



# Saxmundham Town Council

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Saxmundham Town Council held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at the Town House, Station Approach at 2:00 pm.

## Minutes

### 55/24TC Attendees

Cllr Di Eastman (Chair)  
Cllr John Findlay (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr John Fisher  
Cllr Geraldine Barker  
Cllr Marianne Kiff  
Cllr Charlotte Hawkins  
Cllr Elizabeth Clark

### Apologies

Cllr Tiim Lock  
Cllr James Sandbach – none received  
Cllr Jeremy Smith – none received  
Cllr Benjamin Gulliford – none received

### Also Present

Sharon Smith (Town Clerk/RFO)  
9 members of the public

### 56/24TC Declaration of Interests

None.

### 57/24TC Open Forum

A member of the public raised concerns that residents were unaware of the energy project proposals and she exhorted the Town Council to do more to ensure they were informed. She suggested the Town Council hosts a public meeting to include presentations from local experts and publishes a newsletter to be delivered to all households. The member of the public also asked why the Town Council had not yet published its response to the Sealink additional consultation. Cllr Geraldine Barker responded that the Town Council recently created an Energy Projects Working Group, of which she is Chair, comprising Councillors and residents with specific expertise. She explained that the Group had spent hours researching and compiling the response to the additional Sealink consultation during the holiday season and the response will be published once approved by the Town Council. Cllr Barker informed the member of the public that Saxmundham Against Needless Destruction are creating an information display in empty premises on the High Street to further inform the residents. Cllr John Findlay explained that a public meeting regarding Sealink was held before and that this meeting was purely to consider the response to the additional consultation. He further explained that when the Neighbourhood Plan is modified to include the Garden Neighbourhood, it will be further strengthened by including policies which address the proposed converter stations.

A member of the public raised a concern about the likely increase in Houses of Multiple Occupation in Saxmundham because of the energy projects, particularly Sizewell C. He said parts of the town were unsuitable as they have limited parking space. He asked the Town Council to contact East Suffolk Council to request them to consider this matter. The Town Clerk explained that EDF Energy has published an Accommodation Management Strategy as part of the Deed of Obligation from the Development Consent Order and the District and County Councils are parties to the Deed of Obligation. Cllr Di Eastman explained that the problem of fly-parking was identified during the construction of Hinkley Point C therefore EDF Energy has plans to prevent similar problems locally with Sizewell C.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 58/24TC Energy Projects

- a) Cllr Geraldine Barker delivered a brief report and proposed that the Town Council accepts the recommendation from the Energy Projects Working Group to approve the response to National Grid Electricity Transmission regarding the Sealink additional consultation. Seconded by Cllr Di Eastman and **unanimously resolved**. The Town Clerk was instructed to submit the response to National Grid and copy to the District and County Councils, the MP, neighbouring Parish Councils, and upload to the website.
- b) Cllr Geraldine Barker delivered a brief report and proposed that the Town Council accepts the recommendation from the Energy Projects Working Group to approve the response to Ofgem regarding the Nautilus proposals. Seconded by Cllr Di Eastman and **unanimously resolved**. The Town Clerk was instructed to submit the response to National Grid and copy to the District and County Councils, the MP, neighbouring Parish Councils, and upload to the website.

## 59/24TC Memorial Field Funfair

It was **unanimously resolved** to approve a request from Stocks to site a funfair on the Memorial Field for the first two weekends of September 2024. It was further **unanimously resolved** to charge a £600 fee in accordance with the Town Council's Open Spaces Policy.

The meeting closed at 2:45 pm.

**Sharon Smith**  
**Town Clerk/RFO**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_