

RUMBURGH PARISH COUNCIL

Planning Meeting
16 August 2023
Start 19.55

1. Councillors present – Paul Spill (Chair), Julie Williams, Winky Evans, Paul Fenner and Stephen Stannard.
The Clerk Boyd Coote was in attendance.

Apologies: Julie Flatt

Acceptance proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Williams.
Council accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest: none

1. Members of the public in attendance: none

3. Consideration of Application

DC/22/3313/FUL | Temporary ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) farm with battery energy storage; along with continued agricultural use, ancillary infrastructure, security fencing, landscaping provision, ecological enhancements and associated works. | Land To The North Of Gray's Lane Wissett Halesworth Suffolk

4. Council decision

Rumburgh Parish council object to this application.

The reasons have already been highlighted in the joint Wissett, Spexhall and Rumburgh Parish Council response to the application DC/22/3313/FUL. However, Rumburgh Parish council want to reiterate the following points

- Removal of good agricultural land and effect on food security for the country.
- Environmental impact on wildlife and the rural community
- Totally unsuitable road structure to the site. Narrow single width roads (unclassified). Primary schools at junctions with main road (A144) both at Ilketshall St Lawrence and Halesworth.
- Fire and toxic gases risks from battery storage. In light of recent fires caused by e-bike batteries (same type of battery) the risk of fire from 'Thermal Runaway' is high. The local fire service is unmanned and would also encounter difficulties with road access to site. No water to site. The surrounding land is mainly arable crops (during dry weather any fire could cause massive wild fires).
- The area already has solar farms, this large development would saturate the area in solar panels.

Meeting closed 20.17

Number: bwc0124/23

 20/9/23