

DAVIDSTOW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES – 5th February 2024

1. **Present:** Councillors; J. Dowton, P Potter, M Wakefield, W Kingdon, T. Steed
Cornwall Councillor Barry Jordan.

Members of the public: Five members of the public present.

2. **Declarations of interest** –JD declared a personal interest in Agenda item 6. The application affects my residence visually. This does not prevent taking part in discussion.
3. **Minutes** of meeting held December 2023 approved and confirmed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising** (not on the agenda)
 - **Agenda item 4.1.** We have not had a meeting with Mr Oliver Jones yet – Councillor Jordan is arranging a meeting. There are several issues to discuss. - Councillor Jordan will arrange.
 - **Agenda item 8.3.** Grit Bins – Councillor Potter has looked at the grit bin at School Hill. It needs replacing. Councillor Jordan will arrange a replacement at no cost to the Parish Council. Councillors thank Councillor Jordan for his kind offer.
 - **Agenda item 8.4.** Tremail Chapel – Councillor Kingdon has not received an up-date on the status of the chapel grounds.

5. **Saputo update –**

Lighting issues – Wastewater treatment works – Lights towards A39 properties – A single light towards Forestry Crowdy road. The lighting has been moved/lowered to deal with the issues raised.

Innyvale water runoff – Councillor Potter advised discussion has taken place with Saputo who will be undertaking works to alleviate the problem.

Councillor Potter and Dowton visited the wastewater treatment site to observe the improvements and upgrades made there to lessen odour and noise.

The Parish Council have received the EA Ambient Air Quality report.

The study was undertaken between May and September last year. The study measured concentrations of hydrogen sulphide (H₂S), methane) and particulate matter and compared the levels with the objectives of the UK Air Quality Strategy where applicable.

Their Mobile Monitoring Facility was placed at Trewassa. The EA chose that location to provide the most representative measurements and they also needed to satisfying practical requirements like power supply, security, and it needed to be clear of landscape features.

The World Health Organisation specifies two limits in relation to impacts from H₂S. The upper limit is the concentrations of H₂S that may begin to cause human health issues. The lower is the concentration that may cause nuisance but would not pose a direct risk to physical health. The H₂S concentrations were found to be well below the World Health Organisation guideline health limits. However, H₂S levels were above the odour nuisance guidance for 1.5% of the

monitoring study. The highest average H₂S concentrations measured at the monitoring site were seen when the wind was coming from the direction of the water processing facility (WPF). A lesser source was also identified at another location not connected to Davidstow Creamery.

Methane levels recorded during the monitoring period were very low.

The EA discussed the results with public health scientists at the UK Health Security Agency and Cornwall Council, particularly in relation to H₂S as this has been raised by the community as a specific concern. They agree that the results indicate the Water treatment works is the likely main source of H₂S and that concentrations of H₂S reported are well below WHO guidelines for human health. They note the ongoing concern with the levels in exceedance of odour nuisance downwind of the treatment plant and agreed the priority should be for the operator to complete their planned odour improvement works.

EA have said in their view the measures to control odour have resulted in a marked reduction in odour pollution from the site during recent months. This has been confirmed by the EA's own observations and that there have been fewer complaints received from members of the public.

Parish Council observations find the works are moving in the right direction.

6. Planning.

Planning application PA23/02727 – Proposed repowering and extension of the Cold Northcott windfarm. Including removal of all existing turbines and replacing with up to twenty-two turbines up to 115m to tip. Together with associated works –

4 of the proposed new turbines would sit within Davidstow Parish.

Councillors held a meeting on 18th December to allow the public and members of the council to ask questions of the applicants. Notes were taken at the meeting.

Councillors requested clarification on two concerns raised on the 18th. Shadow flicker and borehole.

Mr Wonnacott informed the meeting shadow flicker would be minimal. If there was an issue with flicker the turbine could be stopped for the period flicker might occur.

Mr Wonnacott reassured the councillors Stenlakes had advised the turbines and associated works will not affect resident's boreholes.

The council voted not to make an objection to the application.

Planning application PA23/04838

Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling, together with associated works at Higher Tregeen, Davidstow, Cornwall PL32 9XU.

The council voted to support the application.

7. Finance - None

8. **Correspondence**

We had a request from a resident to join the community liaison meetings with Saputo and the EA. As there was a second request for a response before this meeting the PC consulted by email before declining the request. The community liaison meetings are for community representatives not for individual issues. It was felt the most appropriate avenue to address the specific issues was directly with the EA and Saputo.

9. **Other business**

Bus Shelter Tremail – Chair will contact Mr Tippet to see if he has begun the works as the foliage has been cut back and put inside the shelter. Apologies to residents of Tremail for the current state of the shelter. We will get an update.

Councillor Jordan informed the meeting there is £900,000 set aside to improve the road across Davidstow Moor. Councillor Steed requested liaison with the council and the commoners before any works commence. A section of work undertaken several years ago widened the road by several feet. There is a concern that more animals will be killed by vehicles if the road is widened.

The Chair also added the land is SSSI and any works will require Natural England consent.

10. **Date of next meeting – Monday 4th March 2024**