



# The Swift



## FRISTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

### Energy Projects Update

#### **Scottish Power EA1N & EA2 and National Grid Connection Hub**

**SASES** - SASES has been granted leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal and the hearing is scheduled for the 5 and 6 December 2023. The grounds of appeal relate to flood risk at Friston and cumulative impact. Judgement is not to be expected until a couple of months into the New Year.

**SEAS** - this case is about Scottish Power's dealings with landowners. SEAS allege that the manner of these dealings resulted in a stifled and unfair examination of EA1N & EA2. SEAS was unsuccessful in the High Court but is now seeking leave to appeal. A decision on leave is awaited.

**Sizewell C** - TASC has been granted leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal. A hearing date is yet to be fixed. The grounds of appeal relate to lack of water supply.

#### **Interconnector projects - Sealink, Lionlink and Nautilus**

National Grid is pushing ahead with these three interconnector projects as if the JR challenges did not exist.

**Sealink** - the statutory consultation for Sealink starts in October. This is a formal part of the NSIP planning process. This will be the first time we see the real details of the actual project before National Grid formally applies for planning consent. Please make sure you engage in this process. National Grid will be providing the details. If you have not signed up to updates from National Grid please do so on the webpages for the Sealink project

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/sealink>

**Lionlink** - LionLink (formerly Eurolink) National Grid has announced a supplementary 8 week public non statutory consultation for the LionLink interconnector, due to amended proposals for cable landing and corridor:

-an alternative landfall site at Walberswick & an alternative onshore underground cable corridor 'north of Southwold'.

**Please note the option of landfall and a cable route from the beach between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness remains.**

Please try to attend a local open day/exhibition (22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October, or 6<sup>th</sup> November) if you are able.

If you have not signed up to updates from National Grid on the Lionlink project please do so on their website.

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/national-grid-ventures/future-developments/lionlink>

**Nautilus** - National Grid has been investigating the feasibility of an alternative landfall at The Isle of Grain in Medway, Kent instead of East Suffolk. No work is currently ongoing on the various East Suffolk options presented to the public in 2021 during non-statutory consultation. However a connection at Friston is being reserved as a possible option should the Isle of Grain be ruled out - decision expected by the end of 2023. Please note that this possible change of connection location is all to do with what is in the commercial interests of National Grid. It has nothing to do with the political classes despite some claims to the contrary. If you have not signed up to updates from National Grid on the Nautilus project please do so on the webpages for the Nautilus project.

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/national-grid-ventures/interconnectors-connecting-cleaner-future/nautilus-interconnector>

**Single Process** - currently we are faced with the appalling prospect that the NSIP planning process for each of these three interconnector projects will be conducted separately at different times. This will mean three sets of documents to review, three sets of representations and submissions, three sets of meetings etc. Aside from being grossly inefficient this places an unreasonable burden on the community which has already had to endure multiple NSIP processes. SASES is supporting Friston Parish Council in arguing for a single NSIP process for all three projects. This was the process adopted for EA1N, EA2 and the National Grid connection hub at Friston. Please email our district councillor Tom Daly at ESC ([tom.daly@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:tom.daly@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)) and our county councillor Andrew Reid at SCC ([andrew.reid@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.reid@suffolk.gov.uk)) demanding that ESC and SCC argue strongly for a single process.

**Community Benefits** - The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero is continuing with its work on community benefits and is currently holding workshops with a number of community representatives. The parish council following its and SASES consultation response is participating in this process making the points:

1. that no amount of benefits can compensate for the damage which will be done to our environment and lives if these projects go ahead;
2. community benefits need to be direct and generous if the local community is to feel less negative about these projects.

**Surveying** - ecological surveys are being conducted including on land near Friston.

**Grove Road Closure** - please note this is nothing to do with the energy projects but as a result of some rather active badgers undermining the road.

#### **Other offshore news**

The latest rearrangement of the deckchairs on the Titanic has resulted in yet another new Secretary of State responsible for energy. This time it is someone called Caroline Coutinho.

#### **Thank you Friston!**

First, for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride when you generously supported our participants and raised over £1,500. Half comes back to Friston Church and the other half plus gift aid to support over 500 heritage churches in Suffolk. Ian and Mary Shipman with Julia Wheeler visited Martlesham and Woodbridge churches; Geyla Duval new to the village took the opportunity to explore local churches; Mike Jones in his vintage Riley in the company of Marie Szpak and Mike Lewis drove from Heveningham Hall to Lavenham on the Pedal and Drive Route. Second, what a stunning display of flowers and produce by our team of flower arrangers for our Harvest Festival service on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September. A good-sized congregation much appreciated the artistry which has been captured on a montage which can be seen on the church notice boards.

#### **October Services at St Mary's Church**

Since so many of you are generous in your support, why not try out our services?!

1<sup>st</sup> October at 10am, Holy Communion-Common Worship led by Revd Sarah du Boulay.

8<sup>th</sup> October at 10am, Service of the Word, more informal and always well led by our Elder, Marie Szpak.

15<sup>th</sup> October at 10am, Holy Communion, Book of Common Prayer with Revd Sheila Hart.

29<sup>th</sup> October at 11am join our neighbours at Knodishall Church for a coming together of all the Alde Sandlings Benefice with Holy Communion - Common Worship.

#### **Christmas - Never too early to plan!**

The Friston Christmas Carol Service will be on Sunday 10th December at 6.00pm in the Church. Alan and Jan Bullard will be organising a choir and would very much welcome singers! Music will be provided, including recorded rehearsal tracks, so reading music is not essential. There will be a rehearsal in the afternoon of the service, and probably also on the afternoon of Saturday 2nd December for those who are available. I expect we will sing our favourite 'Silent Night' and a couple of other carols.

If you'd like to help, please contact Alan Bullard - [alanbullardmusic@gmail.com](mailto:alanbullardmusic@gmail.com) or 07748 710593

The service will be followed by the serving of mulled wine and mince pies in the Village Hall. [simonive@aol.com](mailto:simonive@aol.com)

#### **Friston Wildlife Watch**

Several years ago while on holiday in Marrakesh, I went to an evening of "traditional Moroccan entertainment", during which I rather bizarrely found myself volunteering to have a highly venomous Scorpion placed on my shoulder for the enjoyment of others. I'm sure the audience was thrilled with the sight of a pale middle aged English woman, a grinning North African man in a fez and a nasty and foul smelling arachnid. Anyway the reason I'm telling you this is that this is probably the closest I've got to a creature that could cause me real harm and we are very lucky on our little green island to have very few dangerous or venomous animals. However, I need to tell you about an incident the other morning: getting ready for work I slipped on my little black pumps, freshly washed, they had been left outside the day before to dry in the sun. I continued with my morning routine until, something bit my little toe! Well, with a shout I flung off the shoe and out came a large, long bodied black beetle that, on landing, reared up its inky black back like a scorpion. I'm not easily shocked but I felt a little shaken. After checking my little toe (it was fine) and under instructions from my better half that under no account was it staying in the bedroom, I had to spend several minutes searching for the black insect and was eventually late for work. The black demonic creature was a Devil's coach horse (staphylinus olens) a ferocious predator beetle which prefers to run fast than fly and crushes other invertebrate with its strong jaws. I don't want to be the cause of paranoia or mass hysteria in the village, but I now check my shoes, every day, without fail, just saying... *Briony Sones*

**Pilates** - Village Hall Wednesday 5pm - 6pm Suitable for beginners - [suzannekearny@me.com](mailto:suzannekearny@me.com) 07944991138

*Anyone can contribute to the Swift, please contact the Clerk with any articles you may have, please keep them light, factually correct and village orientated. Space is limited but we do try to fit everything in. The next deadline for articles is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023.*

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