

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [East Anglia ONE North](#)  
**Subject:** RE: East Anglia One North Offshore Windfarm – EN010077  
**Date:** 14 October 2020 16:04:50  
**Attachments:** [Peter Fife - Address to Open Floor Hearing - 8 October 2020.odt](#)

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Dear Sirs

Following the Open Floor Hearings on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October, where I spoke to oppose the Planning Application I would like to make three points which I hope will be helpful:

1. I attach a copy of the address which I made to the Open Floor Hearing.
2. I support the representations made by S.A.E.S.
3. I believe the Inspector will be making visits to Friston and it occurs to me that he may wish to come into St. Mary's Church as part of his visit, to see how the proposed development would impact upon the Church both from the Churchyard and from inside the Church. The Church is now normally locked but as a Churchwarden I am a keyholder and would be pleased to open the Church to enable the Inspector to have access. I would not, of course, try to discuss matters with the Inspector but would be happy to answer questions which he may have. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

PETER FIFE

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## **Address to open floor planning meeting - 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

My wife and I expressed an interest in this meeting and said that we wanted to hear what was being said and to speak, if called upon to do so. It was with some surprise that I was asked to speak, but I am, nevertheless, grateful for the opportunity. I do not claim any expertise in these complex planning matters, but I speak as one who has some common sense and has grown to love the village of Friston and the surrounding countryside during the 15 years we have peacefully lived here.

I have become increasingly distressed by the impending devastation that this proposed development would bring and want to add my insignificant voice to oppose it. I will speak on three of the matters which concern me most and will leave technical matters to those who are qualified to do so.

### **Firstly, the Church.**

I declare an interest here as a churchwarden but I am sure my comments will be shared by many in the village, whether they are churchgoers or not. The church of St Mary the Virgin is a beautiful building standing in a slightly elevated position near the village green. It dates back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century although parts of it are probably much older. When you think about it, one of the most notable things about the 14<sup>th</sup> century was the Black Death which resulted in the death of about one third of the population of Europe. This puts the Covid 19 pandemic into perspective, at least so far! The placing of a huge series of transformer stations overlooking the church, let alone in sight of much of the rest of the village, is commercial vandalism of the worst kind. An alternative must be found

### **Secondly, environment and the view.**

If you walk from the church in Friston up a public footpath to the north, you will pass through fields as you go towards Saxmundham. It is really one of the loveliest walks you could imagine, now more frequently used because of the Covid lockdown. You will see wild flowers of all descriptions in their season (including, so my wife says, orchids) and, if you are lucky wild animals including foxes, badgers and even red deer (I am told that this area contains the largest population of red deer in Britain outside Scotland).

If the proposed development goes ahead, one's path would be blocked by steel fencing surrounding the enormous development which Scottish Power and National Grid have planned, Never again would people be able to enjoy this priceless amenity. Once it's gone, it's gone.

**Thirdly, traffic and the roads.**

At the present time, the roads in the area are narrow, often with passing places, designed and sufficient to service the local population and visitors. Any so-called 'improvement' of these roads would destroy much of the landscape which has developed over the centuries. In answer to the question 'Wouldn't you like a better road system?' most local people would reply 'No, we're content with what we have '.

In order to cope with the huge increase in heavy traffic during the construction phase of 10 years or so many of these narrow roads would need widening and straightening which would destroy much of the character of the area.

**To conclude, there is a point I would like to mention:**

Please do not place too much reliance on all the photographs and maps Scottish Power have provided in support of their case. They may not be all they seem. I do not suggest they have been doctored in any way but I have lived here for many years and had difficulty identifying what is shown. They have been cleverly taken and prepared to show countryside but the houses in the village and the Grade 2 listed church are just off picture.