



PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2025 AT 19:30 AT THE SCOUT HUT PUCKLECHURCH.

PRESENT.

Cllrs G Boyle, R Dunning, J Hawkins, S Reid & D Freestone
In attendance: Ward Councillors Palmer and Stokes, Clerk D Dunning

Guests: Bristol Energy Network (BEN) - David Tudgey, Chloe Hood and Oliver Swanston, Emersons & Lyde Community Energy CIC (ELCoE) Chris Sunderland and Grace Courtney South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) - Ian Dubber, Cllr Chris Willmore and Cllr Louise Harrison

No members of public.

Cllr Boyle welcomed everyone and outlined the format of the council meeting.

Public Participation.

None

2025/10/20 No 1. To receive apologies for absence.

Cllrs Parker, Pibworth, Symons and Hemmings..

2025/10/20 No 2. To receive a presentation from Bristol Energy Network on their proposal for wind turbines at Leigh Farm.

Chloe Hood and David Tudgey provided a presentation on BEN and the progress to date on this West of England Mayoral Combined Authority (WECA) funded project.

Chris Sunderland introduced ELCoE which works across Emersons & Lyde Green, Westerleigh, Pucklechurch, Mangotsfield, Staple Hill, and Blackhorse and what it sees as the community benefits from this project.

This community energy project plans to channel any financial surplus back into the community and BEN is looking to work with all partners on this and to address any concerns. The indicative project timescales:

2025

July - Feasibility project approved by SGC

October - Screening and scoping opinion identified the need for an Environmental Impact assessment

November - Pre planning public consultations

2026

Q1 - Apply for planning permission

Q3 - Anticipated decision.

Questions, clarification and concerns raised by councillors

Concerns were raised over timescales and the suitability and difficulties of consultations during November.

BEN confirmed WECA funding is in place until March 2026 hence the desire to submit a planning application before the deadline although BEN is looking at other social funders.

Preliminary topics covered:

- Size, setting and impact
- Economic and financial viability.
- Noise
- Role and challenges for parish councils
- Community engagement
- Partnership and collaborative working
- Meeting local community needs
- Communication and transparency
- Public perception
- Pre-judgement/pre-determination of project dates.

From these initial discussions, further meetings will be required.

Meeting closed 21:10pm

APPROVED MINUTES SIGNED COPY HELD BY THE CLERK