five sessions, we generally follow the agenda that was published on the project page of the National Infrastructure web page on 24th October 2025. A copy of this can be found in the exam library reference EV 4001. Thank you. I'll now move on to item two on the agenda, which is the purpose of this open floor hearing. Normally, open floor hearings are held

at the request of interested parties. However, we've called this open floor hearing because we want to hear firsthand from interested parties your thoughts at an early stage of the examination.

00:08:03:24 - 00:08:35:29

It will also help us to form a view about what we want to discuss in more detail at later issue specific hearings and in our written questions as well. We're familiar with your representations. So when speaking, you don't need to repeat these at length. What we are seeking is for you to provide further detail or evidence to help us understand these issues, to make best use of time. And while not wishing to limit your contributions, it would be of great assistance if points weren't repeated. You can rest assured that we'll have understood the points made the first time.

00:08:37:04 - 00:08:54:25

We're aware that the applicant is attending this evening, we'll ask the applicant to respond to everything they've heard through all open floor hearing sessions in writing. It's not the purpose of these hearings to enable the applicant to make their case. Thank you. I'll now hand over to Mrs. Thomas for item three on the agenda.

00:08:55:20 - 00:09:28:21

Thank you. Due to the numbers of people who wish to speak at this open floor hearing, you'll have seen from the agenda that we we have split the hearing into five sessions, with this being our last session. It's our intention to hear from interested parties who are pre-registered to speak and who are listed in the agenda for this hearing, after which, should time permit, we will hear from any interested party who has not pre-registered, but who wishes to speak and any other persons or non interested party who also wishes to speak.

00:09:28:23 - 00:10:05:28

However, time is tight and this will be at the discretion of the examining authority if time is not available during this last open floor hearing session, then parties can request a further open floor Full hearing during our later hearings, and we are happy to hold a further open floor hearing. Should we need to do so. Due to the number of parties wishing to speak, we have set a time limit per person. We have agreed a maximum of six minutes for those representing groups, which includes membership organizations, clubs and societies and three minutes for individuals.

00:10:06:08 - 00:10:15:14

When you are speaking, you must take account of the time remaining shown on the clock, which will be on the floor in front of you. If you are in the room.

00:10:17:17 - 00:10:47:02

For those attending virtually, I will let you know when you have one minute left. Please try to finish in your allotted time, as we want to ensure that everybody has the opportunity to be heard to ensure we can hear from as many people as possible. We won't ask any questions once you have spoken, but please be assured that if we do have any questions for you, we will send them to you in writing. Following this event, can the applicant please display the speaking list for this session?

00:10:50:12 - 00:10:54:20

Can you just scroll through it so we can see everyone on their

00:10:56:07 - 00:11:28:14

amazing. Okay, I think that is everyone, isn't it? So the order in which you'll be invited to speak will follow the order we are now displaying. We will ask people to come forward to the table, um, in front of us, five at a time. Although some of the speakers in each group of 5th May be attending virtually. We still ask each of you to speak in turn based on the time allocated to you, as shown in this agenda. When we have heard from all five of you, you're welcome to return to the general seating and we'll call the next group of five forward.

00:11:29:00 - 00:12:04:17

Once you have returned to the general seating, please feel free to depart the venue if you wish, but please do so quietly for the purposes of the recording and in respect to those still speaking, it would assist us if written summaries of anything that you are that anything you say are submitted by deadline one a which at the moment is on Tuesday the 26th of November, 2025. These can include any additional points or further detail you may wish to make, but were unable to do so because of the time constraints this evening.

00:12:04:28 - 00:12:16:28

Please be assured that when coming to our conclusions, we will give equal weight to both oral and written submissions, and there is no disadvantage to not having presented something orally here today.

00:12:19:05 - 00:12:24:20

Can I check whether the list currently displayed is everyone who has registered to speak in this session?

00:12:26:22 - 00:12:36:04

Yeah, I can't see any hands up. Um, does anyone have any questions on the speaking process, either in the room or online? Line.

00:12:37:22 - 00:12:38:12

Hello.

00:12:44:24 - 00:12:59:28

We will give you a warning and obviously allow you to finish your sentence. But yes, that's fine. Um, you will be able to if you're sitting at the table, you'll be able to see the clock in front of you. Thank you.

00:13:01:28 - 00:13:06:06

Any other questions? Nope. Oh.

00:13:13:25 - 00:13:18:16

That is correct. We have read every representation that's been made. Thank you.

00:13:20:11 - 00:13:22:01

Are there any further questions?

00:13:24:06 - 00:13:26:12

No. Okay. Oh, sorry.

00:13:29:06 - 00:13:30:22

Okay. Thank you.

00:13:39:09 - 00:13:54:22

It's on here. Tuesday 26. Okay. It's Tuesday the 25th. Sorry. You don't get the extra day. Um, if there's no more questions, then we can move on to agenda item four.

00:13:55:15 - 00:14:25:26

We're now going to. I'm now going to invite those listed in the agenda to speak when I read out your names. If you're in the room, please come to the table at the front. And if online, please turn your camera on. When it's your turn, speak. Please turn on the microphone, which is the button at the front of the device, and start by introducing yourself and if relevant, who you're representing. A timer is displayed at the front in the room, and Mrs. Thomas will let those online know when they have a minute remaining.

00:14:26:13 - 00:14:54:17

Can I just remind you again not to supply any personal details when speaking here today? For example, don't state your home address, your age, medical conditions, etc. if you feel you need to supply this information to us, please talk to the case team about how this can be done without it going in the public record. So the first five speakers are Robert Platz, Simon Dowell, Caroline Watling, Laurence Mallinson and Sue Nicholson.

00:14:58:17 - 00:14:59:02

So.

00:15:22:12 - 00:15:34:29

Sorry, just one point of clarification. It is Wednesday the 26th we've just confirmed. Thank you very much for raising the point. So if we can start with Mr. Plotz, you have three minutes.

00:15:37:23 - 00:16:09:12

In October, the Home Secretary spoke about cumulative impacts in the context of police powers. It is vital that the concept of cumulative impacts is used in the evaluation of energy projects. National grid is seeking to build in Suffolk. Work at Sizewell and Friston is causing damage and serious disruption to the life of the community. Sizewell alone will eventually be employing around 8000 workers. There's already a loss of housing for locals and visitors, three in our village. Traffic has increased.

00:16:09:17 - 00:16:43:11

And quiet lanes are being used as rat runs, often by bad tempered drivers to avoid construction traffic. Cyclists derive physical and mental health benefit but are vulnerable. Safety considerations could mean that I give up cycling. If this is a consequence of decarbonisation, how ironic. Due to retirement, the owners of a pub with visitor accommodation in a neighbouring village are selling. They are

concerned that the sale at auction will transfer ownership to a developer to use for worker accommodation.

00:16:44:11 - 00:17:19:16

The value of the property assessed for this is twice that of its existing use. Locals did not want to risk losing a unique, much loved community asset, so a group was formed and have agreed a middle price, albeit that's 33% over. An independent read book pub use valuation. Thanks to supportive sellers, the group of 12 months to raise funds to save the pub. These are examples of unintended but predictable consequences radiating into rural communities from large scale projects located where there is neither the industrial heritage nor infrastructure.

00:17:20:26 - 00:17:53:17

I would like to draw the inspectors attention to the minutes of the Commons Energy Security Net Zero Committee, published in October. Witnesses to the committee included six leaders from the UK's electricity supply industry. Their views were profound. They believed that option is close to agreeing a spend of 80 billion on electricity transmission over the next five years. They say demand for electricity has been falling for the last decade. So existing networks are massively underutilized. That the regulator's regulator is just taking funds from the system.

00:17:53:19 - 00:18:29:08

Operator agreed a price with them and said customers must pay. There was a call by those to to stop a large part of the expenditure, because there's no clear understanding of the future demand for electricity, nor the most efficient way it should be supplied. And they say there should be a really good review before locking in, locking customers into paying for something which might be unnecessary or could be delivered more efficiently. So in conclusion, this area and the individuals living and working here are already suffering offering direct damage, and this will be compounded by the cumulative impacts of National Grid's plans.

00:18:29:20 - 00:18:49:10

Leaders in the electricity supply industry expressed concern that infrastructure developments is not being thoughtfully planned, either in terms of demand or timing, so the electricity bills will rise. It looks like National Grid is needlessly planning to cause irreversible damage to life in Suffolk. Thank you for the opportunity to to speak.

00:18:50:08 - 00:18:55:18

Thank you. Next we have Simon Dow. You have three minutes.

00:18:58:20 - 00:19:29:15

I'm going to turn it on. So you're going to hear that. Good evening. I'm Simon Dow. I'm a trustee of the Albert Jubilee Hall of the Orbital Society and a past director of the Aldeburgh Business Association. I want to give you a residents perspective on the extraordinary cultural richness and visitor driven economy of Aldeburgh, and our deep anxiety about the impact of further large construction projects on the town's economic viability. I want to make four points. First point. Always a small town, 2500 residents.

00:19:29:17 - 00:20:08:00



Several cultural venues. Internationally renowned festivals. Independent shops, restaurants, a wide range of leisure facilities. All of these add up to a vibrant local economy. Visitors come to us to Aldeburgh from all over South and East England, and the town's businesses are interdependent, with visitors playing a crucial role in sustaining what Laurence Madison's brilliant petition describes correctly as a ecosystem. My second point, as you've heard, we're already desperately worried about increased heavy traffic congestion caused by Sizewell C having to share our narrow roads with huge construction.

00:20:08:02 - 00:20:38:07

Traffic is frankly, a very frightening part of our day to day experience already. The developments of Friston and Saxmundham will make things much worse, creating huge strain on local roads, raising safety concerns for our local fire and rescue team. My third point. The ceiling project will bring even more heavy construction traffic through Aldeburgh or Thorpe Ness, on roads entirely unsuited for such loads. Please drive along them yourselves and you will see what we mean. Besides the traffic.

00:20:38:09 - 00:21:10:01

The construction work itself will cause major damage to the beach and for years disrupt the town's tranquil atmosphere. Sealink can really only deter visitors and do irreparable harm to the local economy. My final point. I also want to add my concern to the questions that have been raised about the geographical scope of the impact studies supporting this application. The beach Impact study seems to be limited to a few hundred metres, conveniently missing the town.

00:21:10:10 - 00:21:50:05

The town impact study has assessed over a 50 to 60 miles, which is far too large, to assess the impact on Aldeburgh itself. I obviously won't speculate on why the applicant made these decisions, but the studies do not reflect the real impact on opera. To summarize, Alba is a highly successful symbiotic ecosystem of businesses that offer a unique visitor experience. But this ecosystem is fragile. It needs visitors, and it needs the money they spend, and visitors need access and the expected tranquillity when they arrive without visitors or as it is now, will not exist.

00:21:50:28 - 00:22:10:03

If you decide to support this application, you will help create another dreary, unsuccessful seaside town. And don't we think the country has got enough of those already? So instead, I would urge you support our town's success and turn this application down. Thank you.

00:22:10:14 - 00:22:20:15

Thank you, Mr. Tower. Our next speaker is Caroline Watling, who is due to be attending virtually, but I don't think she's arrived looking at the initials.

00:22:23:11 - 00:22:29:14

No. Okay, we'll move on then, to Lawrence Mallinson. You have six minutes.

00:22:31:11 - 00:22:31:27

Hello?

00:22:32:07 - 00:23:06:07

Okay. I'm Lawrence Mallinson, I'm a local businessman, and I also live in Aldeburgh. Um, I was really prompted to get involved because I was, I was nudged into reading the, um, the assessments that were being made for justifying the go ahead of this project. And I was appalled by their assessment or their way of deciding whether it was going to have an economic, economic impact on the local environment, because they seem to carefully manage to select things which avoided asking the question to anybody who for whom it was relevant.

00:23:06:09 - 00:23:40:12

So the obvious place is that it's going to impact our thoughtless Aldeburgh. I will add Saxmundham and other immediately, uh, local towns. No, it has no impact over 50 miles, which is a ridiculous idea. I mean, the other side of Ipswich is like another world away. And then the idea of the narrow definition so that they carefully avoid everybody except, you know, who has any kind of commercial enterprise. I'm afraid I think it was a really deceptive way of going about trying to show it was going to have no economic impact.

00:23:40:14 - 00:24:15:22

The reality is it's going to have an economic impact. Simons very clearly made that made. My my submission explains where I think the concerns are. I thought I'd just give you a little bit of background about how how I went about this project. I just decided that this was outrageous. No one had asked the local community, so I better go and ask the local community. So I went around the local community and actually everybody I could get hold of everybody, with one exception. And I'm going to tell you about them with one exception. Everybody said yes, they supported my petition and that was in Thorpe Ness and all, but I didn't go further afield.

00:24:15:24 - 00:24:46:23

It's my own patch and actually I this was done relatively at the last minute because I just thought, this has got to be done. It's important. And um, so my one exception was a fisherman, a fisherman's hut. They said, oh, well, actually, I completely support your submission, but I'm not going to sign it and I'm not going to sign it, because actually I've been given or offered a rather large amount of compensation and I don't want to jeopardise my compensation. So although I'm completely opposed to this project, as it goes right past my home, I'm not going to sign your.

00:24:46:28 - 00:25:19:04

So that is the only person. So this is not really a petition for um, for compensation for the the tradesmen of Allbright and thoughtless though frankly if this goes ahead, they I hope they will be given significant recognition rather than ignored as your current. Um, but I want this to stop because I think that this is a cumulative thing. We've, um, the reason that you haven't had a lot of early complaints is because people wake up very late. They are suddenly waking up now big time because Sizewell is kicked off and we are realizing what that means.

00:25:19:06 - 00:25:51:19

And you've heard reference to the roads, you have to go a little bit further north. So if you don't go to much further north, you won't necessarily see it. They are unbelievably disastrous. They are driven there, designed to drive us completely mad because they they close off roads, are they? And then they don't do anything. So for, for miles we have 30 mile an hour limits on the A12 now when actually

nothing's happening at all. And you wonder why. And then they have traffic lights that, you know, just hold us up. I mean, it's this is this has suddenly turned into a real, real, real problem.

00:25:51:21 - 00:26:27:08

And so what is happening is that these it is a cumulative effect. This on its own. I'm not going to pretend on its own, we probably wouldn't have a very good grounds to object to it. It's because it's in addition to that is a very important thing. And it's not just in addition to Sizewell, which is having a significant impact, but it's in addition to, um, you know, all the other prospective projects that are coming in from wind farms and from, from. From all over the place, basically. So, so, so, so to ignore that there are all these other projects would be, you know, you've got to look at it cumulatively.

00:26:27:15 - 00:27:06:11

Um, so that that was really what prompted me to get involved. And I hope that that has helped you and made you aware of the fact that I think that, um, that, you know, my concern real my real, real concern about this is that, um, actually is about employment. Um, what is happening? And we can see it now already is that the employment, the people who work in our shops, in our hotels, they're, you know, they're being tempted away by going to Sizewell where they're going to work for, I admit, more money for a few years until Sizewell finishes and then, oh, away we go.

00:27:06:13 - 00:27:27:09

And what's happened in the meantime? All our local community, all our local businesses have had no one to work for them. They've had to close down. And so what we're going to do is we're going to destroy this local, thriving economic economy unless we're very careful. And this is a cumulative thing, and you are just adding an extra nail in the coffin. That's all I have to say.

00:27:29:17 - 00:27:34:29

Thank you, Mr. Mallinson. Next we have Sue Nicholson, and you have three minutes.

00:27:36:11 - 00:28:08:22

Good evening. I'm Sue Nicholson, I'm on Benwell and Stone Field parish Council, but I'm speaking as an individual. We live in an age of increasing obesity, of worsening mental and physical health. We need to get off our screens and out of our cars. Saxmundham is where everyone from Bennell and Stonyfield has to go for all their needs GP shop, stations, cafes and everything else. It's under a mile and a half away. Yet until now there's been no suitable route to cycle, walk or wheel there.

00:28:09:05 - 00:28:54:14

We've been working for a long time to persuade East Suffolk Council to create a cycling, walking, wheeling, horse riding route. And just a couple of weeks ago, their cabinet approved a £450,000 Sils funding for this. Wonderful. But then along came this National Grid Sealink project, the prospect of hundreds of HGV movements daily along the B1 121 have upended our plans. Why? Because our route has to cross the B1 121 exiting from School Lane, which will soon have no through vehicular traffic and across the road to Kiln Lane, and the start of the footpath, which is being upgraded to a surface bridleway.

00:28:54:27 - 00:29:28:11

This crossing is close to to the access point for the new road to the converter site. Our route will now frankly be dangerous if not unusable. Ben all primary was especially really excited that parents would be able to walk or cycle with their kids to and from school. Can they do that once the Sealink lorries start using the B1 121 in such volume? Would you do that? If this Sealink project does, go ahead and we all hope it won't.

00:29:29:06 - 00:29:54:10

We're asking for a cast iron guarantee from Sealink that they will pay for a suitable safe crossing, controlled with lights lights at suitable levels for all users. We need help to keep all of us vulnerable cyclists, walkers, wheelers, horse riders safe. Make sure we get a light controlled crossing. Thank you. Don't let us down.

00:29:58:22 - 00:30:28:19

Thank you. If you'd like to return to your seats. And can I now call Georgina Burns, Simon Padley, Peter Hewitt and Mary Shipman, I understand, is not with us. She spoke earlier. Uh, my kids and, uh, who's doing two sessions today? One on behalf of Luigi Beltran as well. Um, so if we can start with.

00:30:34:13 - 00:30:39:07

If we can start with Georgina Burns, you have three minutes.

00:30:39:24 - 00:30:40:09

My name.

00:30:40:11 - 00:30:40:26

Is Georgina.

00:30:40:28 - 00:31:11:12

Burns, and I'm a proud resident of Saxmundham. I'd like to begin with a quote from William Shakespeare. Life's but a walking shadow. A poor player that struts and frets his hour upon the stage. And then is heard no more. It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying Nothing. Shakespeare reminds us of life's fleeting nature. In just 100 years. All of us here today will be gone. And our time on this earth is merely a blink of an eye.

00:31:12:07 - 00:31:42:24

This reality compels us to reflect on the decisions we make today. We must choose wisely for the impact of our choices will resonate long after we are gone. Who is making these crucial decisions? Did the CEO of National Grid simply pinpoint East Suffolk on a map without ever experiencing its beauty? All to benefit a shareholders thousands of miles away. With 2000 workers currently on site at Sizewell C and another 8000 set to join them.

00:31:42:27 - 00:32:14:00

Our infrastructure is already under strain. How would it cope with an additional 5000 workers for Sealink and Line link? Surely offshore options would be a more sustainable choice for our community's future. What right do we have to industrialize this stunning landscape, which is the lifeblood of our economy, through tourism and agriculture? My love for East Suffolk began when I was just five years old. My uncle and aunt lived in Walbrzych and I spent every summer there.

00:32:14:07 - 00:32:44:21

My uncle, David Chipperfield, was an entomologist and nature warden at Minster. He took me bug hunting and at the age of eight, I discovered a caterpillar that hadn't been seen in Suffolk for a century. My discovery was even mentioned in a paper. I moved to Suffolk ten years ago so my children could grow up in this beautiful area. If my Uncle David could see what is happening, the land he cherished, he would be turning in his grave. Land is vital. Scars of horror.

00:32:44:23 - 00:32:59:08

The heroine of *Gone With the Wind* famously said, the land is the only thing that lasts in less than 100 years. When we are all gone. Will the scenic project be remembered as a beneficial initiative or a destructive mistake.

00:33:01:04 - 00:33:33:09

The cumulative impacts of projects like Sealink cannot be overstated. This proposal is fundamentally flawed. Saxmundham has not been adequately assessed for such infrastructure, yet it has been chosen for a converter station, while most suitable brownfield sites remain untouched. My small town is not equipped for the influx of traffic we are already experiencing, leading to frustrating congestion. In conclusion, I urge the examining authority to reject the Sealink proposal. This is not just about a single project.

00:33:33:11 - 00:33:48:22

It's about the future of East Suffolk, our heritage and our environment. We owe it to ourselves and future generations to ensure that clean energy does not come at the expense of our communities and our area of outstanding natural beauty. Thank you for considering my concerns.

00:33:49:23 - 00:33:55:18

Thank you. Um, next we have Simon Padley.

00:33:58:23 - 00:34:04:20

He was used to send online. He's obviously not with us. Um, Peter Hewitt then.

00:34:07:07 - 00:34:08:05

Good evening.

00:34:08:24 - 00:34:39:27

My name is Peter Hewitt, and I have the honour of serving as a trustee of the IPP 17 Good Neighbour Scheme, known as IPP 17 NCE, an award winning charitable incorporated organisation that provides support for those less fortunate and more vulnerable in our community. But many local volunteers have been focused on helping people in their day to day lives. So tonight, I want to make sure this community's voice and its values are properly represented.

00:34:41:01 - 00:35:17:07

When the pandemic hit in March 2020. IPP 17 NCE was founded by my colleague Tim Roberts and my wife, Councillor Julia Hewitt, to fill in the gaps where statutory bodies could not. With the remarkable team of volunteers, we delivered food, prescriptions and welfare support to hundreds of

residents across Saxmundham. Kelsall and Bennell provided what resilience it proved, what resilience really means people standing together in adversity and making things work when others could not.

00:35:18:02 - 00:35:49:04

Now, five years on, that same community has been tested again. The proposed Sea Link project at Wood Farm would bring a 16 acre industrial complex to the edge of Saxmundham, wrapped by the B1193/B1119. East of Saxmundham to Leiston. Most of the hazardous stretches of the roads. This is one of the most hazardous stretches of the roads in East Suffolk.

00:35:49:15 - 00:36:22:22

Narrow, Twisting and already overused. Is it simply not fit for the volume and of weight of construction traffic? This project would generate. This project cannot proceed safely without major infrastructure change. The B1119 must be realigned and the dangerous thing removed. There should not be viewed as a burden, but as an opportunity to leave a safer, better connected local road network. This is if this development does go ahead.

00:36:22:27 - 00:36:32:22

It must improve what exists. Not make it worse. We therefore request the following as a minimum condition for fairness and safety.

00:36:34:11 - 00:37:19:03

One A permanent transport and bus hub to realign the B1119 with a dedicated EV charging car park and reliable low emission links between Saxmundham, Kelsall, Bethel, The Oxford and Leighton two, a community carpool scheme funded by the developer, giving residents without private transport fair access to hospitals, workplaces and essential services. Three A complete and enforceable road safety plan agreed with Suffolk Highways, including the straightening of the B1119 safer junctions and strict HGV routes to keep heavy traffic out of the town centre.

00:37:19:24 - 00:37:53:22

For a locally administered, index linked Community Resilience Fund supporting health care, youth services and mental health provision, and paid annually for the life of the project and beyond. And five A proper landscape and world design mitigation plan with sombre tone cladding, natural screening earth contouring to the site blends that blends with the countryside rather than dominating it, and above all, strict and reasonable working hours must be guaranteed.

00:37:54:23 - 00:38:27:03

This is a town of early starts and long days. Many people hold two or even three jobs. Rest is essential. Weekends are precious. There must be no early morning starts, no late night operations, and no weekend construction. The right to rest is a luxury, not a necessity. Sorry. All the way around. The right to rest is not a luxury. It is a necessity. Sorry. Let me make a clear ecological appeal as well.

00:38:27:23 - 00:39:03:20

This is not a football pitch for floodlit matches at night. It is a large industrial energy site that should rest at night. Suffolk is one vast ecological sanctuary. Farmlands, hedgerows and the sky. The lighting, noise and movement must be dialed down so that the bats may fly. The birds may rest, and and

wildlife can thrive. Throughout IP. 17 through IP 17 DNS. Our volunteers have already shown what genuine partnership looks like practical, compassionate and accountable.

00:39:04:03 - 00:39:36:21

If Sealink proceeds, it must reflect these same values. But this is not. But this is not imposition, but a fair collaboration, one that leaves a legacy of safety, accessibility and respect for the landscape and its people. Saxmundham has been neglected for years and already given enough. It now deserves safety, rest and a sustainable and respectful future. I take my role as a trustee of IP 17 DNS seriously.

00:39:36:27 - 00:40:08:06

Charity has no connection with Sealink, but we understand how sustained disruption affects local lives. The long construction period of this scale will inevitably place new pressures on residents, families and support networks that this town holds together. Health and the community well-being cannot be assumed to withstand this impact, but the community must be recognised. It must be supported and it must be protected. Thank you for listening.

00:40:11:00 - 00:40:20:21

And thank you very much. We now have my mana cards and apologies for the pronunciation of. It's incorrect. You have three minutes.

00:40:22:04 - 00:41:00:21

My name is Maya. And I'm speaking for Luigi Beltran as well. You have taken our dreams and turned them into nightmares seven years ago, to the horror of local residents. SPR projects were proposed for Friston. Nothing that I have heard here yesterday or today surprises me. Nothing has really changed. The issues remain the same, yet the impact is now even greater. National grid continues to willfully be elusive and uncooperative first, and quite literally beg National Grid to explain their overall plans.

00:41:01:05 - 00:41:37:09

Projects of this scale should form an integrated master plan, and the inspectorate should have insisted that one be presented before accepting the separate submissions plan. Plans for our future energy needs should have been exciting and inspiring. Instead, in the absence of a clear, integrated vision. All we can do is speculate about the potential consequences for our village and this region. Today and every day, we are forced to cope with the impact of these energy projects.

00:41:37:16 - 00:42:10:21

The developments taking place in this region are ecologically disastrous, economically unsound and politically undemocratic. The lack of vision willfully, willfully ignoring more sustainable technologies, resulting in even greater harm to both the environment and local communities. Development consent orders have a 95% approval rate. The process is heavily favored to the developer and who are now abusing it.

00:42:10:27 - 00:42:46:05

You, the inspectors for sealing, can see for yourself the effects of these projects on our community, and you have the power to help protect what remains. This area is at a tipping point. Moreover, these projects do not need to be on shore to achieve our clean energy goals. What is urgently needed is an

issue specific hearing on offshore Alternatives and an issue specific hearing to assess the cumulative impact of all approved, proposed, and future projects.

00:42:46:09 - 00:43:19:16

Indeed, what is Sealink actually required for, if not to serve additional as yet unconfirmed projects? This piecemeal approach to development must come to an end. My husband and I stand in full support of all that's been said during these meetings, and I want to express our deepest gratitude to CS and CCS for their tireless campaigning over the past 6 to 7 years. You've taken our dreams and turned them into nightmares.

00:43:20:04 - 00:43:20:29

Thanks.

00:43:22:28 - 00:43:48:08

Thank you. That was your initial three minutes. You do have a further three minutes. Speaking on behalf of both, Mr. Bell. That's both of you. Okay. Thank you. Um, if you'd like to return to your seats then. And if we can have the next speakers, we have councillor TJ Haworth. Uh, Nicholas Island, Susan Bridges, uh, Richard Bodak and Nicholas Bridges.

00:44:11:02 - 00:44:16:05

So if we can start with Mr. Haworth and you have six minutes.

00:44:17:00 - 00:44:51:14

Thank you. Good afternoon everyone. My name is TJ and I wear many hats. I'm the Suffolk County councillor for Aldeburgh, and I'm also Aubrey's mayor. So I'm a town councillor as well. And I live in Aldeburgh. I stand for people whose voices go unheard. Ordinary people with real lives and real livelihoods, those at work at the moment, those at school education or are simply unable to be here. I am deeply concerned not just for Aldeburgh, but for our communities, about the devastating impact the project will have.

00:44:52:03 - 00:45:12:02

The project is not just outdated, it's an antique. It is part of a relentless wave of projects that threaten to overwhelm our fragile landscape. I echo everything that has been said previously about the concerns that will scar this area beyond recognition, and destroy a reputation that may never recover.

00:45:13:21 - 00:45:43:23

Who will want to visit Aldeburgh when the construction noise replaces the birdsong? When the sound of construction drowns out our sea breeze. And all that we love has gone? There is no rush for rushing. There is no need for rushing to net zero at any cost. Sealink must be cancelled. Sighs will see the Marmite project because you either love it or you really hate it. Should be completed in full, but even then, will this project actually ever be needed to proceed with that? Out.

00:45:43:25 - 00:46:17:13

That knowledge is not progress, it's recklessness. Another awful project impacting and sandwiching my division is ScottishPower renewables. You have heard this often, I apologize. However, they did recently present Tilbury Town Council and there was a tiny glimmer of hope that they explained had



they had worked with the landowners and local people so that no one faced a compulsory purchase or received any of the frightening threats which I have done myself. Let me draw attention to something small but very symbolic.

00:46:18:00 - 00:46:51:10

Protected bluebells within an ancient wood and an ancient hedgerow. Unacknowledged in the documentation, the location referred, which I have provided in my detail, is also extremely close to a new family of precious birds of prey. They have gone unnoticed, along with the deer herds that have already been displaced once because of Sizewell. Beneath our feet lay the chalk aquifers, vital lifelines for farmers, wildlife, our water supply and once that's damaged, it can never, ever be repaired.

00:46:51:25 - 00:47:22:13

We're constantly told that due to global factors, we must strengthen our resilience, our power grid, and that this will somehow lead to cheaper energy bills. What nonsense! The same narrative insists that we must boost our resilience in food production. And only yesterday you all heard from Mr. Nichols, who he shared his harsh, harsh realities that his farm faces, highlighting the grave threat to our critical food security. And once this and other precious farmland has gone, it cannot be replaced.

00:47:22:15 - 00:47:54:12

It is gone for good and forever. Why must we, a cornerstone of farming and food production be sacrificed for the sake of net zero. When London needs London's need to take the president's perhaps national grid. Please lend us your mythical, magical wand that you seem to have. The one that will somehow reassure our lost wildlife and our habitats that maybe in 10 or 20 years time, they can come back. And while local people live with the uncertainty, uncertainty, the toll on their well-being grows heavier.

00:47:55:13 - 00:48:26:23

What once was considered a really simple journey to go into a neighboring town or a village for a medical appointment for work, shopping or leisure is now full of blight, increased traffic and HGV movements. Local people are being put off or cut off from carrying out their everyday lives. Decisions are being overruled by ministers and by policy makers who see the country as a single grid map, not as living communities. That disconnects and consequences at the heart of the problem.

00:48:27:00 - 00:49:03:15

London's net zero targets have become a race for headlines, not a thoughtful, coordinated transition. Projects are being forced through to show quick progress. Even when the generation they're meant to serve, like Sizewell doesn't even exist. We need a pause for proper planning, not panic building that damages lives and landscapes. Our vulnerable coastline and Coralline Crag is living heritage, not a dumping ground for short term solutions. If Sealink does go ahead as planned, it won't just be the landscape that's lost, it will be the heart of our communities.

00:49:04:20 - 00:49:35:18

I refer and I concur with all the concerns from RSPB North Warren, that old and all, Aldeburgh Town Council, Leiston Town Council, my parish councils and my colleagues at Suffolk County Council that all share these deep concerns. Please, I beg you. Protect our national landscapes. They're there and

designated for a reason. They offer no protection. Save our vital critical coralline crag, safeguard our aquifers, protect our high streets and our economy.

00:49:35:21 - 00:49:48:17

And let this moment be the moment that London's race to net zero does not come at the expense of rural truth, heritage and wellbeing. Thank you panel, for allowing us the time to speak.

00:49:51:00 - 00:49:54:17

Thank you councillor and apologies for misgendering you at the start of the session.

00:49:54:19 - 00:49:56:26

I'm perfectly used to it. Do not worry.

00:49:58:08 - 00:50:00:08

Next speaker is Nicholas Island.

00:50:03:17 - 00:50:05:16

And you have three minutes.

00:50:07:10 - 00:50:11:11

We moved to Friston for the beautiful surrounding countryside. Walks through peaceful.

00:50:11:13 - 00:50:13:11

Areas of outstanding natural beauty.

00:50:13:13 - 00:50:46:21

Tranquillity in the dark skies of an idyllic village are forever home in retirement. This has changed dramatically and is set to get worse. We were aware of plans by ScottishPower, and at an early public meeting we were shown drawings with a small rectangle in the huge field as the proposed substation. Since then, the size of the project with the associated add ons has grown hugely and is now encroaching on neighbouring villages and towns. Had the sheer size of it been honestly displayed? We are convinced the public outcry would have been far greater, and Friston would not have been fighting the plans on its own initially.

00:50:46:25 - 00:51:17:07

This feels like a deliberate lack of transparency. The size of the substations, converter stations and cable trenching should have been presented to residents of all affected areas from the start. Even now, due to the piecemeal approach of planning applications, people still aren't clear of the full project size. Aside from the surrounding devastation sizeable sea is causing, we now have the needless destruction of farmland and countryside in Friston. Trees and hedgerows are already being destroyed. Wildlife is clearly being displaced. Footpaths have been closed.

00:51:17:09 - 00:51:54:15

Construction traffic is navigating unsuitable roads even though there are planning restrictions already in place, which shows a complete lack of empathy towards the locals, villagers mental health is being affected because of the noise and disruption and the uncertainty of what is coming next, and we have

recently lost a member of our community to suicide. We have noise and air pollution from the so called pre-construction. We will also have light pollution as the project's progress. This all has an adverse effect on villagers well-being. The risk of flooding is being increased with each added project taking away natural soak ways like fields and woodland could mean more water flowing into our villages.

00:51:54:17 - 00:52:28:11

You cannot mitigate for ancient woodlands, this area is reliant on farming and tourism. The more countryside you destroy, the less visitors we will have. We have had it firsthand from holidaymakers saying they will not return, as the devastation is too upsetting and increased traffic to get to the areas problematic. There is no escape from the locals. We cannot sell up and move away even if we wanted to. Because houses aren't selling, we have are friends who want to move away, but have been able to sell their house after two years on the market. We have seen huge areas of crop yielding farmland taken over and destroyed.

00:52:28:13 - 00:53:01:07

New farmland cannot be picked out of nowhere. The government excuses excuses these projects as helping the country to reach net zero. But if that is at the cost of food supply, then that argument is null and void. The farmland that is being destroyed cannot be replaced. We cannot afford to lose any more. The offshore option must be better. We keep our crop fields, our wildlife, our tourism and our livelihoods. This area is totally unsuitable for the already approved projects and as there are better, less damaging alternatives. I urge you to do the right thing and deny this application.

00:53:01:27 - 00:53:07:24

Please come and visit our lovely village and see for yourselves what will be lost. Thank you.

00:53:09:15 - 00:53:27:15

Thank you very much. I would just note in our site inspections we have been to Friston. Those site visit notes are published on our website. If you want to see where we where we saw on the visit. Um, next we have Susan Bridges and you have three minutes.

00:53:32:12 - 00:53:33:08

Thank you.

00:53:33:10 - 00:53:37:09

I am a resident of Orford. I have.

00:53:37:11 - 00:53:37:26

Known the.

00:53:37:28 - 00:53:39:01

Landscape in.

00:53:39:03 - 00:53:40:06

C links DCO.

00:53:40:08 - 00:53:41:03

Application for.

00:53:41:05 - 00:53:41:25

Over 40.

00:53:41:27 - 00:53:42:19

Years.

00:53:43:03 - 00:53:45:07

It is a landscape with communities and.

00:53:45:09 - 00:53:47:18

Economies working side by side.

00:53:48:00 - 00:53:49:06

Which does not draw.

00:53:49:08 - 00:53:57:18

Attention to itself and could stay that way if things are planned differently. Friston, Saxmundham and the.

00:53:57:20 - 00:53:58:07

AoNB.

00:53:58:09 - 00:53:58:24

Natural.

00:53:58:26 - 00:54:01:01

Landscape and setting need their.

00:54:01:03 - 00:54:02:03

Full statutory.

00:54:02:05 - 00:54:03:03

Protections.

00:54:03:05 - 00:54:03:20

To be.

00:54:03:22 - 00:54:04:15

Exercised.

00:54:04:17 - 00:54:07:00

To stop permanent harm to.

00:54:07:02 - 00:54:09:29

The environment. Last year.

00:54:10:01 - 00:54:10:16

I.

00:54:10:18 - 00:54:11:03

Welcomed.

00:54:11:05 - 00:54:11:20

The.

00:54:11:22 - 00:54:12:07

New government's.

00:54:12:09 - 00:54:21:16

Manifesto, which included better ways to get our electricity and heating to save the environment. We will be leaders in saving the environment.

00:54:21:18 - 00:54:22:03

At.

00:54:22:05 - 00:54:28:09

Home and in the world, and the increased budget for wind farm contracts for difference of over.

00:54:28:11 - 00:54:29:14

£1.5.

00:54:29:16 - 00:54:30:20

Billion.

00:54:31:15 - 00:54:32:24

Had government support.

00:54:32:26 - 00:54:48:06

Of this scale been available when the Bawdsey to Bramford cable route was consented. The converter stations proposed at Wood Farm and all Suffolk Power renewables. East Anglian Wind Farm electricity would be at Bramford and.

00:54:48:08 - 00:54:48:23

National.

00:54:48:25 - 00:55:08:20

Grid's connection at Friston would not exist, and this Sea Link DCO could not connect to the grid at Friston. More's the pity. In practice, Sealink is a two way extension cabled Kent with electricity pooled in Suffolk. Yet the proposed.

00:55:08:22 - 00:55:09:07

Sealink.

00:55:09:09 - 00:55:19:11

Cable could go to Kent directly as the electricity is not needed in Suffolk without any construction having started in the North Sea for.

00:55:19:13 - 00:55:19:29

E1.

00:55:20:01 - 00:55:46:05

North and E2, there is now a possibility that the connection at Friston could be at sea or on a brownfield or an industrialised site, thus mitigating the substantial harm at Friston identified at the E1 North and E2 DCO. This option should be reassessed, giving National Grid's duties under section 38 and schedule nine of.

00:55:46:07 - 00:55:46:22

The.

00:55:46:24 - 00:56:05:23

Electricity Act. Its visual impact provision reports and section 85 of the Enhanced Countryside and Right of Way Act. Furthermore, as identified in Zone of Theoretical Visibility, plans included individual impacts of.

00:56:05:25 - 00:56:40:07

High importance south of the old and or and already referenced in National Grid's visual impact provision, which still has not been assessed in the Sealink DCO until they are. National grid cannot assert no part of Sealink, either during construction or operation, will directly affect the Suffolk and Essex Coasts and Heaths AONB National Park, especially given the substantial evidence and sees relevant representations.

00:56:40:12 - 00:56:41:12

Thank you.

00:56:41:28 - 00:56:42:21

Thank you.

00:56:44:19 - 00:56:47:16

Next we have Richard Bodak. You have three minutes.

00:56:49:18 - 00:56:50:12

Good evening.

00:56:51:02 - 00:57:23:05

My name is Richard Bullock and I live at North Warren, close to proposed cable route as Sealink, heading across from Aldeburgh towards Friston. We moved here permanently in January 2020 for a quiet retirement phase of life in a rural setting with wildlife, moderate traffic, dark skies, close, close to nature. We knew a size one of Scottish power schemes. We did not know the national grid schemes. Of course, we're here today to talk about Sealink, and it's impossible, in my opinion, to consider this in isolation because of what is already happening on the energy coast.

00:57:23:23 - 00:57:54:17

So is one of Scottish Power plus the others in the consultation and planning stages. Sealink line link, the Friston Power Hub and now even the Suffolk Water scheme has been added just in recently. So am I being a Nimby? Well, more individuals than I tell me I'm not because I'm not saying don't have energy schemes. I'm saying there are alternative offshore solutions and brownfield industrialised sites. At a consultation meeting in Aldeburgh. I asked the National Grid representative why offshore options were not being looked at.

00:57:55:00 - 00:57:58:13

His rather surprising response was there hadn't been asked to look at them.

00:58:01:18 - 00:58:35:07

My observations are cumulative. Cumulative impact. The Suffolk Coastal MP Jenny Riddell Carpenter recently commented at Westminster A remarkable lack of coordination, no attempt, no attempt to plan the cumulative impact an area of the country mostly served by bay roads and country lanes. Remarkable that developers are being allowed to bring forward these proposals when offshore alternatives could easily have been considered. Tourism is a major employer in this part of the world. Visitors, I maintain, are already shocked by the sizeable impact.

00:58:35:09 - 00:59:08:14

Will they come back again? Tourism. Hospitality is a major employer on the east coast of Suffolk. Traffic and travel thousands of heavy vehicle movements are road to constantly being diverted. Journeys are slower, it's stressful and it's constantly changing. Health and wellbeing. Existing energy schemes are already causing stress and anxiety. Let alone the anxiety of what the next two, 2 or 3 schemes will add. Where we live is being changed hugely and it feels like we have no control over it.

00:59:08:16 - 00:59:28:21

It is being done to us. It is genuinely depressing. I own wildlife AoNB and SSI are being carved up. 22,000 trees have been reportedly felled so far to build Sizewell C. Of course new ones will be planted, but how long do they take to become mature? That's of course, assuming they get watered at all.

00:59:30:14 - 00:59:59:14

Wildlife is being forced to move, deer being displaced. Migration routes are disrupted behind our own planet where we live. Turtle does return every year. Disruption threatens this at risk species. Does anyone care? Rutting stance on the field behind us. Where will they go? And that's part. Near the

cable route. So in conclusion, it is too much in one small area. I please ask you to do not grant approval of sealing. There are better alternatives.

01:00:00:03 - 01:00:01:02

Thank you.

01:00:02:20 - 01:00:08:05

And our last speaker on the agenda today is Nicholas Bridges, who I believe is online.

01:00:10:17 - 01:00:45:29

Uh, yes. Good evening sir. My name is Nicholas Bridges. I am a chartered architect specializing in heritage and planning, living in Orford. My mother was a founding member of the All Honor Association. My relevant representation number is 394. I have three points on heritage and landscape impacts and the importance of the EQC recording its assessment without fear or favour. One. The Elvis area of search was so small that it excluded the visibility of the substation, the converter station shown in the Z TV plans.

01:00:46:08 - 01:01:18:12

These will be visible from the south side of the old estuary in the Alb, and within the settings of the listed save bottles. I can motivate our associates. Both have national historical and architectural interest. There are seven statutory listed buildings. Two settings would also be harmed cumulatively. National grid should be asked to assess these as a matter of urgency. So the impact of the development on the character of the countryside, which is protected in policy, even if not in the AoNB. The impact will be direct and permanent.

01:01:18:14 - 01:01:50:02

In its terms, the effect of proposed mitigation will be limited and will not remove the harm. National grid have reserved land for further developments which should be in the cumulative assessments. Any permitted harm should not be a precedent for further development, but similar effects on the landscape. That countryside which remains if DSO consent is granted, will become even more valuable. Three detail of submission documents. The submitted design control drawings of the new buildings are inadequate.

01:01:50:22 - 01:02:05:29

The design analysis has been done in Coordination document 7.1. Using the Rochdale envelope to avoid committing now is an abuse of the process. The Elvia is consequently inadequate as it has no massing to image.

01:02:07:16 - 01:02:19:01

If the XO is minded to recommend approval to Secretary of State. It is essential that the harm and the tilted balance is clearly valued and expressed. As with Friston, have one.

01:02:19:03 - 01:02:20:06

You have one minute.

01:02:20:13 - 01:02:50:13



Thank you sir. As with Preston's A1 North DCI report to the Secretary of State, the purpose of this is to guide any future access assessing future cumulative developments. My opinion and that of many others from all walks of life heard here in the last two days, is that the benefits of this development do not justify the permanent harm with less damaging designs for possible elsewhere. Thank you for your listening.

01:02:52:24 - 01:02:53:27

Thank you very much.

01:02:55:23 - 01:03:11:24

Excuse me. And thank you for all your contributions this evening. Um, anyone on the front desk may obviously return to their seats if they wish. I'd now want to ask if there's anyone else who didn't pre-register that they wanted to speak, but now would like to

01:03:13:15 - 01:03:16:26

have one hand up there. Is there anyone else in the room?

01:03:19:12 - 01:03:22:25

If you would. Sorry. Can I take your name?

01:03:28:24 - 01:03:31:03

And is there anyone else online?

01:03:35:07 - 01:03:39:24

No. Uh, if you'd like to come to the front.

01:03:54:19 - 01:03:57:09

You will have three minutes. Yes. Yes it is.

01:03:57:11 - 01:03:59:00

Okay, well, I thought.

01:03:59:02 - 01:04:02:23

I'd speak because it strikes me that we're sitting in.

01:04:02:25 - 01:04:04:05

One of the world's great concert.

01:04:04:07 - 01:04:15:26

Halls. The simple construction of brick and wood that's located in a funny, remote little area of the English countryside. And yet it has a history and tradition that draws.

01:04:15:28 - 01:04:16:29

International.

01:04:17:01 - 01:05:04:11

Artists, composers from all over the world. So I really want to speak about the inspiration of this place, the inspiration of the the light of the landscape, the sound of waves breaking on pebbles, the sound of birds, the sound of wind in the reed beds that has really inspired composers, poets, artists and writers for for decades. And it's an inspiration for people's lives too. One of the major reasons why people come to live here, why they visit here, why they spend money here, and why they contribute to the community in countless ways that make the community that makes such a supportive community.

01:05:04:20 - 01:05:05:21

In the case.

01:05:05:23 - 01:05:37:01

Put forward by Sealink, they very conveniently considered the impact on heritage sites within a few hundred yards of the construction site. But they completely ignore this cultural major cultural center a little bit further down the road. We live in a time when well-being and mental health and major concerns for the country, and this is an organization that's intensely interested in helping dealing with those problems.

01:05:37:06 - 01:06:18:26

In fact, it is the reason why our founders, Benjamin Britten and Peter Pierce, founded this organization. They believe that music should be useful and should enhance lives. And that's what we continue to do in our everyday, everyday work. The work involves working with social with social prescribers, helping many people in this community who are isolated, lonely, suffering from later life health challenges, and we are able to work with those people, bringing joy and health benefits through singing groups, through t chant dancers that that helps them both physically and and and mentally.

01:06:19:09 - 01:06:50:23

So whilst thi link may want to ignore the impact of a heritage site that isn't right on the beach, we think our impact is very significant, and we're very concerned that the disruption to the roads and to the landscape will deter our supporters and therefore be detrimental to the work we can do within the community. Thank you.

01:06:52:00 - 01:06:53:03

Thank you very much.

01:07:02:07 - 01:07:11:17

So as we noted earlier, the applicant will provide a detailed written response to everything we've heard through all the open floor hearing sessions at deadline. One, a

01:07:13:07 - 01:07:43:12

thank you all for contributing so fully to this meeting. We find these sessions extremely helpful and we'll consider all submissions made very carefully. Can I just remind you to submit your post hearing submissions, including any written submissions of oral cases by deadline one a which is currently set for and I think this date is now right Wednesday the 26th of November. Thank you. Um, the time is now 637 and open floor hearing one for the ceiling project is now closed. Thank you.