**STPC EXTRAODINARY MEETING 30.05.2023 MINUTES**

**Attendees.**

Councillors. Stuart Galloway, Duncan Padfield, Peter Moring, Nick Burr, Luke Padfield,

Clerk. Naomi Gledhill.

**Planning Application for a Solar farm at Nickerlands.**

This borders Stapleford Tawney Parish.

Cllr Burr stated although he is quite neutral some parishioners have expressed concerns. A letter was read Wendy Davenport expressing her concerns over noise, visual, devaluing house prices, glare from panels being dangerous to aircraft and it leading to more solar farms nearby. Some points are not valid but others deserve consideration.

The site must be grade 3 or lower. (agriculture)

It is green belt land and therefore won’t set a precedent for other sites.

Based on councillor’s experience of transformers, there is not much noise, if any.

If grass is planted under the panels, it remains arable.

It is not going to be visually intrusive.

Although there will be noise during the construction, there will be less noise from agricultural vehicles afterwards. Councillors to visit an existing solar farm to assess noise levels.

Not sure what, if any chemicals would be used.

The cluster effect. Would this lead to more solar farms nearby. The current power lines would not support more than one solar farm.

Cllr Burr will draft a questionnaire asking for local views, which can be submitted to the planning office. Whilst making clear this planning application has not, and will not come to us as this is not in our parish. The application is anticipated to be made in July.

Some complaints have been made about noise from a shoot, also on Nickerlands land. Parishioners should note how often it is happening, and if more than 28 days in a year, complain directly to the council.

**Date and Venue of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 22nd of June 2023, at Mount Farm, at 7pm.