Yelvertoft Parish Council October 2023

Yelvertoft Solar Farm - Construction Update

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Construction progress

- At the time of writing this update, construction of the swales is still ongoing. It is hoped that they will be finished in the last week of September/early October. The team is working to submit a verification report to the Local Planning Authority in October.
- Works on the substation and grid connection are ongoing.
- The team will begin soft landscaping works in October, which include seeding of areas were conduits have been placed.
- The bell mouth at the site access on Crick Road is expected to be completed in November. This will require a single lane road closure on Crick Road as agreed with the Highways Authority under a Section 278 agreement. The single lane road closure is expected to last for a few days only. Further details will become available nearer the time.

Progress of swale on eastern side of site, along Crick Road



Progress on other matters

Community Benefit Fund

• Following agreement of the CBF, discussions have started on the next steps for the set-up of the Fund.

Yelvertoft Primary School

- On Tuesday 12th September, <u>Earth Energy Education</u> facilitated the solar energy workshop to pupils of year 5-6. A talk on climate change and the need to power our modern lifestyle by renewable energy sources was followed by an interactive session on electrical circuits. Pupils enjoyed the workshop and participated actively. A similar workshop was provided to Crick Primary School's year 5-6.
- Initial feedback from teachers/governor immediately following the workshop was positive. Further feedback through an online feedback form is awaited. Bluefield intend to undertake a follow-up event by inviting the year 5-6 pupils to site once the solar farm is fully operational, expected in Spring 2024.

Community engagement

 During the course of September, no questions have been received from members of the public. All communications channels remain available for the duration of the construction phase.



Next steps – indicative timeline*



- October 2023 Soft landscaping works
- November 2023 Completion of bell mouth
- Late November 2023 Expected completion of substation and high voltage infrastructure

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- Dec 2023 Jan 2024 Expected energisation of the solar farm
- Feb Apr 2024 Expected testing and commissioning
- * Progress is dependent on many factors, for example weather conditions

