Minutes

Longhedge Solar Farm Community Liaison Group

Date:	4 November 2026
Time:	18:30 to 20:10
Location	Hawksworth Community Hall

In attendance:

Chris Clayton, Hawksworth (CC)
Robert Monk, Hawksworth (RM)
Andy Barnes, Thoroton (AB)
Colin Warburton, Thoroton (CW)
Peter Purdy, Thoroton (PP)
Councillor Chris Grocock (CG)
Councillor David Simms (DS)
Councillor Stephen Pearson (SP)
Claire Chamberlain, RES (CCh)
Rebecca Meek, RES (RMe)
Carey Green, RES (CGre)

Item	Details	Actions
1	**Welcome, introductions and apologies** All present introduced themselves and CG took the chair. It was noted that Hawksworth and Thoroton have held public meetings with their respective parishes, and members present had been duly appointed to represent their parish.	
2	**CLG purpose, membership and chair** The purpose of the CLG – being to establish an effective platform for the dissemination of information to the local community, and where local concerns, suggestions and community knowledge can be raised, discussed and carefully considered – was discussed and agreed. Standing members were discussed and it was agreed in addition to members present, Councillor Nigel Regan and Councillor Gareth Williams representing Bingham North ward and a representative from Car Colston Parish Meeting would be standing members. It was agreed that other parish councils or meetings within a five mile radius of the site, be invited to attend CLG meetings, at the relevant times. It was agreed that any correspondence from members to RES between CLG meetings, should be funnelled through CGre who will cascade accordingly.	

3	**CLG terms of reference** The terms of reference were discussed. RES to update and recirculate for approval.	RES
4	**Project update** The project timeline since consent in 2024 was discussed including how NESO's grid connections reform process is informing the construction programme and expected energisation date of Q2 2028. It was confirmed that the main construction works would not start until the Gate 2 offer – being a confirmed connection offer and connection date - has been received. RES to share further detail on construction programme, once known. The project sale to Innagreen Investments was discussed and it was confirmed that RES would support Innagreen with the delivery of the project and would remain the main point of contact. It was noted that while there are some shared executives and close links between the organisations, RES and Innagreen are distinct businesses. It was also confirmed that RES would be the responsible party with Innagreen the accountable party. It was noted that actions agreed at CLG meetings – which will be recorded on an action tracker – will be cascaded appropriately within RES and their contractors. The submission to discharge pre-commencement planning conditions was discussed and it was confirmed that RES is currently preparing a submission to submit to Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC) in the coming weeks. RES advised that they expect RBC to consult with the parishes and elected members, as previously. RES to provide CLG members with details of the submission once submitted to RBC. It was noted that any submission could be subject to change until RBC have validated the submission. It was noted that the haul route is one of the key concerns for the community and that RES must be cognisant of these concerns and potential restriction on villager's movements. Control measures including a passing bay and the use of banksmen were discussed. RES emphasised that the safety of local residents, road users, workers and the wider community was paramount. RES to share examples of other RES-developed and managed schemes, preferably in England. It was noted that this would include onshore wind, solar and energy storage schemes.	RES RES RES
5	**Community benefit** The community benefit package to be delivered once the solar farm is operational was discussed and it was noted that members did not wish to discuss in detail at this time. RES to confirm whether benefit in kind (i.e. planning advice, advocacy, etc) can form part of the community benefit. RES to share examples of other community benefit packages in place or proposed across their portfolio. It was confirmed that payment of the community benefit was tied to the commissioning date of the solar farm, and not to the financial year. It was also discussed that community benefit would	RES RES

	normally take the form of an annual payment, for the lifetime of the solar farm, although a larger upfront payment (with reduced annual payments) could be a consideration. It was agreed that the area of benefit for the community benefit would be limited to the villages of Hawksworth and Thoroton. It was confirmed that any community benefit would be with the SPV – Longhedge Solar Ltd – and as such in the event of any future sale, the new owner would buy the SPV and all agreements associated with it.	
6	Project Q&A Q: Who will be the points of contact within RES? *A: CGre as Community Liaison Officer will be the consistent point of contact throughout the works.* Q: What is the total build time of the project? *A: Total build time is expected to take between six to nine months with a number of associated phases including enabling works, main construction works, commissioning and energisation.*	
7	Any other business There was no other business.	
8	Date and time of next meeting The next meeting will be held on 20 January 2027 at 18:30. Venue to be confirmed.	

Attachments:

- Action tracker

Longhedge CLG Action Tracker

Action ID	Meeting date	Agenda item	Action	Responsibility	Target date	Status	Progress update	Date completed	Outcome/response
CLG001	04/11/2026	3	Circulate updated terms of reference for approval	RES	30/11/2026	Work in progress	Updated ToR issued to members for review and approval 18/11/26		
CLG002	04/11/2026	4	Share further detail on construction programme once known	RES	Q1 27	Outstanding			
CLG003	04/11/2026	4	Provide CLG members with details of the submission once submitted to RBC	RES	16/11/2026	Complete		16/11/2026	Issued by email 16/11/26
CLG004	04/11/2026	4	Share examples of other RES-developed and managed schemes	RES	18/12/2026	Outstanding			
CLG005	04/11/2026	4	Provide further information on the corporate structure and ownership of the SPV, in which the project now sits, following the sale to Innagreen Investments Ltd	RES	20/11/2026	Complete		20/11/2026	Information provided by email 20/11/26
CLG006	04/11/2026	5	Confirm whether benefit in kind (i.e. planning advice, advocacy, etc) can form part of the community benefit.	RES	20/01/2027	Outstanding			
CLG007	04/11/2026	5	Share examples of other community benefit packages in place or proposed	RES	18/12/2026	Outstanding			