

DRAFT MINUTES OF MIDDLEZOY PARISH COUNCIL

SPECIAL PLANNING MEETING

Held on Tuesday 7th MARCH 2017 in Middlezoy Village Hall @ 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. N. Turner (Chairman) ,Cllr. P. Baker, Cllr. A. Lipscomb, Cllr. J. Laine, and Cllr. D. Gooda.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr. L. Perry (District Councillor), Chris Sidaway (Clerk to Council) and 42 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. N. Gillard and Cllr. D. Huxtable

1. Chairman's Comments

1.1 The Chairman introduced the meeting as a single item Special Planning Meeting to consider application 53/17/00002 for Power Poles Limited for a storage depot on the former Westonzoyland Airfield. The Chairman laid out the "rules of engagement" for the meeting and would reach a decision, uninfluenced by previous statements made on social media but purely on appropriate comments made by the Middlezoy community.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3. Parishioners Question-time

3.1 The Chairman said that he would take questions/comments from the community and then a response from the applicant.

Speakers against the application: Mr R. Horsham, Mr N. Musgrave-Brown, Mr. J. Hutchings, Mrs S. Grey, Mr D. Bathurst, Mrs S. Horsham, Mrs M. Bell-Phillips , Mrs L. Davey, Mr D. Walker, Mr G. Wright and Mrs. Hutchings.

Speaker for the application and answering questions: Mr W. Clason (Managing Director – Power Poles Limited).

A lively debate ensued with concerns from the community expressed about odour, contamination of agricultural land which could affect crops and milk production, human water supply, health of children at day nursery, no obvious benefit to the community including employment opportunities, r in traffic movements and access issues, international concerns about creosote affecting health, no personal facilities on site and noise from extra traffic.

The applicant responded that he had 40 years experience in the industry and had been supplying utility poles all over the South West. His company had been referred to this site by Sedgemoor Authorities and his industry was highly regulated by European Regulations. He was a new resident in Middlezoy and wished to proceed as a good neighbour and was planning a series of measures to mitigate any potential pollution issues and inconvenience to residents.