

# TEXT\_OFH1\_A47A11Thickthorn\_16112021

00:05

Good morning are welcome. Can I just confirm with the inspectorates case team that they can see and hear me?

00:16

Yes, we can see and hear you, Mr. Shrigley

00:19

Thank you. And can I also confirm that the live streaming and recording of the event have started please? Yes, we're

00:28

up and running with that as well.

00:30

Thank you very much. Okay. It's just gone 10 o'clock and I would like to welcome you all to this open floor hearing relating to the examination for the A 47, a 11, thick Thorn and junction improvement scheme. My name is Matthew Shrigley. I am a chartered town planner employed by the planning Inspectorate and I am appointed as the examining authority for the application. You may have already heard from the case manager for the scheme, Louise Evans for this project, although members of the case team are present, assisting with the hearing in the background, their names are Michele Gregory, and Harpriya Kaur. If you have any questions or queries during the course of the examination itself, the case team should be your first point of contact. Their contact details can be found at the top of any letter you have received from us on the project page of the national infrastructure website. Should you need that? Before I consider the items on the broader agenda for the hearing, there are a number of housekeeping matters for me to deal with in tandem with those raised at the arrangements conference. As far as I'm aware that there have been no requests made for any special measures or arrangements to enable participation in the hearing. Can I just check with the case team? That is correct.

02:18

Yes, Mr knows no special arrangements have been requested today.

02:23

Thank you very much. Okay, the event is being both live streamed and recorded. The digital recordings we make are retained and published. They form a public record that can contain personal information to which the general data protection regulations applied the planning Inspectorate practices to retain and publish recordings for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the development consent order. Consequently, if you participate in today's hearing, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and therefore, you consent to the retention and publication of the digital

recording. The Inspectorate will only ever ask for information to be placed on the public record that is important and relevant to the planning decision. It will only be in the rarest of circumstances that we might ask you to provide personal information. Therefore, to avoid the need to edit the digital recordings, I ask that you try your best not to add any information to the public record that you would wish to be kept private or confidential. Finally, can I repeat the request made in the arrangements conference that in order to minimise any background noise, can you make sure that mobile phones and other electrical devices are switched off and that you stay muted? Unless you are speaking the relevant parts of the hearing I may also use the mute function whilst we are recording at various times just to minimise any background noise just to make you aware of that. If you do need to raise something during the hearing, please use the hands raised function in MS teams. Or if that's not possible signal to me to speak at an appropriate time and I will loop to invite you when

04:43

can I also remind parties that the chat function in teams will not be enabled or in use. Therefore please don't try to use that avenue for questions or comments as it won't be working. This is a verb For the event, and you may see me at various times looking at my notes, I do have another screen to my side as well, I might be looking at that. With that in mind, I can assure all parties that even if I'm not looking at my screen, I will be listening to the proceedings at all times, just to make you aware of that. We are making good progress on housekeeping points. I am aware that this can be a little repetitive parties who have been involved in other infrastructure hearings. But please bear with me as these are necessary matters. Everyone needs to be made aware of.

05:53

The purpose of the open floor hearing is to allow relevant parties who have made requests to speak the opportunity to put forward their views on the application or really, the hearing follows the requests of interested parties to do that. It is an opportunity for me to hear in person your comments on the application. And as you present your views, I may ask questions, but that will only be on the basis that I need to. If I don't ask any questions. You know, it doesn't indicate any inference that your comments aren't being heard. It just means that I have no particular questions to raise. Because there are only a small number of parties wishing to speak, I've not sought to allocate any specific timings. However, I would still request that your contributions are to the point and as focused as possible, avoiding repetition or reading directly from other examination documents, which can be taken as being read. This will enable the best use of the examination time or hearing time available, whilst also allowing you to make your points to me. If I do consider the points you are raising, are being repeated or issues are being introduced that perhaps are not appropriate to hear during the hearing. I do reserve the right to ask you to bring your contributions to a conclusion or close close if I need to. Notes are being taken of the hearing meeting proceedings themselves. And the notes will be placed on the project page of the national infrastructure website as soon as practicable after the hearing formally closes. It will be beneficial for the record. If each time you speak you could state your name and if you are representing someone the name of the organisation or person you represent.

08:24

Okay, please bear in mind that the only official record of today's proceedings are the notes and the digital recording, tweets, blogs and other similar communications arising out of this meeting will not be

accepted as evidence in the examination. Before I move to the relevant parties who wish to speak, are there any questions or comments on the management or conduct the hearing at this point? I'm just throwing it open to all participants. If you want to raise something, please please do. Okay, I'll take that as a no thank you. I intend to sit for periods no longer than an hour and a half at a time for the hearing. Given the number of participants we have attending is quite low. I'm optimistic we could complete the hearing without the need for an adjournment. If that turns out to be unrealistic. I will intervene later on but we'll see how we go on with that. And you know if it does head towards the hour and a half mark, I'll consider an adjournment at a suitable point. Okay, turning to the list of parties to be heard. I've been given a list of parties who want to speak and saying that also acknowledge as well that the applicants team has requested to speak at the open floor hearing and also aware that such provision has been made or the open floor hearings for a 47 related schemes. So dealing with the interested parties first, when I read out your name, could you please turn your camera and microphone on and introduce yourself confirming your name, who you represent. And if you still want to speak alongside a snapshot of the broad topic, your topics you wish to raise? It would also be helpful to me if you could indicate whether or not you have any particular requests of when you would like to be heard. I currently only have two names on the list with me. So in no particular order, I have Mr. Charles Birch, registered on my list. Mr. Birch, could you please introduce yourself and confirm if you still intend to speak and confirm the details over outlined please?

11:15

Mr. Shrigley, sorry to interrupt Mr. Birch not been able to join us this morning, so he's not in attendance.

11:22

Okay, thank you. Thank you for confirming that. Okay, the second person I have I also have a Mr. Richard Hawker, I believe speaking in relation to the consideration of alternatives by the applicant. Could you also if you could, please introduce yourself and confirm whether or not you wish to speak?

11:53

Sorry, Mr. Shrigley. Mr. Hawker has also not been able to join us. We think that he may be on a site visit for another one of the 47 schemes.

12:04

Oh, right. Okay. If right, on that basis, I would be prepared to accept a written submission from Mr. Hawker. If that is something which Mr. Hawker would want want to make. But given that we have the registered parties, he wanted to speak not available today. I would like to just ask if the applicants team aside, is there anybody else who wishes to speak at the open floor hearing? If I could just throw it open to any party who wishes to speak? And then I'll come to the applicants team?

13:07

I'm not getting any requests to speak. So I'm on that basis. Turning to the applicants team. Mr. Fry. I believe you are taking the lead today.

13:19

So yes, good morning, Michael Fry for the applicant. Good morning. Yes, well, there is no one else who has appeared this morning. Just just to update you, the applicant has been talking extensively with with big sky. And I would suggest that probably the best way forward would be for the applicant and Big Sky to write to you, in due course once a course of action is properly agreed between the parties. And as to Mr. Hawker. He's on the site visit I'm told. And presumably he has submissions to be made in respect to alternatives. Those submissions can be made tomorrow. The environmental hearing, so

14:01

that's appreciated. Mr. Fry. Yes, I note. Everything you're saying. And yes, I have no objections to that.

14:09

Great. Well, we were only registered to speak, sir, to exercise the right for reply. So I'm afraid I have nothing to say to you at this hearing either, sir.

14:17

That makes things very simple. Mr. Fry. I'm grateful. Thank you. Okay. On that basis, I've already asked whether or not any other party wishes to speak, there are no other parties. I've heard from the applicants team also. On that basis, I'm going to move to the close of the hearing unless anybody wishes to raise anything further.

14:52

Okay, I'll take that as a no. On that basis. I'd like to thank you all very much for your contributions, which I've heard on noted, may I remind you that a digital recording of the proceedings today will be available soon as practicable on the project page of the national infrastructure website. The time is quarter past 10. And this open floor hearing for the A 47. A 11 fix on junction improvement scheme is now closed. Thank you