# PRELIM 1\_A47 Blofield Session1 08062021 TRANSCRIPTION

Tue, 6/8 11:58AM • 1:34:25

# 00:10

Good morning, collectors confirm that people can just confirm that people can see and hear me clearly. Yes, Alex, can hear you. Yes, I can. Thank you. Can I also confirm with Deborah Allen that the live streaming of the event has commenced and is being recorded? Yes, it is. Thank you. For those people watching the live stream Can I also advise you that should we at any point to join proceedings? This morning, we will have to stop the live stream in order to give us clear recording files. As a result at the point at which we recommence the meeting and restart the live stream you'll need to refresh your browser page to view the restarted stream. I'll remind you again of this should we need to adjourn. It is now 10 o'clock and time for this meeting. To begin. I'd like to welcome you all to this preliminary meeting for the application made by highways England, who I refer to as the applicants for an order granting development consent for the a 47 blofield to North Burling and project. The development proposed includes the provision of an offline dual carriageway between Blofield and North burlingham to tie in with the existing a 47, a new junction layout and overbridge and the B 1140 Junction, a new overbridge of Blofield, walking and cycling routes and the diversion of a gas main and other utilities. Thank you for attending this virtual meeting. My name is Alex Hutson. I'm a chartered member of the royal Town Planning Institute, and a chartered member of the landscape Institute. And I have academic qualifications in both these areas. I'm a planning inspector employed by the planning Inspectorate and have been appointed by the Secretary of State for housing communities or local governments to examine this application. I have the examining authority for the application and will be reporting to the Secretary of State for Transport with a recommendation as to whether the development consent order should be made. You will have already spoken to and heard from Deborah Allen, who is the case manager for this project. M Allen is being supported say by James Bunton and Lily Robbins who are members of the case team, and who you're likely to come into contact with during the course of the examination. If you have any questions or queries about the examination process, or the technology we are using for virtual events, they should be your first point of contact. The contact details can be found at the top of the Le letter you have received from us, or on the project page or the national infrastructure planning website. I appreciate the conducting an event in this way isn't ideal and can be challenging for those who are unfamiliar with the technology. But please don't hesitate to contact a member of the case team if you need help with any of the technology. Before I consider the items on the agenda for this morning. I need to deal with some additional housekeeping matters to those raised by Miss Allen in the arrangements conference. As far as I'm aware, no requests will be made for any special measures or arrangements to enable participation in the preliminary meeting. Can I just check that this is correct. Okay, I'm not hearing anything that anybody needs any special measures so move on. This event is being held on the Microsoft team's platform and is being both live streamed and recorded. As explained to my letter for the 27th of April 2021. Because the digital recordings we make are retained and published. They form a public record that can contain your personal information, and

to which the general data protection regulations apply. The Planning Inspectorates practice is 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 preliminary meeting, it is important that you understand that you will be live streamed and recorded and that the digital recording will be published. If you don't want your image to be recorded, you can switch off your camera will only ever ask for information to be placed on the public record this is important and relevant to the planning decision. It will only be in rare circumstances that we might ask you to provide personal information that the type that most of us would prefer to keep private or confidential. Therefore, to avoid the need to edit the digital recordings, what I would ask is that you try your best not to add information to the public record that you would wish to keep private or this is confidential. If you feel the personal information is necessary, please provide this in a written document that we can redact before publication.

#### 05:04

As this event is being conducted virtually, rather than as a physical face to face event, the dynamics will be different for those participating and observing. By this, I mean that you may see me looking away from the camera and appearing not to engage with speakers. This is because I may be writing notes or looking at other material on screens, I can assure you that I will be paying close attention to everything that is happening. Can I repeat the question the requests made in the arrangement conference, that's in order to minimise background noise, you make sure your phone is switched off, or turn silent, and that you stay muted unless you're speaking as a virtual meeting, it's structured in such a way the questions or points that you may wish to raise can be done so other relevant points in the proceedings. When we get to those points, I would ask if you want to speak use the Microsoft team's hands up function. They'd be advised there may be a delay before I see it. And please wait to be invited to speak or asked to speak at the appropriate time. Can I also remind people that the chat function on Microsoft Teams will not work? So please don't try to use this to ask any questions or post any comments. Please speak loudly. And clearly. If you don't manage to ask your question or raise your points of the relevant points in time, there will be an opportunity at the end of the meeting for you to raise this under agenda item eight, which is any other matters. Or alternatively, you can submit your question or information in writing by Tuesday the 15th of June 2021, which is identified in the timetable as proceed procedural deadline be. I will say more about the timetable shortly. I intend to take a 15 minute break at around 1130 if necessary. Are there any comments or questions regarding any of the points that I've just made? Okay, I'll take that as a no. So moving on. You're all here today because you are in one of the following categories. You are the applicant or representative of the applicants, you represent the local authority or labour in authority. You represent bodies, the statutory parties, you're essentially irrelevant representation representation and have therefore become an interested party. You're in you are an individual or a body affected by the application for compulsory acquisition or temporary possession of land or rights overland, or you are a combination of any of these categories. There may also be people here are not covered by any of those descriptions, whichever you are, you're all very welcome. Ms Allen Could you share a the image of the agenda please? Can everybody see an image of the agenda? No, no? Okay. Okay, brilliant. Thank you. This meeting will follow the agenda as set out in my letter, the 27th of April 2021, which I will refer to from now on as a rule six letter. I hope you have a copy of the rule six letter to hand. If you do please turn to Annex A, which sets out the agenda for this morning's meeting. And that's what we'll say and they're shown on the screens. We're currently on item one of this agenda. The letter and agenda are also available on the project page of national

infrastructure planning websites, where they can be found in the examination library or reference PD 005. I'm proposing to make a slight amendments to the agenda so that the procedural decisions taken by the examining authority changes items six

# 09:09

are addressed before the draft examination timetable shows item five. The reason being that some of the procedural decisions will help explain why the draft timetable has been prepared in that way. Thank you, Miss Allen, could you remove the agenda? Let me briefly explain the purpose of this preliminary meeting. We are here to focus on the way in which I intend to examine this application. We'll be discussing only the procedural aspects of this examination today. I'm not taking any evidence of this meeting and I'm not discussing either the merits or any concerns that you may have regarding the application. I would like to emphasise I have taken those decisions yes about the merits of or concerns relating to the application. The various concerns will only be caused At once examination of the application begins following the close of the preliminary meeting. Due to the event being held virtually this will be on Tuesday the 22nd of June 2020. Well, hopefully by the end of this meeting, you will all be comforted, that there'll be sufficient opportunities throughout the examination for you to all express your views. A preliminary meeting for development, consent or application would not normally have two parts. The reason in this case is because in holding the meeting virtually, rather than as a physical face to face event, I want to ensure that people who do not or cannot make oral submissions to this part, perhaps because of reasons to do with technology, have the opportunity to respond subsequently. I will say more about these matters shortly. This is a working meeting. In running it I intend to temper efficiency with fairness and mean to allow you all to have your say it is relevant, and to allow you to inform me of all I need to know at this stage. However, I will endeavour to make sure that your and my contributions are to the points and focus as possible, so that I make the best use of the time available and allow everyone who wishes to speak an opportunity to do so. And I hope that you will support me in this endeavour, notes are being taken out of this meeting and these will be placed on the project page of the national infrastructure planning website as soon as practicable after the close of the preliminary meeting. As already mentioned, digital recordings are being made at today's meeting, and these two will be placed on the project page of the website as soon as possible after this meeting. With this in mind, it will be enormously beneficial to me if each time you speak you can state your name. And if you are representing someone who may say says you represent. Please also bear in mind that the official The only official record of today's proceedings are the notes and the digital recording, tweets blogs and similar communications arising out of this meeting will not be accepted as evidence into the examination of this application. Thank you. I've been provided by the case team with a list of those who have expressed expressed the wish to be heard today. They are people representing the following organisations, highways England as the applicants, Norfolk County Council and climate emergency planning and policy. There are also two individuals who have indicated a wish to speak. These are john Randlesome and Richard Hawker is anybody else who wishes to speak today? Okay, I'm not seeing any other people wishing to speak today. So I'll move on. I'm going to now ask those of you who have who are participating in today's meeting to introduce yourselves to me and to the people who are watching the live stream of this event. When I say to your organisation or name, please unmute yourself. And if you have your camera turned off, switch it on then introduce yourself stating your name and who you represent. Can I start with those representing the applicants please?

# 13:24

I am Nikki Rowley Todd and I'm the project manager of the a47 blofield scheme working with highways England.

# 13:33

Thank you. Could I Could you turn your camera on please? When you speak? Oh, I did turn it on. Is it not working? Sorry. Just so that I can recognise you for the future. Okay. It's on. Is it on? Yes, it's like, Okay. Okay, anybody else? I believe is two of the people who are speaking for the applicant today.

# 14:01

So good morning. It's Richard Guyatt from Womble bond Dickinson at UK LLP. I refer to that as WBD from now on if I may. So, I am the the legal lead for the applicant in this matter. I will be doing a little bit of speaking, I suspect when we get to discussion in relation to procedural matters. And in terms of the timetable. We also have Mr. Phillip Robson, who is a consultant to wbD who will be leading the hearings. And also Mr. Steven Dagg, my colleague here at wbD. Can I suggest that they introduce themselves to you in turn? And then perhaps I can if it helps, I can introduce you to the rest of the the wider team on an individual basis if that helps.

#### 14:50

Yes, thank you, Mr. Guyatt They'll be they'll be helpful. Like so. consultant with wbD. And I'll be taking for the matter at the hearings. Thank you Mr. Robson. Thank you, sir. I think you used to be the first one to do that didn't I? Stephen Dagg from wbD.

# 15:30

So I suspect it's going to be easier if I sort of call out my list. In terms of apology. Apologies I committed the cardinal sin of not reintroduce myself with regard wb D. Shall I call out the list of everyone else's here, sir. And then they can just say hello. And you can see them and then I'll move on to the next one. Is that okay, sir? That's absolutely fine. Thank you. So may I start then with Jacquie Critchley, please. Good morning, Jacquie could save for cost generous working on behalf of highways England. Thank you, Jacquie. Perhaps if we can go to Tim Sayers, please.

#### 16:23

Good morning. Tim Sayers. I'm a project manager for galliford. Try working in partnership with Highways England. And then perhaps, Philip Fouche, please. Morning,

# 16:40

Philip Foucher. I'm the Senior Project Manager with Gallup try working in partnership with how is England? Thank you. Sophie may please give. Sophie May I work for sweco on behalf of highways England good morning.

# 17:05

Mark Murphy please. Good morning, my feet environmental leads. Then I think the last on my list, sir. Is David battershill. No doubt there's no one else is looking after Mr. Battershill introduced himself.

# 17:21

Hi, David batterhill. work for sweco transport modelling on behalf of he. So I think that's it and there's anyone else who's shouting. So that's the applicant team for us.

#### 17:36

Okay, thank you very much for that. Can we now move on to those representing Norfolk County Council?

# 17:47

Thank you, sir. Stephen Faulkner. I hope you can see me cameras supposed to be on? Yes, I can see. Excellent, thank you. I'm principal planner, acting strategic planning manager for the county council. I'm a charter town planner, taking an overview on this project as with other doo projects within within Norfolk, and the three people present today include myself from county council, I can do what w BD just on an introduce move. That's all everything, sir. Yes, please. I'll be they'll be helpful. Thank you. Okay, back at us. David Cumming to introduce himself, please.

#### 18:26

Good morning. I'm David Cumming the strategic transport team manager at Norfolk County Council. Thank you.

## 18:36

And lastly, Alice Craske project officer, I could ask her to introduce herself. Thank you. Good morning, Alice Craske on the project support officer for Norfolk County Council. Robin, thank you. Thank you, sir.

# 18:54

Thank you. So I think the next person's introduce themselves would be climate emergency planning and policy. Dr. Andrew Boswell.

# 19:09

Yes. Hello. I hope you can see me Okay, sir. I can see here. Yes. Yes. I'm Dr. Andrew Boswell. I'm an environmental consultant specialising in climate emergency and law and policy around that. And I also live in Norfolk.

#### 19:27

Okay. Thank you, Dr. Boswell. And moving on to members of the public. Mr. Randlesome, can you please introduce yourself?

## 19:43

I'm John Randlesome And I've got a property on the proposed development.

#### 19:51

Okay, thank you, Mr. Randlesome. And, finally, Mr. Hawker

## 20:01

Good morning, sir. My name is Richard Hawker. I live in Hockering. I'm a parish Councillor, for that area. And I'm speaking as an individual with great interest in transport in general, and wildlife in particular. And I think that's all I have to say. Thank you very much.

#### 20:22

Thank you, Mr. Walker. Can I just confirm that I've now heard introductions from everybody, everyone who wishes to participate in today's meeting? Okay, I'll take that as a yes. So thank you. That concludes item one of the agenda. I'll now turn to item two of the agenda, the examining authorities remarks about the virtual preliminary meeting process. As explained to the rule six letter and particularly the link to the planning spectrum advice note 8.6. Due to the covid 19 pandemic, the planning Inspectorate is having to adapt the way in which we examine applications. Consequently, as you're currently witnessing, the preliminary meeting for this application is being held virtually. I'd like to apologise for the inconvenience that this may have caused and to take this opportunity, including on behalf of the case team, to thank you for your continued patience and for the contributions you've made so far in this respect. In order to ensure that everyone can participate in the preliminary meeting is being held in two parts. As I've explained, this consists of today's event, which is described as a preliminary meeting part one, which will be followed by a period of adjournments where people who have participated in today's events, as well as those watching or listening to the recording will have the opportunity to write to me with any points that they wish to meet and consider regarding the proposed way in which this application will be examined. The deadline for these comments is procedural deadline B, which is next Tuesday, the 15th of June. Following my consideration of any submissions received, the preliminary meeting will either reconvene as part two on Tuesday the 22nd of June at 10am. Or if I do not consider Part Two to be necessary. I will close a preliminary meeting and writing on that date. After informing partly shortly after procedural deadline be of my intention to do so. Are there any comments that anybody wishes to raise with regard to the virtual preliminary meeting process? Okay, I can see no raised hands. So I'll take that as there's nothing anybody wishes to raise. Okay, in that case, I'll now turn to item three on the agenda, which is examining authorities remarks about the examination process. In order to streamline the running of this event in annex B of the rule six letter, I provided an introduction to the preliminary meeting. And the examination process more generally, explaining how it will be conducted and how you can participate on the basis of this is also tells in writing, I don't propose to devote much time to it. It's important to me that you are clear in your understanding of the process. Therefore, if there's anything you're unclear about or on which you need to you need clarity, then please do ask. One of the advantages of holding the preliminary meeting and hearings as physical events is that when the formal proceedings have ended, the applicants and parties who have attended the event can take the opportunity to talk face to face. People seem to find this informal interaction to be a useful way to discuss matters which may have been outstanding, outstanding for some time, and being in the same room seems to be a spur to action. How's this event is being conducted virtually the same opportunities don't occur. Nevertheless, I would ask the applicant to engage in dialogue with parties attending today's event and with others to try and make progress where progress where matters are still in dispute. This is particularly important in relation to matters of compulsory acquisition and temporary possession. Due to the current covid 19 pandemic I'm have I'm currently having to plan just as the cases for today. Any events for the foreseeable future will be held virtually or there will continue to review this in light of the current government's advice and other relevant points in time. As you will see the accompany site inspection is currently timetable for the latter

half of the examination in the hope that any restrictions will be lifted. Finally, if you have any specific points to make regarding the draft timetable, these will be considered later in the agenda now Under Item six. So on the basis of information set out in annex B, are there any questions about the way in which I intend to examine this application?

#### 25:14

Okay, I can see no raised hands. So I'll take that as a no. And I'll move on. I'll now turn to agenda item four, which is the initial assessments of principle issues. For this item, it'd be useful if you had Aleksey of the rule six letter in front of you. Miss Allen, could you share the slide with the principal issues, please? They might just take a minute for this to appear. Can everybody see that?

# 26:07

So I can it's Richard Guyatt It's up and it's on display.

#### 26:11

Thank you, Mr. Guyatt. So, we've shared the list of the 14 main headings of the principal issues on the screen, but you can find more detail for each of these within annex C. This list provides an initial framework of issues for the examination of this proposal, though, does not preclude me from amending the list by removing or adding to the proposed principle issues as the latest stage of the process. Ms Allen, can you please remove the lists of principal issues?

# 26:55

Thank you. I've had four requests to speak on this agenda item which right which I will invite shortly. These are from Norfolk County Council. Dr. Andrew Boswell on behalf of climate emergency planning and policy. Mr. John Randlesome Mr. Witte Richard Hawker. I may also have questions and I will give the applicant chance to speak of the agenda at the end of the agenda item or as we go along. by inviting you to speak, please remember this I'm not looking for submissions on the merits of or concerns about the proposed development that will form part of the detailed examination of the application, which commences after this preliminary meeting. I'm only considering under this item comments of the broad principle issues as identified at this stage. May I remind you again that given were recording today's meeting, can you please remember to introduce yourself and any organisation you represent before speaking? With that in mind, I will now invite submissions. I think Firstly, can I please hear from Norfolk County Council? Mr. Faulkner or Mr. Cummings? I'm not sure which one of you would like to take the lead.

# 28:10

Thank you, Steven Faulkner and Norfolk County Council. Yeah, thank you for inviting us to speak this morning. The with regard to the principal issues, I think most of the issues set out in the appropriate annex two to the rule six letter we're very comfortable about one issue seems to be admitted. And that is in relation to transfer of assets. That's after the potentially the new road is opened, should they get consent, etc. any existing assets being transferred over to Norfolk County Council from highways England? I think that issue is one we've raised in our submission. And I would ask that the inspector give this consideration as an item to be discussed through the examination hearings. I think that's probably it's, I mean, I'm aware having dealt with the development consent orders through the

examination process. It is like this issue would or should be covered off by statement to common ground with with the applicant highways England, but I think it's worth noting that this issue of acid transfer, future maintenance of any assets transferred to Norfolk County Council needs to be considered. Probably dealt with under the DCO element of the of the hearings, I would suggest. Thank you, sir. Mr. Cumming, David, have you got anything to add on that point? For the Inspector?

# 29:52

All right, David Cumming Norfolk County Council No, I have nothing to add at this stage. Thank you.

# 29:58

Okay. Thank you, Mr. Faulkner. Mr. Cumming. Yes, I saw your relevant, relevant representation on that. And you might have seen in the, in my written questions that it was actually a question that I did pose to the applicants. And as you say, hopefully this all this will be dealt with in the statements common ground. So yes, I'm aware of your of that. And I'm confident that it will be dealt with through the examination. Thank you, sir. And also that the applicants will will be responding to a rather than representation laid out at the other required time. Okay, does the applicant wish to respond to any of the points made? County council?

# 30:57

Not to the point, sir, sorry, Richard Guyatt WBD. Clearly, you have asked us questions, and we have seen the relevant representation. We think that's the best way to deal with the matters as well as statements of common ground, of course. So I think for the time being, leave it with us. No doubt the dialogue will, will continue.

# 31:19

Thank you, Mr. Guyatt Okay, next, can I please ask Dr. Boswell on behalf of climate emergency planning and policy to proceed to proceed with your submission?

#### 31:33

Yes, thank you, sir. I'm referring to the top of page 19. annex C, and the where you've got the top level issue of climate change, and then you've got some bullet points at the sort of subsidiary issues. So yes, my request is that in combination and cumulative effects are also added in to the climate change issue. You're in in that list of sub issues. And actually, that would give it sort of parity with the one above on the previous page for biodiversity ecology, where they in combination assessment is included in the list.

# 32:26

Okay, thank you. Dr. Boswell? Just a couple of points on that. So in terms of the by diversity, in combination, that's by listening in there that that the reason for that is because in the the conservation of habitats and species regulations 2017 there's a legal duty, you know, to consider projects alone and in combination with regard to European sites. If so, that's why that was specifically listed. Under that point, if you if you go down to page 20, two, bar 20. If you go down to page 21, there's scope of development and environmental impact assessments. If you go down to the eighth bullet points. There's so this this applies to all of the environmental statement chapters. It's listed there the cumulative and in combination effects on hand with other major projects and proposals for parts of all

all the considerations of the application. So I've not listed under each of the individual headings other than the biodiversity one, because that's enshrined in law. But does does this alleviate your your concern in that regard?

#### 34:03

I think one of the reasons why I'm suggesting this is I actually think it will be easier for all parties to consider the cumulative effects of carbon emissions when the carbon emissions are sort of discussed when the carbon emissions are discussed on the particular scheme to also consider the cumulative effects on the other schemes in the area. And there are actually five other schemes within sub 10 mile radius of Norwich sort of coming up, you know, at the moment. So, that was really the rationale that I think it may actually make proceedings, easier to do it that way for federal parties.

## 34:48

Okay. So in, in this bullet points, I see, it seems to me to perhaps cover that because it will be considered as part of the overall assessment of the application, but I'll note your notes your requests, and I'll take that into account. Okay, thank you very much. Thank you. Dr. Boswell. Does the applicant wish to respond to Dr. boswells points?

# 35:19

It's Rich Guyatt WBD. Sir, not now. I would need to just check with client team generally. So if we may, we'll respond to right. They've been writing for procedural deadline B if we choose to do so.

#### 35:34

Okay, thank you, Mr. Guyatt. So moving on to Mr. Randlesome. Can you please go ahead with your submission?

# 35:53

Good morning, sir. I'm John Randlesome. I wish to make comments on annex c section titles, compulsory acquisition and or temporary possession, population human health and transportation and traffic. Okay, thank you. I'm not quite sure if this is the right place, but we'll see to the west of our property private road highways England are compulsory purchasing land and retaining it. Our concern is that part of the private road will become a dead end and has the potential for travellers to park up there or for fly tipping to occur. As this land will be permanently acquired, it will then be Highways or the council's responsibility to organise removal. I would like to know the reason why they're keeping this piece of land and we'd like to see gate access installed for that part of the road. My second concern is at the moment ourselves and residents of high noon lane and other nearby residents walk across the a 47 to reach the footpaths in the valley just the other side. The duelling scheme removes the access to the village we were previously told a consultations there would be a footpath into the village across the new bridge, we asked for this to be extended to meet High Noon lane as reaching the bridge would be unsafe on foot due to the significant increases in level of traffic on High Noon lane. From 2.6 General arrangement plans sheet 2 of 8 page nine the path across the new bridge is a cycle path with no specification as to if this is a race cycle and pedestrian path or not. Given that there is of great importance in reducing people's reliance on cars. We would like to know why there will be no pedestrian access for residents into the village and we would request that the pedestrian access from

high noon lane be added to the scheme and my third one is document 2.9 Hedgerow plans sheet to have a page a shows hedge h5 is being removed. And 2.6 General range and plain sheet to have a page nine shows a new fence will be erected in the same location. There is no detail included regarding the size or type of fence and we would request that the fence be sufficient to provide us at least the same amount of privacy as the current hedgerow.

#### 38:48

Okay, thank you, Mr. Randlesome you'll have a you'll have the opportunity to send in your written representations, which I suggest that you include all those points in that which the applicant would have to then respond to issues with compulsory acquisition and temporary possession. If you have concerns about that, then you are able to request a compulsory acquisition the hearing later on in the examination and in which you can you can raise any concerns in that regard. With regard to the cycle track over the the bridge, the blofield Bridge, I did actually ask the applicants the same question before after the acceptance of the application and it's my understanding that it is a it is a cycle path and a pedestrian footpath and the applicant provides a response confirming that and it is if I understand with Within the DCO, but perhaps the applicant could respond. Would you like to respond to any of the points raised? Mr. Guyatt

#### 40:11

Thank you, Richard Guyatt WBD? There's quite a lot there, sir. I don't think now's the time to go through them in detail with respect to Mr. Randlesome. we've, we've noted them. And It, we will both in the examination and outside of it be be responding to them for for Mr. Randlesome. So do you want me to clarify these points for procedural deadline B? Or do we wait? And it seems to me, so they probably I should wait until we have the written Rep. Not not waiting for the dialogue, but waiting for the response as it were. This doesn't seem to me to be the time to respond to them, though. And we should be getting a dissemination?

## 40:51

Yeah, I think there's probably points for the examination. But you have Mr. Randlesome submits the we accepted additional submission, and perhaps you would like to respond to the points in that additional submission, or

## 41:06

so I think we were planning to treat them as a relevant rep effectively. I again, I can confirm that for procedural deadline be but but you know, we were aware of them. We know the points are there. And we are preparing our responses.

# 41:20

Okay, thank you. And can I also just suggest the game that it's useful to have dialogue between yourself and Mr. Randlesome, if at all possible? outside of this meeting? Yes, that's Understood, sir. Thank you. Okay. Thank you. Mr. Randlesome. Was there anything else you wanted to add to that? No,

# 41:39

that's fine. Thank you very much for your time. Okay, thank

#### 41:42

you, Mr. Randlesome. And finally, Mr. Hawker, can I please hear from you now.

## 41:53

Thank you. Yes, sir. My name is Richard Hawker, from Hockering. And my query really is whether the the topic specific topic of the assessment of the performance of this scheme against the government's stated policy of encouraging modal shift towards public transport and less dependence on the car is that a topic that can be put in into the examination procedure? In specifically in this case, the a47 duelling is right next to a third of little little used railway line, and it's my concern that they there may be a possibility with increased traffic use of the road, then that rail line may be ineffective and its services reduced. Also, I've done see perhaps it's my lack of going through it in detail, I can't see a specific topic on the effectively the commute Kuma cumulative effect increased traffic on this road would have on places like Hockering which are further to the west, this increased traffic obviously will will have a great effect on other places such as Hockering, is that something that can be discussed specifically in the timetable? Thank you, sir.

#### 43:35

Okay, thank you, Mr. Hawker. Just on the traffic and transportation matter in the principle issues. I think it's bullet points 123 the fourth bullet point

## 43:54

yes, so sorry, the for 123456 the seventh the eighth bullet points, talks about operational effects or the surrounding road network. And there are a number of questions posed to the applicants in the recent Questions section. So, I mean, these are broad topic areas. But does that cover your concern? Do you think that the point

#### 44:27

was if if they are can be extended if they can be extended to to as wide an area as as Hawk room and also taking the effect on rail lines, I didn't see rail being specifically mentioned.

# 44:47

Okay. So, it's it's possible that that falls within the need the consideration of need for the, for the duelling of va 47 in this location. But you submitted a relevant representation, which no doubt the applicant will respond to. And if you still have concerns, then you can submit your relevant your written representation. Again, and you know, this could be considered as part of the examination of the application.

#### 45:28

Thank you, sir. Can I just ask the general point of the assessment of the road against the policy because government policy of encouraging modal shift? Is that something that is covered by the existing topic headings in the timetable.

# 45:51

So, there's there are sections on policy. So, yes, policy will be covered under the principle issues. And within statements of common ground with relevant parties as well. As again, if it's concerns you have you can raise these through your written representation of the relevant point. Thank you. So can I just check whether the applicant wishes to come back on any of that

#### 46:30

Sir it's Richard Guyatt WBD? Not now sir. Again, we may, we may pick it up for a procedural deadline B. But again, the points are noted. And we'll deal with the points as you suggested.

## 46:45

Okay. Thank you, Mr. guyatt. Mr. Hawker, was there anything else that you wanted to add? Or was that was that everything? No. So that's, that's all. Thank you very much. Okay. Thank you very much for your submission. As I've already indicated, it's not my intention to take any procedural cities today. But I've listened to and I will consider everybody's comments. Is there anybody else who wishes to speak on this agenda item today?

# 47:21

I'm not seeing any raise hands. I'll take that as a no. And I have no further points or questions on this agenda item. Nevertheless, as I've mentioned before, if anyone wishes to comment on either the broad headings, or the individual matters proposed under the initial assessments, principle issues, please submit these in writing by Tuesday fifth 15th of June 2021. Thank you for your participation. I will now deal with agenda item five, which as I indicated is now procedural deadlines taken by the examining authority. And now Lastly, you turn to annex II of the rule six letter, we will note that I made a number of procedural decisions about the management of the examination. Annex A explains in depth The reasons for all of these procedural decisions, but I'm going to comment on some of these matters before advice and questions or comments from participants. I'll begin with statements of common ground. The aim of the statements of Common Ground is to agree factual information and to identify where there is agreement and where the differences lie between the parties at an early stage in the examination process is to provide a focus and save time by identifying matters which are not in dispute or need not be subject to further evidence. It can also usefully states where and why there may be disagreements about the interpretation or relevance of the information. The reasons for the difference and the implications of a difference can then be expanded on in the evidence. I've requested the applicants prepared statements common ground with the Environment Agency, natural England, historic England, Norfolk County Council and broadland District Council. The topics which I wish to see included in these statements are set out in Annex A. The list may be added to during the course of examination and should not be taken as precluding any interested party not listed not listed on the applicant from drafting a statement of common ground. I also understand that the applicant is preparing the same as a common ground with Blofield parish Council. At this point, I asked whether the applicant intends to prepare the same common ground with any other party not previously mentioned.

# 49:47

Sir it's Richard Guyatt WBD This time, I have to confess I cannot recall. And may you leave it with me sir. I think it's a full list. But I will come back to you. And there's me wants to step in now and say anything. Otherwise we'll come back to you on procedural data and be. Okay,

# 50:10

thank you Mr.Guyatt. Next I'd like to briefly mentioned site inspections. These ensure that I have an understanding of the proposed development within its site and surroundings, as well as its effects. And it's not going to come to an accompany site inspection on the 19th and 20th of April 2021. Prior to this preliminary meeting, to familiarise myself with and to gain an understanding of the site and its surroundings, and later, this is published on the project page of the national infrastructure planning website. I may undertake further other company's site inspections if necessary. Were inspections leaders on land where it needs consent to access the land or there are reasonable requests made to accompany an inspection and accompany site inspection will be held subject to any government COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time. As a result, I'm inviting parties to indicate in writing if they wish to attend a company site inspection, and suggest locations or sites for me to visit including the issues to be observed and the reason why the locations and sites have been nominated. The applicants will then prepare a draft itinerary for the company's site inspection, which should include relevant sites and locations refer to the relevant represents representations received the locations or sites suggested by parties and any other sites and locations where the applicant has predicted likely significant effects. Comments on the applicants draft accompanied site inspection arrangements and itinerary can then be made by interested parties. And the final itinerary will be published at least three weeks in advance of the event taking place. I know that the applicant has provided some suggested locations to visit as possible a company site inspection, and its procedural deadline a submission. However, most let's just have this be provided again at a later date to take into account any requests made by other parties, all sorts of later dates. Can I also just suggest that in suggesting locations, the applicant and other parties take into account I've already visited a number of locations as part of my other company site inspection. Does anybody have any comments make on what I've just said?

#### 52:40

Sir, Richard Guyatt WBD only to say they're noted and understood.

#### 52:45

Okay. Thank you, Mr.Guyatt. Moving on to my written questions. Oh, sorry. Mr Faulkner. I'm sorry, Mr. Faulkner, I'm having trouble hearing you.

#### 53:04

Yeah, just wanted to ask the questions about the site visits. Do we need to provide you with any comments on where those visits should take place by? Is it by deadline fee? Just for clarification.

#### 53:22

It's it's I think it's deadline? Well, we'll come on to it. I think it's deadline one, deadline one, I think there's a deadline to Okay, thanks. Not until later. But welcome on to that shortly. Thank you. Thank you for spoken. In terms of my recent questions. My first written questions were published alongside the rule six letter. responses to these questions not be submitted until the examination starts, which the

day after the preliminary meeting closes. I decided to publish these prior to the examination formally starting to give parties longer to respond, that would normally be the case. The vast majority of questions are directed to the applicant and a number are also directed to the local and regional authority, as well as statutory bodies such as the Environment Agency, natural England and historic England. This doesn't prevent other parties from providing response or pertinent information on the topic. The questions are based on my initial reading of the application documents and to some extent the relevant representations. If I haven't, if I haven't asked a written question at this stage, it doesn't mean that I won't address the matter later in the examination. This could be through further written questions or during hearings. In addition, I expect the applicant to provide a response to all matters raised in relevant representations which I will then consider further. Following the acceptance of the application, the applicant submitted a range of correspondence in response to my procedural decision. And of the second of February 2021. I accepted these additional submissions on eighth February 23 of March, which have been published on the project website and can be accessed through the examination library. I've also, there also been a number of additional submissions as I've accepted, which are referenced ASO 12 to ASO 20. These are from the Coal authority transport Action Network, the defence infrastructure organisation subsidiary Undertaker's including GTC pipelines and kadant gas limited. Mr. John Randlesome, some the applicants on behalf of the Norfolk Constabulary and the applicants in respect of an updated book of reference. Does anybody have any questions regarding acceptance of any of these documents? I'm seeing no hands up. So I'll take that as No. Having provided an update with regards to procedural scissors generally, does anybody wish to speak about any of them? I'm seeing they raise. I'm seeing they raised hands. So I'll take that as a low. And finally, on this agenda item, I will say that while I have accepted and published these documents prior to the examination commencing, I would advise parties that any documents submitted between deadlines will not normally be published until the subsequent deadline has passed. Thank you. I'll now move on to agenda item six, which as I indicated is now to address the draft timetable for the examination hearings and site inspections. It'll be useful to have annex D of the rule six letter in front of you for agenda item six. Ms Allen, do you could you toss up the contents version of the timetable please. Thank you. Can everybody see see that? Yes, sir, we can. Thank you. In the interest of brevity, I don't intend to read the timetable out fully. But I will draw your attention to some key points. I'll start by dealing with the deadlines the examination first then dates for site inspections and then finally hearings. I will I will then invite those who wish to speak on the timetabling matters afterwards. So as soon as practicable after the self examination, I will issue my rule a letter which will finalise the timetable. Deadline one is currently timetabled for Tuesday the sixth of July 2021.

# 58:04

At deadline one, amongst other things, I will be expecting to receive responses to my first written questions, local impact reports, comments on relevant representations, written notifications from those people or organisations who wish to speak at a compulsory acquisition or open floor hearing or to attend a company site inspection. Suggested locations from all interested parties forum and a company site inspection. So Mr. Faulknerr that's that's where the that's where the point to raise sets, initial statements of common ground, a compulsory acquisition schedule and an updated version of the draft development consent order, deadline to currently programme for the 20th of July 2021 is when interested parties will need to submit their written representations on the application if they wish to do if they wish to make one. This deadline I'm also expecting to receive amongst other things applicants

drafts accompany site inspection arrangements and itinerary progress statements of common ground and an updated compulsory acquisition schedule and draft development consent order at deadline three on the third of August 2021. I'm expecting to receive comments on responses to my first written questions, comments on local impact reports. Comments on representations. Comments on the applicants draft accompany site inspection arrangements and itinerary as well as progress types of common ground and updated compulsory acquisition schedules and drafted on the consent order. As you'll see from the draft timetable, there are seven further proposed deadlines where I require information to be submitted in the interest of expediency See, I did not intend to go through those deadlines in detail now. But I asked interested parties to review them all and submit any comments in writing by procedural deadline B, which is the 15th of June 2020. Well, moving on to the timetable for site inspections, the company site inspection has been timetable for the week commencing the fourth of October 2021. In hopes of the current COVID-19 restrictions may have been eased by then, interested parties should advise me if they wish to attend and the company site inspection, as well as submit any prospective locations by deadline on the sixth of July 2021. Such submission should include an explanation of why you consider an accompany site inspection is required from the proposed location. However, it should be nice if this does not preclude any further requests for site visits, including for further submissions of prospective locations during the examination, where there is good reason for doing so. Moving on to the hearings. As mentioned at the start of the meeting, the draft timetable assumes that all hearings will need to be held virtually. In the future. If the government's COVID-19 restrictions and resulting public health advice relaxes sufficiently, I may make a decision to hold some or all of the subsequent events in the more traditional manner. I'll give as much learning as possible of any decisions that I make on this. So please keep an eye on the project page of the national infrastructure planning website for any announcements. Although I have not received any requests for local floor hearing yet, I've reserved the week commencing the 16th of August and the first of the third of September 21 to hold an open floor hearing or hearings to provide opportunities for all those who wish to participate to do so. An open floor hearing is opportunities for individuals and community groups to put their views to me verbal verbally. Oral submissions will be based on representations previously made in writing and should not simply repeat matters previously covered in a written submission. They should rather provide further detail on issues previously raised to help inform the examining authority. The deadline for requests to be heard as an open floor hearing his deadline was on the sixth of July. I'd also reserved the week commencing the 16th of August and first the third of September to hold a compulsory acquisition hearing and and any issues specific hearings. The deadline for requests to be heard as compulsory acquisition hearing is also deadline one on the sixth of July 2021. Further to this the week commencing 15th of November 2021 is also reserved for any further hearings, if required. Thank you, Miss Allen, could you take down the draft timetable?

# 1:03:04

Thank you. All parties should be aware that anytime after the last deadline or events set out in the timetable, I may decide under Section 99 of the Planning Act 2008 that the examination is complete. This may be before the end of the six month period, which is a statutory period for the completion of the examination. In any case, when I have completed the examination of the application, I must inform each of the interested parties. I also want to take this opportunity to highlight the importance of ensuring the information is submitted in accordance with set deadlines. While I do have the ability to accept late submissions into the examination, this is at my discretion and should only be done in exceptional

circumstances. As late submissions restrict the ability of other parties involved to respond to the information which can jeopardise examination timetable. It is therefore important for you to note that if you do submit something late, there is always the possibility that it may not be accepted into the examination. Procedure procedural deadline a I received a response from the applicant regarding the proposed dates for some examination timetable items and deadlines. I've also received a response from Norfolk County Council in respect to examination timetable matters, including dates for hearings. I will invite those submissions shortly. I should just mention here, however, that I was mindful when setting the timetable or the statutory deadlines that I have to meet in order to complete the examination of this proposal. Again, may I please remind you to state your name and organisation you represent before you speak. Given that we are recording today's meeting. I'll start by asking the applicants Mr. Guyatt, to highlight the matters raised its submission, please.

## 1:05:06

Thank you, Richard Guyatt WBD. So I'm turning to highways, England's letter of 24th of May, which saying if you've indicated so we gave the timetable very careful consideration as we always do. And key so we fully understand your your reasoning behind your timings. The comments largely were born out of experience, I won't say better experience, but it probably was better experience where the time between the hearings and deadlines is very precious. And I think this is not something that is just for the applicant, but it's for everyone. And there were a few where I thought so that we were going to be hard pressed to get things in in time after hearings. Now, to an extent that depends on whether the hearings take place, and the format of the hearing. And indeed, for instance, I returned to my letter at 3.1. point one about item 10. deadline for you know, the point is a good one. If we have hearing on the third of September, if we don't have any hearings in in September or only one on the first of September, then it's less of an issue. And that one's I just thought there was a way that we could push the deadline back at might give everyone a better chance to get their submissions already and checked and properly submitted to user led enter the importance of getting it right when you receive it in writing is paramount. So we just thought that there could be a little bit of wiggle room there. You know, we've suggested moving from the beginning of the week to the end of the week, probably even a day or two would help. So that was the first one. I don't know whether you want me to go through each of my points in 3.1.

# 1:07:03

Well, it might

# 1:07:04

be a thing. So briefly, they are remarkably repetitive. I think I've given you the the idea for each of them in which really is a bit of breathing space. But probably the more difficult one is about the deadline. It's lines 15 and 16. The hearings and the relationship with deadlines seven possibly rather boldly suggested that we could bring the hearings forward. But I suspect there's little if any chance of that. Again, so the point really depends on whether the hearings take place, and how many of them are are, if it's just one or two days, it might be a little bit easier. But that one did. So it did seem quite tight to me, particularly if we want hopefully we won't be in this situation. And clearly it's our every incentive of us to not be in that situation. But say, for instance, so we had a difficult section one to seven situation, or unresolved ca points. If we had several days of hearings then and then had to respond to you within the very short deadline that could be quite tight.

# 1:08:12

just just just pick up on that the following deadline. Do you see any? Do you have any view on moving that? Potentially? If we do move the hearings that we moving that to the Friday before? Possibly?

# 1:08:31

It might work? Because I think my biggest concerns in terms of the timetable actually come in the lines afterwards. There was one Forgive me. I'm just rereading what I said. I think because we get to sort of blind 1718 and 19 there was quite a lot of bunching isn't there. So the greatest perspective is that prototyped over again. And I think the one that concerned me the most was deadline 10 it seemed to me if we were submitting documents late on deadline nine Friday the 17th of December. I think we do have to midnight, and I wouldn't want that to be 359. I don't expect those assisting you sir to be in over the weekend uploading. And that would mean they would restart on Monday the 20th. And with the greatest will in the world, there's a lot of uploading difficult documents to upload. To have a deadline tend the day after is going to cause not just the applicant but probably everyone else, frankly, probably more for everyone else rather than the applicant. difficulties in getting the submissions in. So I think so if I'm making the points as I am in 3.1 point four so that's line 19 and deadline 17 and 18 and 313 This is very long winded way of me saying yes, I see what you're saying. And perhaps we do need to bring the deadline of, I think it was the 22nd of November 26, November forward as well. So, certainly, if we could sort of shuffle each of these forward a few days, I think that would make everyone's life easier.

# 1:10:20

Okay, let's see. Ms Rowley Todd has a hand up. Let's come in.

# 1:10:26

Hi, Nikki. Rowley Todd from HE. Really sorry to kind of interrupt, but the live stream seems to have gone down. So I just wanted to let you guys know, before we carried on too far, I have sent a couple of emails. So it's been looked into. Thank you. No problem.

# 1:10:46

We'll just we'll just pause for a moment until we see what we figure out what's happening.

# 1:10:57

Hello. So so just so I understand the live streaming. People aren't able to view the live stream at the moment. Is that right?

#### 1:11:29

Excuse me, but an insert. My daughter's upstairs watching the live stream? She says it's still coming through.

#### 1:11:39

Okay, it's it's showing some of my colleagues and say that they can also see it, and it's working fine.

#### 1:11:59

Okay, can I just go back to Ms Rowley Todd, what why did you think why do you think that these live streaming has gone down?

# 1:12:07

I just got a notification from someone that had gone down. So I checked it on my computer and it's not working. Oh, I've just had a notification from someone within HE and there seems to be working. So okay, maybe it's just a selective view. So panic over.

#### 1:12:23

Okay, so perfect. Okay, so just so they understand. If somebody has missed a bit of the live stream, they can go back and see it because it's being recorded. If they wish to us a later date.

## 1:12:48

Yes, yes, please. Okay, thank you that case, I think we'll proceed. Thank you. Okay, Mr. Guyatt.

# 1:13:08

Thank you. So. So I think I probably had finished the I don't think there's a lot more I can add. That's okay, sir.

#### 1:13:19

Okay, thank you. We'll take those comments into account. Just one point about hearings, this the guy at which he suggested you wanted good, a reasonable amount of time before the hearings happened, and to know about what the hearings were going to be about. So it's, it's standard procedure to give 21 days notice of any hearings. And in the rule six letter, they will say to that there's five days before the hearing, for me to provide the agenda. That's fairly standard across all landslip projects and examinations. But if I'm able to provide any, any further information or detail, sooner, then that might help, then I will, I'll try to do so.

# 1:14:18

Thank you. So it's noted. And I think it's probably a general point that we make in all of our all six letters, which more we can be prepared. Better, it'll be for everyone and the deepest the quicker it will be for everyone as well. I also think it was just general points.

# 1:14:39

Yeah. I mean, often hearings, dependent on what comes at, say a previous deadline. So it's not always possible to know, a very long time not about what the hearing might be about, particularly for issue specific hearings. detail. Thank you. Okay. Are there any comments from anybody else? With regards to what Mr Guyatt has just been talking about? Okay, I'm seeing no hands up. So I'll move on, in that case to law for counter counsel, Mr. Faulkner, or Mr. Cumming? I'm not sure which one of you would like to take the lead. But could you highlight the matters raised in your submission, please? Yep.

# 1:15:29

Thank you, sir. Steve Faulkner in the county council, just three broad comments, and one of which does overlap with Mr.Guyatts, comments. just just just now, the first one to do with the hearing dates,

as proposed in the rule six letters, we commence in the 16th of August. With that, that could potentially cause us difficulties at Norfolk County Council. I mean, this, this is obviously within the peak time for people taking holidays. And, you know, with the lifting of restrictions, hopefully lifting auctions COVID related during that timetable, it's likely that many staff will be on on leave during that period. So that it's a general comment. And having dealt with a number of n steps. I think all the examinations I've attended have always been in in the autumn, coincidentally, so it hasn't been an issue. But I think, you know, we're dealing with not just highway colleagues, but potentially legal local flood authority colleagues, those in other parts of the organisation, just the logistics of having stuff resources available, is going to be, I think, going to be difficult. So I suppose what I'm asking is whether there is any scope whatsoever for those hearings in August to be perhaps, pushed back to September. I also say from the point of view of members of the public attending, that they may also be on leave on holiday, whatever given it is August. So that that was my first point, sir. The second one is sort of reiterating really what Mr. Guyatt has said about a lack of detail in the timetable. And I fully appreciate what you said about, you know, it's not until the examination progresses, that you may know yourself what those issues civic items will be. It does raise issues for us, as I say, as a county council where, you know, we may have to call upon parts of the organisation with different, you know, strength professions to come in. And, you know, 21 day notice or five days notice, it's very difficult to get stuff in and fully prepped for those hearings. It's happened before, and it'll happen again, because that's the nature of NSIPS. And it, but, you know, I would just ask for a little bit of flexibility, there's much time in advance on what those issues civic hearings will be, as I say, just really reiterating. Mr. Guyatts, point on behalf of highways England. And the third third point is the logistics, which the county council is facing, in terms of resource bear in mind, we've got free DCOs Live at the moment, in respect to the a 47, we've obviously got this as the most advanced on the globe, we're burning and DCO going to examination, as we'll see later, we've just recently responded to the Thickthorn junction DCO submission, and also to the Easton to North Tuddingham DCO submission, I suspect that there will be free examinations happening concurrently overlapping that could cause us significant problems in resourcing time, Officer time and etc. in being at the respective hearings, responding to all the relevant deadlines, etc. So I suppose this is apt to actually set the stage to be mindful of those other DCO sharpening and those other inspectors to be mindful of those other DCO and take that into account with their respective setting of relevant deadlines in that timetable. I think that's it. Thank you.

#### 1:19:35

Okay, thank you Mr. Faulkner? Yeah, I mean, it's tricky when, you know whether, because the application was submitted when it was accepted. Now that examination starts. We will we want to try to get hearings in Well, well, one set of hearings in earlier and another so we have a good we have not a week in November for further hearings. Is I suppose the summer holidays is a six week or so? period? So I think, you know, it'll be difficult, maybe difficult not to hold hearings within such a period when, you know, just because of the way the application was accepted and when the examination starts. But I do appreciate your concerns, and I'll take that into account. With regard to resources, is the Do you have any kind of planning performance agreement in place with the applicant? Or is the applicant willing to put anything like that in place with the County Council?

# 1:20:53

We haven't entered into any PPA at this stage, sir, with the applicant, where we have entered into PPAs in the past with on due to applications attention to be post DCO being consented and being really to deal with the discharge of the requirements is something we are you know, we could discuss with the with the applicant. Happy happy to do that. If I could just ask Mr. Cumming. So leading on this particular one, if he has anything to say on potential for sort of a planning performance agreement at this stage?

# 1:21:36

Yeah. David Cumming Norfolk County Council again, I'm afraid I haven't got anything additional to add, we can pick up those discussions with the applicant to see if that is, you know, I hopeful way forward.

## 1:21:48

Okay. Could I just ask the applicant, whether they've where they want to comment on on that.

# 1:21:56

Sir, Sorry Richard Guyatt WBD. Comment on everything or comment on the PPA .happy either way. For now, on the PPA comment to say No comment. They're really points noted. I need to take it away. In a clearly we've heard what Mr. Faulkner, Mr. Cummings said in relation to resource, you understand that? I think it'd be inappropriate for me to say no more just now. But they could say I'll take instructions as swiftly as I can. We'll come back.

## 1:22:28

Okay. Thank you. Just to go back. Mr. Faulkner, you know, with regard to the hearings, I mean,NSIP. process is primarily a written it's primarily a written process anyway, in hearings will only be required if? Well, if they're required. So I suppose just need to bear that in mind as well. And there are also, there is also opportunity for further hearings, later in the examination, if need be, which is why I've timetabled two sets of hearings into the examination. So just wanted you to be aware of that as well.

# 1:23:17

Thank you. So if there is a real problem about getting stuff results to attend, if required in August? Are you saying that we could potentially put that back to those additional hearing dates, which I think we can mention the 15th of November? Is that the fallback position?

# 1:23:38

Well speak. Yeah, I mean, I've been tending to hold. If the hearing dates stay the same during the August during August, I tend to hold hearings at that date. But if we then required further hearings, then we also have November, in which to undertake those as well. Should matters not be resolved, or should you request further ahead or wish to attend further hearings? But obviously, all this will come out of the evidence which comes in during the examination. Okay, thank you, sir. But I will I will take into account what you the points that you've raised, and I'll have a look at the timetable. Does the applicant wish to respond to any of the points raised at all? by Mr. Faulkner? Yes,

# 1:24:28

Mr. guyatt Richard Guyatt WBD Sorry, I was trying to raise my hand. I was trying to take it down again. I have now done so it was just about the points about the August hearings. With a slight degree of irony

is I will not be attending them. I do think that those August hearings do need to take place. The one thing I'd say so in the timetable that surprised me was held late in the timetable. The first hearings were and I think if we did wait until September That would be very difficult for everyone, particularly yourself, sir. And it was I fully understand take on board. Everything that county Councillor said. I think the fact that we have the August, September sessions means that we have that wrap up. We've got the further wrap up in November, I would be very reluctant. So at risk of ruining everyone else's holiday that we didn't press on with the August hearings. I think it's, we need to start, essentially. And I think the way you've arranged it with the September November hearings means that it does work. So to the extent that this may be no consideration that the closing would not want you to remove the August hearings. That's all I have to say.

#### 1:25:45

Okay, thank you, Mr. Guyatt. Other any other thoughts? Anybody wishes to raise now on the examination timetable before I move on to the next item?

# 1:25:59

Okay, I see no hands raised. So I'll move on to agenda item number seven.

# 1:26:10

item seven covers any remaining questions or submissions regarding procedural matters not set out in the agenda that have been submitted to the planning inspectors in writing in advance or the preliminary meeting. I've had no matters notified to me under this agenda item that people wish to raise at this meeting. Other the items in relation to this to procedural matters. Anybody wishes to raise this point?

# 1:26:43

Okay, I'm saying no hands raised. So I'll take that as No. And I'll move on to agenda item eight. Item eight on the agenda is any other matters? Again, I've had no matters no fights me that people wish to raise under this item? Or that we have not already covered in other items. Are there any other relevant matters that anybody wishes to raise? Like I'm saying no hands up. So I'll move on.

# 1:27:20

There are a couple of apologies Sir I know it's not for me to do this Richard Guyatt WBD There was a hand and it's now gone. out? Is that Miss Brooks? Hi. Sorry. Hi. I'd like to introduce yourself before you see.

#### 1:27:40

Sorry, my name is Emma, I own a property directly impacted by the plans. And it's nothing, it's kind of tenuously linked. Hopefully, this is the right format, the right platform for this. And but the main issue that I just quite like to raise is information in the way that it's given to us as members of the community. It's not always easily understood. And it's not always easily to hand, for example, the property next door to us is currently being used as like a temporary base for the workers that are currently been working on the road. And we've had no information as to what is being happening, why they're there, is impacting us because of the extra noise already. And we've just not had any information as to what's what's going on. And I don't want it to be like constant. I don't need to be constantly round or anything

but just updates updates as to what's happening. And in layman's terms, because we're not all examining inspectors, and we don't all understand what these things mean. So that's, that's all I wanted to put forward to say.

#### 1:28:54

Thank you. Okay. I understand that. Well, Mr. Guyatt, would you like to say anything about that I understand your website is normally updated with information. Well, highways, England's websites Should I say.

# 1:29:10

Sir it's Richard Guyatt WBD. I'm very pleased to see that Ms Rowley has kicked in. And may I suggest that she responds, please.

## 1:29:20

Thanks, Richard. So yeah, Nikki Rowley Todd highways England. So thank you for that, Emma. Yeah, so I believe we are using cocktail farm at the moment to undertake some surveys that we've got going on. And apologies that you haven't been contacted with regards to it because our website has been updated. I believe there's been some Twitter post go out some letters go out to the local community as well. So if you haven't received anything directly, then obviously at this stage, I can apologise for that and obviously look into it. But we do we do endeavour to try and update where we can to make sure people know what's going on on the network.

#### 1:29:51

Right, right. Perhaps suggest that outside of this meeting meeting, as Rowley Todd that perhaps Mr. Brooks has contacted Though, you know, maybe you can deal with this outside of this meeting?

# 1:30:02

Yes. 100%. Obviously, I know that Emma has put in irrelevant reps, though, that they will be much more communication between the two of us moving forward.

# 1:30:09

Thank you.

#### 1:30:11

Okay. Is there anything else you want to add to that? No, I appreciate that. Thank you. Okay. Thank you for that. So there's just a couple of matters. I wanted to raise, I wanted just to ask the applicant, whether

# 1:30:27

they envisage there might be any changes to the up to the application, during the examination procedure, or whether any land loss identified so far, might be identified in the future. Short any changes to the application occur? What the likelihood of that might be?

## 1:30:46

Thank you Sir Richard Guyatt WBD. At this point, I have no instructions to change the application and certainly in relation to the CA regs being engaged. Absolutely no indication of that at all. But obviously, we will tell you as soon as possible, if that should change, but at this point, nothing.

# 1:31:05

Okay, thank you. Just the final points I had wanted to raise. It was just in the interests of openness and impartiality. I should mention that I've had some previous involvement with create consulting engineers limited, who submitted a relevant representation representation on behalf of Burlington cottage gardens Association. This was many years ago, in a previous role for a different organisation. It was a purely professional relationship, and did not involve this project. Given this, I'm satisfied that there's no conflict of interests. And does anybody have any comments to make on this matter?

# 1:31:57

Sir, it's Richard Guyatt WBD, simply to say that we'll be talking completely without instructions. I'm pretty sure that that is absolutely fine. And we're grateful to you, sir, for letting us know. I do not envisage it being a problem. If at all, of course it is, then we will let you know as soon as possible. But it sounds fine to me, sir. Thank you.

#### 1:32:23

I can just check local time that nobody has any other matters that they wish to raise at this point. Okay, I can see no hands raised. I can see no hands raised. So in that case, I will move to adjourn the meeting. Thank you all for contributing to this meeting, particularly recognising the challenges as a virtual event. I look forward to commencing the examination of this application. May I remind you that both notes and a digital recording of the proceedings today will be made available as soon as practicable on the project page of the national infrastructure planning website may also remind you of the next stages of the process. Firstly, procedural deadline B which is next Tuesday 15th of June, where any comments on the matters discussed today need to be submitted in writing for me to consider before the commencement of the resumed preliminary meeting. Secondly, the resumption of the preliminary meeting, which will take place on Tuesday 22nd of June 2021 at 10 o'clock in the morning, if required. The time is now 11:33am. And this preliminary meeting for the a 47 Bluefields North Burlington project is now adjourned until the 22nd of June 2021. Thank you all