MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th December 2021 at 7:00pm

Councillors present: Derek Aldous, Beverley Leek, Gerald Peachey, Steve Sewell and Richard Tucker.

1.0 To receive and consider apologies for absence

Apologies were received in advance from Cllrs Banham and Reeve and were accepted.

Cllr Aldous formally opened the meeting and confirmed that there was a quorum of members present.

2.0 To receive declaration of interest on items on the agenda

No councillor felt it necessary to declare an interest on any agenda item.

3.0 To consider excluding the public and press for item 4 because their presence would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the matter in hand, and in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 1 (2).

Cllr Aldous proposed that MPC consider excluding the public and press for this agenda item because their presence would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the matter in hand, and in accordance with Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2). This proposal was seconded by Cllr Peachey and unanimously agreed.

4.0 To consider legal advice in respect of planning matters

The Council reviewed and considered the legal advice received in respect of planning matters and the main options available to the Council at this time.

4.1 To ratify any decision made under item 4.0

Following discussions Cllr Peachey proposed that, based on independent legal advice received, MPC should (i) accept the recommendation in the advice, and proceed with Stage 2 of the recommended scope of work in connection with Hornsea Three and other projects; (ii) allocate a budget of £10,000 for Stage 2 and, if so advised, Stage 3; (iii) that the expenditure should be made under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972; and (iv) that the expenditure was commensurate with a direct benefit to the area and its residents because it would aim to protect the quality of life, welfare and safety of residents; maintain the predominantly rural landscape character of the area; ensure that the character of Mulbarton is not damaged by large scale industrial development and ensure that green energy does not damage the onshore environment and way of life in Norfolk whilst bringing little or no economic gain to local residents and farming communities.

Cllr Leek seconded the proposal and this was agreed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

The next ordinary meeting will take place on Monday 10th January 2022 at 7.30pm.