



Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting Thursday 21 Mar 24



Agenda

- 1. Chairman's Welcome and Introduction
- 2. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest
- 3. Public Forum
- 4. Gressingham Foods Ltd and Centrica Plc proposed 17-acre Solar Farm



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Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that all communities have a responsibility to help increase the use and supply of green energy (but does provide some protection for unacceptable impacts).

BMSDC's position on renewable and low carbon energy development plan policy is at LP25 of the BMSDC JLP Part 1

LP25 states

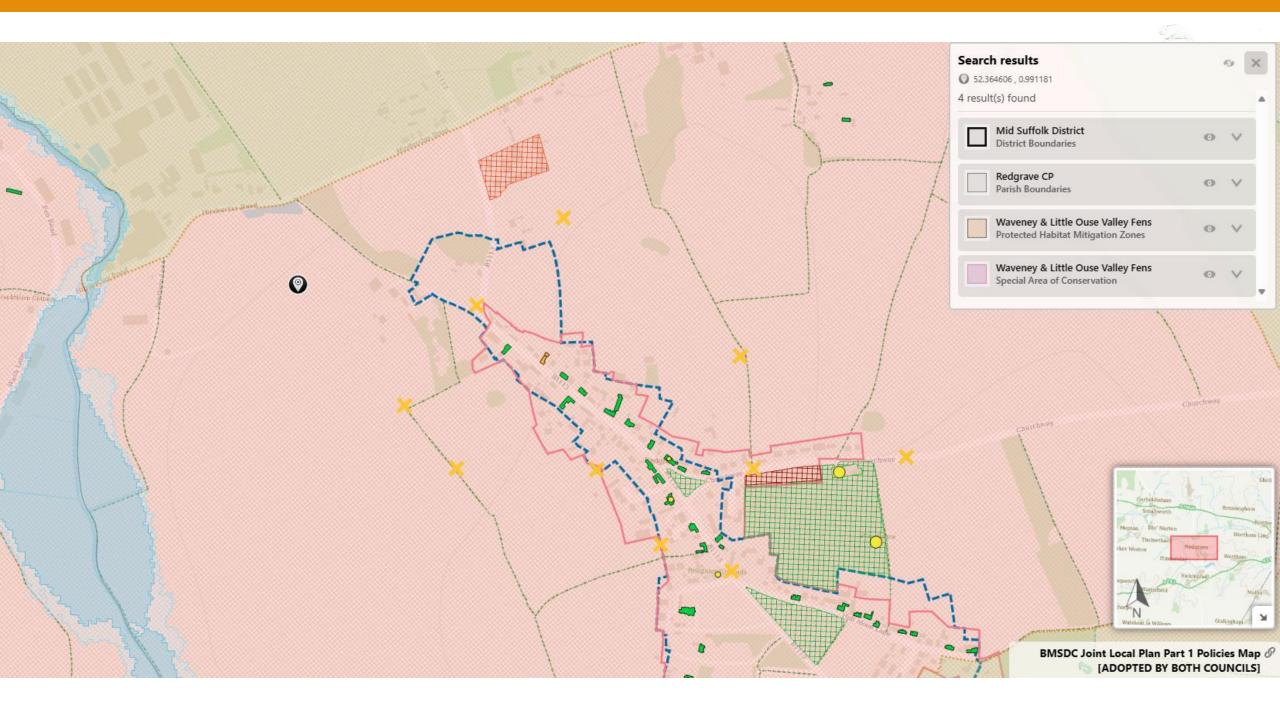
- "Local Planning Authorities should support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy."
- "aimed at encouraging and facilitating the development of renewable and low carbon energy in the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Districts."
- "The Plan supports proposals for renewable and low carbon energy development providing that any identified potential harm on Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, AONB designations or Local Wildlife Designations can be effectively mitigated."
 - NB. The areas is part of the Waveney and Little Ouse Valley Fens Protected Habitat Mitigation Zone
- "The Plan seeks to support proposals for low carbon energy systems especially where networks can be expanded to accommodate new and existing developments over time."



Renewable and Low Carbon Energy — BMSDC JLP Part 1 LP 25

Policy LP25 - Energy Sources, Storage and Distribution

- 1. Renewable and low carbon, decentralised and community energy generating proposals will be supported subject to:
 - a. The impact on (but not limited to) landscape, highway safety, ecology, heritage, residential amenity, drainage, airfield safeguarding and the local community having been fully taken into consideration and where appropriate, effectively mitigated;
 - b. Where renewable or low carbon energy designs are to be incorporated within a development, an integrated approach being taken, using technology that is suitable for the location and designed to maximise operational efficiency without comprising amenity;
 - c. The impact of on and off-site power generation infrastructure being acceptable, having regard to other policies in this Plan;
 - d. The provision of mitigation, enhancement and compensation measures when necessary; and
 - e. Approval of connection rights, and capacity in the UK power network, to be demonstrated as part of the planning application (where applicable).
- 2. The relevant LPA will normally use conditions attached to planning consents for energy development schemes to ensure the site is restored when energy generation ceases or becomes non-functioning for a period of six months.
- 3. Where proposals for renewable and low carbon energy impact on nature conservation sites, the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, or the setting of heritage assets (including conservation areas), the applicant must be able to convincingly demonstrate that potential harm resultant from development can be effectively mitigated and that there are no alternative sites available within the District or for community initiatives within the area which it is intended to serve. This includes providing underground power lines and cabling.





Landscape – LP 17

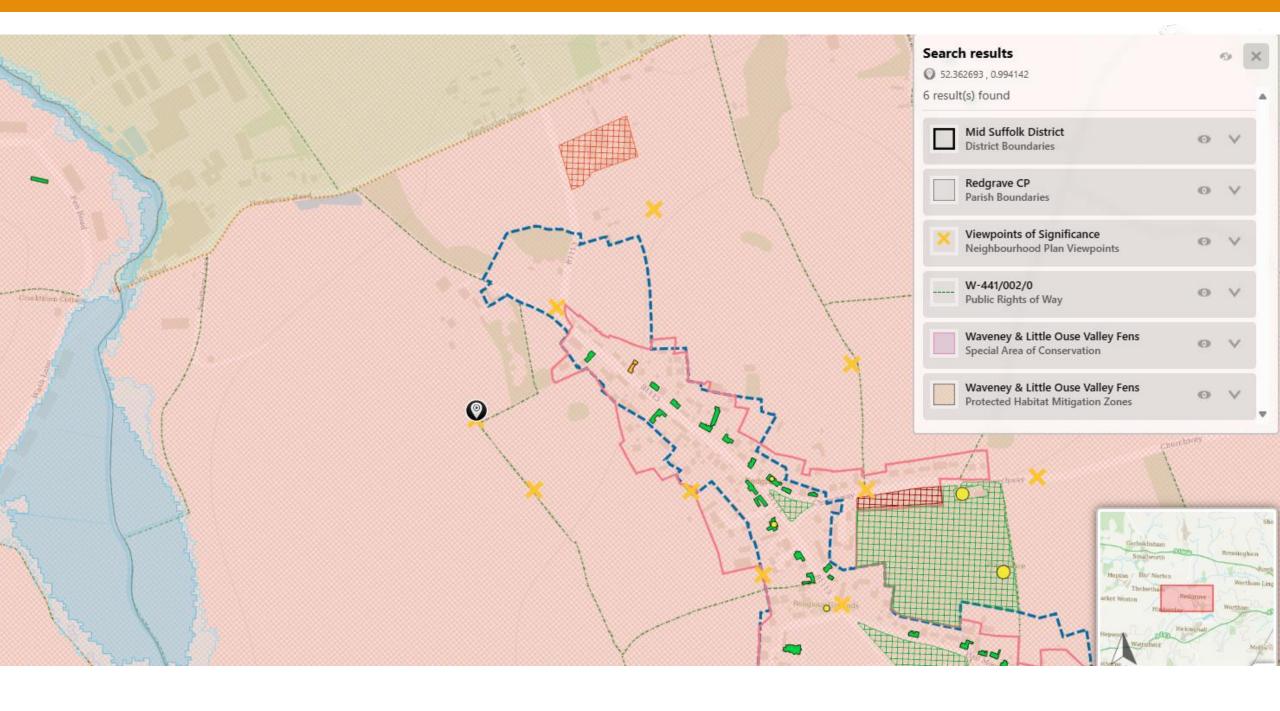
BMSDC's position on landscapes policy is set out in LP17 of the BMSDC JLP Part 1

LP17 states

- "The Plan seeks developments to be sensitive to their landscape and visual amenity impacts; subject to siting, design, lighting, use of materials and colour, along with the associated mitigation measures."
- "Where development is visually prominent or is likely to significantly affect landscape character, production of a Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) or Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) (as appropriate) will be required. This should inform strategic landscape masterplans and/or landscape management plans detailing mitigation proposals if required.."

Policy LP17 - Landscape

- 1. To conserve and enhance landscape character development must:
 - a. Integrate with the existing landscape character of the area and reinforce the local distinctiveness and identity of individual settlements;
 - b. Be sensitive to the landscape and visual amenity impacts (including on dark skies and tranquil areas) on the natural environment and built character; and
 - c. Consider the topographical cumulative impact on landscape sensitivity.
- 2. Where significant landscape or visual impacts are likely to occur, a Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) or a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment LVIA) must be prepared to identify ways of avoiding, reducing and mitigating any adverse effects and opportunities for enhancement.





Gressingham Foods Presentation





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