

After trying to follow the 8 days of ISH I want to make the following points:

My only device is an iPad and Microsoft Teams works badly with mine. I have complained about this by phone previously. For the first week I had to refresh the page every minute or so, meaning I missed much of what was being said. It was particularly bad when the applicant's representatives were speaking. Holding all the meetings online only is unsatisfactory as the applicant has all the advantage and the cards are stacked against the opposition. Everyone noticed that the applicant's representatives had more time to speak and were treated more courteously than anyone else - mere experts were often cut off mid-flow. Peter Henderson, speaking on fish, is a case in point. I was dismayed that Friday's hearing was abruptly closed by mid-afternoon when so much remained to be said, and I feel that one week to fully respond to 8 days of hearings is totally inadequate.

My feeling is that the DCO should never have been accepted in its present form. The applicant has had a decade to get its ducks in a row and has failed miserably. There is such a vast amount that has not yet been decided or designed and yet apparently all these problems can be hidden away for now - and therefore left unexamined. These are huge, crucial problems such as how it will be financed, the transport strategy, the precise design of the hard sea defences, where the water will come from and so very much more. I think that if the applicant has not managed to find solutions to such absolutely basic problems development consent should be refused.

It is also absolutely clear that the environmental and ecological damage to East Suffolk will never be recovered from. That the applicant's expert could say in all seriousness that Marsh Harriers will fly around the site to reach their foraging grounds rather than over the top is ludicrous: all birds will vote with their wings and leave this area altogether as fast as they can.

We all know that if this project goes ahead it is a death sentence for the beauty and tranquility of the AONB, RSPB Minsmere, the rare and precious flora and fauna in the area and the many small villages and hamlets nearby. There is no possible mitigation for losses of such magnitude and, in my view, the applicant's plans amount to ecocide.