

## **LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference**

**Present:** Councillors Clive Johnson (Chairman), Ruth Adams, Cheryl Crane, Karen Gilbert, Nick Hammond, Mark Irwin and Nigel Monk.

**Attending:** Lee Parker (Babergh District Councillor), D Crimmin (Clerk) and one resident.

#### **21/040 Election of Chairman**

It was resolved that Clive Johnson be appointed as the Chairman of Little Cornard Parish Council (LCPC) who signed the Declaration of Acceptance accordingly.

#### **21/041 Election of Vice Chairman**

It was resolved that Nick Hammond be appointed the Vice Chairman of LCPC.

#### **21/042 Apologies for Absence**

No apologies required.

#### **21/043 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation**

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

#### **21/044 Minutes of Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors who resolved that the minutes should be digitally signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **21/045 Representatives of Outside bodies**

- a. It was resolved that Cllrs Monk and Gilbert be appointed as LCPC's representatives to the Village Hall Committee
- b. It was resolved that Cllr Hammond be appointed as the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) representative.

#### **21/046 Internal Auditor**

It was resolved that Victoria Shennan be appointed Internal Auditor for 2021 / 2022 and the Clerk to write to confirm appointment.

#### **21/047 Annual Subscriptions**

It was resolved that the annual memberships to SALC, the Society of Local Council Clerks and Community Action Suffolk be renewed for 2021 / 2022.

#### **21/048 Public Forum**

Lee Parker updated councillors on the enforcement action being undertaken by Babergh on land in Chapel Lane. With concerns raised on the protracted time that the enforcement action is taking, Lee will arrange for the enforcement officer to attend a LCPC meeting to update councillors directly.

#### **21/049 Emails circulated**

After the councillors reviewed the emails circulated there were no actions required of the Clerk.

#### **21/050 Clerk's Report (Appendix A)**

After the councillors reviewed the Clerk's Report there were no actions required of the Clerk.

#### **21/051 Finance**

- a. The councillors reviewed and resolved to accept the Internal Audit report (Appendix B) produced by Victoria Shennan for the year ending 31st March 2021.
- b. The councillors resolved to approve the LCPC Bank Reconciliations and Receipts and Payments Account (Appendix C) for the year ending 31st March 2021.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

## **LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

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- c. The councillors resolved that they will not certify LCPC as exempt from a limited assurance review for the year-ending 31st March 2021 and would engage with the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn, as in the previous year.
- d. The councillors resolved that Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (Appendix D) for 2020 / 2021 was approved and the Chairman signed the section on behalf of LCPC.
- e. The councillors resolved that Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2020 / 2021 (Appendix E) was approved and the Chairman signed the section on behalf of LCPC.
- f. The councillors resolved to approve the explanation of the quantified significant variances in relation to Section 2 of Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2020 / 2021.
- g. All cheques signed and due for signing as itemised in Appendix F were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting.
- h. The councillors approved the CIL Return to Babergh (Appendix G) and the Chairman signed the return on behalf of LCPC.
- i. This item will be discussed later in year.

#### **21/052 Planning**

- a. There were no planning applications received after the agenda was posted.
- b. The councillors reviewed the status of previous applications and appeals (Appendix H).

#### **21/053 Neighbourhood Plan**

The Little Cornard NP is now nearing the end of the consultation period for the Pre-Submission stage under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (Regulation 14). Any issues that the councillors have with the draft NP will be sent to the Clerk by the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 for submission to the consultation. Once the consultation closes on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 the Clerk will circulate all responses received to the councillors and Steering Group.

#### **21/054 Bramford to Twinstead network reinforcement**

The councillors resolved that they wanted to be part of the Babergh parishes group that have written to the Secretary of State over issues with the current National Grid consultation. The councillors reviewed the draft prepared for LCPC's response (Appendix I) and resolved that it be sent to National Grid.

#### **21/055 Trees, Hedges and Wildflowers**

Cllr Johnson updated councillors that he had contacted both the Woodlands Trust and Babergh and that orders have been placed for trees and hedges for projects in the village. He updated councillors that he is now the Tree Warden for Little Cornard.

#### **21/056 Highways, Footpaths and council assets**

The councillors noted damage caused to properties and verges in the village.

#### **21/057 Questions to the Chair**

Cllr Irwin updated councillors that a £250 contribution is now required for the Quiet Lane project rather than the original commitment from LCPC of £1,200. Lee Parker will raise issue of person living on Diocese land in Bures Road with the responsible Babergh team. Cllrs Johnson and Gilbert will review the boundary of LCPC's land at the Mere. Village Hall availability will be reviewed ahead of the next scheduled meeting.

#### **21/058 Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 starting at 7pm.

**The meeting closed at 8.24pm.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

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## Appendix A Clerk's Report

Minute	Action	Complete ✓
21/018	Minutes placed on website.	✓
21/022 a	Payments made to suppliers.	✓
21/022 c	Confirmed footpath cutting contract.	✓
21/022 d	Donation sent to magazine.	✓
21/024	Regulation 14 Pre-Submission consultation on NP launched.	✓
21/027	Meeting with National Grid held.	✓
21/028	SID meeting with Community Wardens held.	✓
21/030	Wrote to resident re Speed Watch.	✓
21/037	Planning comments sent to Babergh.	✓
<b>SCC Ref</b>	<b>Highway Issues</b>	
293897	Wyatts Lane - Reflective markers for steep bend missing on unlit bend of road.	
294050	Missing barrier at the pond in Upper Road / Chapel Lane.	
	<b>Clerk's Delegated Powers</b>	
	Not used since last meeting.	

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference

## Appendix B Annual Internal Audit Report

### Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/21

Little Cornard Parish Council

www.littlecornard.onesuffolk.net

During the financial year ended 31 March 2021, this authority's internal auditor acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with the relevant procedures and controls in operation and obtained appropriate evidence from the authority.

The internal audit for 2020/21 has been carried out in accordance with this authority's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of this authority.

Internal control objective	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	✓		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	✓		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for. <i>* NO PETTY CASH HELD SO N/A</i>			✓*
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	✓		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	✓		
I. Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	✓		
J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2019/20, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. <i>(If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2019/20 AGAR tick "not covered")</i>			✓
L. If the authority has an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000, it publishes information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the Transparency code for smaller authorities.	✓		
M. The authority, during the previous year (2019-20) correctly provided for the period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations <i>(evidenced by the notice published on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set)</i> .	✓		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2019/20 AGAR <i>(see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes)</i> .	✓		
O. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable
			✓

For any other risk areas identified by this authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

Date(s) internal audit undertaken

27 04 2021

DD/MM/YYYY

DD/MM/YYYY

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

VICTORIA SHENNAN AUDITOR

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference

## Appendix C LCPC Bank Reconciliations and Receipts and Payments Account

LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL					
County	Suffolk				
Bank Reconciliation for Financial year ending 31st March 2021					
D. Crimmin	RFO			8th April 2021	
Balances per Bank Statements as at 31st March					
Lloyds Treasurers Account			£17,779.92		
				£17,779.92	
Add any Unbanked Cash as at 31 March				£0.00	
Less Unpresented Cheques as at 31 March					
		585	£242.67		
		587	£855.00		
		588	£40.08		
		589	£188.66		
		590	£6,075.15		
				£7,401.56	
			<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>£10,378.36</b>	
CASH BOOK					
Opening Balance				£12,822.59	
Add Receipts in the year				£16,997.80	
				£29,820.39	
Less Payments in the year				£19,442.03	
			<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>£10,378.36</b>	

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference

## LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

### Receipts & Payments Account for the year ending 31st March 2021

	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021
<b>Receipts</b>		
Precept	£6,000.00	£6,212.00
Grants	£276.40	£1,776.40
Bank Interest	£0.00	£0.00
NP Grant	£4,995.00	£8,395.00
CIL	£1,977.42	£0.00
Other	£0.00	£188.17
VAT Repayment	£205.88	£426.23
	<b>£13,454.70</b>	<b>£16,997.80</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Clerks Salary	£2,665.25	£2,653.23
Admin	£2,166.79	£631.22
Donations	£610.00	£200.00
Subscriptions	£179.24	£184.37
Insurance	£171.84	£171.84
Inspection	£200.00	£200.00
Maintenance	£464.00	£978.97
Village Hall	£0.00	£0.00
Contingency	£0.00	£1,467.43
NP	£4,995.00	£8,395.00
Community Wardens	£0.00	£1,000.00
CIL	£0.00	£1,977.42
VAT Paid	£426.23	£1,582.55
	<b>£11,878.35</b>	<b>£19,442.03</b>
<b>Excess of Payments over Receipts</b>	<b>£1,576.35</b>	<b>-£2,444.23</b>
Add Balance Brought Forward	£11,246.24	£12,822.59
<b>Balance Carried Forward</b>	<b>£12,822.59</b>	<b>£10,378.36</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Lloyds Treasurers Account	£12,822.59	£10,378.36
Cash	£0.00	£0.00
	<b>£12,822.59</b>	<b>£10,378.36</b>
I have prepared these accounts from the books and records of the Little Cornard Parish Council and certify that they are a true record of the Parish Council's transactions		
Signed: _____ Date: _____		
RFO Little Cornard Parish Council		

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference

### Appendix D AGAR Section 1

#### Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

We acknowledge as the members of:

Little Cornard Parish Council

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, that:

	Agreed		‘Yes’ means that this authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors’ rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority’s accounts.</i>
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
			✓

\*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each ‘No’ response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

DD/MM/YY

and recorded as minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Clerk

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

www.littlecornard.onesuffolk.net ENTER PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference

## Appendix E AGAR Section 2

### Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21 for

#### Little Cornard Parish Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2021 £	
1. Balances brought forward	11,246	12,823	<i>Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.</i>
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	6,000	6,212	<i>Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.</i>
3. (+) Total other receipts	7,455	10,785	<i>Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.</i>
4. (-) Staff costs	2,665	2,653	<i>Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.</i>
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	<i>Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).</i>
6. (-) All other payments	9,213	16,789	<i>Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash-book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).</i>
7. (=) Balances carried forward	12,823	10,378	<i>Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).</i>
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	12,823	10,378	<i>The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.</i>
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	4,590	7,565	<i>The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.</i>
10. Total borrowings	0	0	<i>The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).</i>
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	<i>The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.</i>
		✓	<i>N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.</i>

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2021 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.  
Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date DD/MM/YY

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

DD/MM/YY

as recorded in minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date




# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference

## Appendix F RFO Report Receipts & Payments

- Payment of £190.44 for SALC membership 2021 / 2022
- Payment of £23.40 for Sudbury Town Council milage
- Precept from Babergh of £3,500.00

## Appendix G CIL Return

Little Cornard Parish Council		
Community Infrastructure Levy		
Reporting Year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021		
A	Total CIL Income carried over from previous year	£1,977.42
B	Total CIL income received (receipts)	£0.00
C	Total CIL spent (expenditure)	£1,977.42
D	Total CIL repaid following payment notice	£0.00
E	<b>Total CIL retained at year-end (A+B-C-D)</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
CIL Expenditure		
	Item / Purpose	Amount Spent
	Speed Indicator Device	£1,977.42
	<b>Total Spent</b>	<b>£1,977.42</b>
		
	Signed	Parish Clerk
	DF Crimmin	
	Signed	
	Clive Johnson	Chairman
	31st March 2021	

## Appendix H Planning Status

Application Reference	Address	Planning Details	LCPC Minute	Parish Council Comments	Babergh DC Comments
DC/21/00821	Church Of All Saints, Kedington Hill	Application for Listed Building Consent - Replacement covering for porch roof.			LBC not required.
DC/21/01361	Kingsbury House, Upper Road	Construction of dormer windows to the front elevation and velux windows to the rear to facilitate loft conversion with addition of pitched gable end roof. Re-position and replace windows.	21/037a	Supported	

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Videoconference

## Appendix I National Grid Response



# LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dave Crimmin, Cragston, Sudbury Road, Newton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0QH  
Tel: 01787 375085 email: [yourclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:yourclerk@btinternet.com)

5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

National Grid

Via email to [contact@bramford-twinstead.nationalgrid.com](mailto:contact@bramford-twinstead.nationalgrid.com)

### Subject: Bramford to Twinstead network reinforcement Consultation

This response from Little Cornard Parish Council (LCPC) covers a number of aspects of National Grid's proposals and will be covered under a number of headings. They are:

- Scope and duration of proposal
- Consultation in a pandemic
- Case for undergrounding in the Stour Valley
- Cumulative impact
- Questions to National Grid
- Conclusion

#### Scope and duration of proposal:

National Grid (NG) has deliberately limited the scope of their current consultation. This they have done by failing to discuss other potential connection proposals which could have a direct bearing on the need case and specification of the proposed Bramford to Twinstead (B to T) connection. We believe these proposals could have a significant likelihood of adding further capacity to the B to T corridor, in other words, even more lines.

National Grid has not provided sufficient information to the wider community. The last consultation was ten years ago and there has been significant population change in the intervening period. Despite our efforts, we believe a significant proportion of our residents do not have a comprehensive understanding of the NG proposal and more importantly the other issues which have not been addressed.

National Grid only provided those living within 1km of the proposed connection route with direct consultation materials. The well-being and views of residents living in a much wider area has not been taken into account.

National Grid has stated that their intention would be to underground most of the section through Little Cornard, and this would be welcomed. National Grid has not explained that acceptance of any undergrounding proposal is dependent on funding. Further proposals for additional lines from Norfolk to London could remove the funding needed for undergrounding the Little Cornard section. The questionnaire does not provide an opportunity to express a range of views. It is unbalanced in that, for instance, there is an inference regarding funding of pylons against undergrounding that capital costs are the only factor when socio economic and well-being impacts must be factored in. LCPC believe that the scope and duration of the consultation has been inadequate and thus invalidates any conclusions.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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## **LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Dave Crimmin, Cragston, Sudbury Road, Newton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0QH  
Tel: 01787 375085 email: yourclerk@btinternet.com

### **Consultation in a pandemic:**

Many of our residents are elderly and have been shielding. It has not been possible to engage in face-to-face discussions. As a council, we are very aware how difficult it has been to communicate digitally with our residents. Whilst some are very skilled with Zoom many are not! The consultation has been rushed and has not taken into account the impact of the pandemic. In 2010/13, we were able to conduct face-to-face village meetings to discuss the implications of the previous proposals and their impact on the village.

### **Case for undergrounding in the Stour Valley:**

The Parish Council are deeply concerned that in the final analysis, there will not be enough funding to enable the section through Little Cornard to be undergrounded. The Stour Valley through Little Cornard is close to the existing AONB boundary and may well be designated in the future. In the previous consultation the case was made and accepted that the environmental impact of additional lines would be unacceptable. The environmental/cultural value of the valley to both local residents and the wider tourist industry has in fact increased since the earlier proposal. The numbers using our footpaths have increased and interest in the landscape views has grown.

The results of the questionnaire used in the preparation of our Neighbourhood Plan overwhelmingly showed how important the environmental assets of Little Cornard were regarded. Almost 100% of responses also indicated that residents wanted all future electricity lines to be undergrounded. It is a fact that UKPN has, over the last decade or so undergrounded a significant number of existing power lines in Little Cornard.

It is obvious that the cost benefit of undergrounding any new lines is very positive, taking into account a growing tourist industry and the financial implications of improving the 'well-being' of our residents and visitors.

### **Cumulative impact:**

The Parish Council finds the refusal of National Grid to consult on the totality of their proposals, which could impact the Bramford to Twinstead corridor, both unacceptable and insulting. Understanding the cumulative effect of all proposals is central to making an informed response. A worst-case scenario would destroy a landscape full of cultural heritage and environmental assets. The current consultation is inadequate for all the reasons outlined and is not fit for purpose. We strongly ask that National Grid revisit the timescale and provide an extension to the consultation until August so that we have an opportunity- to understand all the issues and potential proposals to measure their impact on our parish.

### **Questions to National Grid:**

To more clearly understand the rationale for the National Grid proposal for the Bramford to Twinstead corridor and to understand the technological issues we would ask for answers to the following questions:

- Why cannot the current consultation be delayed to allow residents more time to both understand and respond to your proposals?
- Apart from the current proposal for the Bramford-Twinstead line, which you are consulting on, what other potential plans are there for additional transmission which might also go on the Bramford-Twinstead route?

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## LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Dave Crimmin, Cragston, Sudbury Road, Newton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0QH  
Tel: 01787 375085 email: yourclerk@btinternet.com

- There is much local support for an undersea solution which would significantly reduce the need for so much onshore transmission. The technology exists and its use is common practise both in the UK and abroad. Why are National Grid not more actively pursuing such a solution?
- High temperature superconducting cables, which could more than half the need for traditional cables, are already in use. Why is there no consideration of using such cables?
- Proposals which increase transmission in a confined area will increase electric and electromagnetic fields. Can National Grid provide estimates of potential increased emissions together with a categorical assurance that there is no increased danger to people, particularly children, living or regularly active in proximity to proposals for new transmission? What are the current regulations relating to above matters?
- We find it difficult to comprehend that there are not better solutions to current pylon design. Current designs must be at least a hundred years old. It has been commented that they look like Meccano, and even Meccano has moved on in terms of materials and design.
- Residents have expressed concern about the micro-climate effect of the heat emitted from above ground and underground transmission. What research has National Grid undertaken to understand this effect? Underground cables have been used in other parts of the country for at least ten years; what is the evidence regarding environmental impact of growth and habitats above these lines?

### Conclusion:

In an 'Anglia' news clip on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021, a National Grid spokesman said '*the world has moved on.*' We respectfully suggest that a significant amount of the technology/equipment design used by National Grid is at least one hundred years old. We cannot think of another industry where there has been so little technological development and a perceived lack of vision. In the previous century, electricity transmission was predominately by four north- south lines of pylons. It appears that National Grid are simply changing the axis to east-west with little or no consideration of new technologies which would reduce the blight of the natural beauty of Little Cornard and East Anglia. Future solutions must, as a high priority, protect our countryside, safeguard the well-being of our citizens and reflect that we are an advanced country moving to a carbon neutral economy.

Once you have considered our response and can provide answers to our questions, we would like to meet with you again to discuss both what we can say to our residents regarding your proposals and how we can assist you to carry out an appropriate consultation which will provide National Grid with useful information to move proposals forward.

Yours faithfully

**Dave Crimmin PSLCC**  
Clerk to Little Cornard Parish Council

### End of Appendices

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date