



REPORT FROM THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 29th APRIL 2024

On 29th April 2024 Raydon Parish Council held an EGM to discuss the Statutory proposals National Grid have now issued.

All Parish councillors were in attendance and the meeting was chaired by Keith Lovering who used a post it notes system to let residents share their opinions which could be collated into the following report .

The meeting was well attended with residents from Raydon and the surrounding areas who all had very strong opinions regarding the new proposed route .

This report will emphasize the issues both Nationally and locally .

National Grids new proposed route now runs along the edge of Raydon and will affect many properties and will have a huge impact on not only the people that live in the properties nearest this new route but will affect everyone's daily life in trying to get in and out of the village for work, school etc.

The Street which is the main road through Raydon is also one of the main routes from Hadleigh to the A12 going through Holton St Mary and the roads at either end of the village are both narrow and encompass many bends, they were not built to carry heavy traffic.

There are many designated "Quiet Lanes " which run through Raydon that are used by horse riders and pedestrians alike . One of these is Noakes Road which would be completely decimated by the volume of traffic it would have to take if this proposed route goes ahead.

The original swathe was based more in between Holton St Mary and Raydon and there seems to be no logic as to why this has been changed .

There have been a number of issues raised by local residents which all need proper investigation by NG .

They are listed as :

LOCAL ISSUES

1, instead of widening the slip road on the A12 which is NG's proposal there could be a new opening to use the old railway line which would then not have such a huge impact on the daily lives of residents of Raydon and Holton St Mary . Even if the slip road is widened there is still a part of the road which has houses either side and will still only be 5 by 5 m across which is not adequate for lorries etc and could cause an accident. This slipway is a 2 way route which many people aren't aware of and at its narrowest point can be extremely dangerous . This slip road is also the main access for buses and emergency vehicles which would all be affected by any works carried out here .

2, why are NG not using the land between the A12 and East Bergholt ? This would have next to no impact on Raydon or any other of the affected villagers and could just follow the route of the A12 and could cross the carriageway in various places which would not have such a huge impact on people or wildlife.

3, Why has NG not taken into account the report from ESO which gives a much more cost effective and easier route that does not need a 100 metre swathe of land dug up , would not need huge Cable Sealing End Compound and would all be buried underground . NG have given the proposed route as the easiest and most cost effective route but they have not taken into account the cost of compensation to house and land owners or the cost of the community impact which will then increase the proposed option way above the new proposed route by ESO .

4, Raydon currently has an old Airfield in use which the new proposed route seems to of taken no account of , in fact the new route will actually cut across the end of the runway .



RAYDON

PARISH COUNCIL

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6, Raydon currently has a rich variety of wildlife including red kites, deer , badgers , bats , hares and migratory birds who's habitats are all going to be destroyed by the current plans .

7, Raydon has a grade 2 listed building in the centre of its village . Has NG even taken this into consideration ?

8, The end of the village has very tight S bends with a blind corner leading up into Woodlands Avenue and has properties either side of the bends . One building has already been hit by a tractor , these roads are not built to take lorries and and other large vehicles and would be a huge danger to both other road users and pedestrians.

9, What is the impact on not only house values with having cables buried so close , the huge proposed sub station and the pylons that will be erected but on peoples health as this is an issue NG have been very reluctant to discuss

10, The slip road on the other side of the A12 Colchester bound will also be used and has seen quite a few accidents. What are NG's proposals to ensure the safety of this slip road .

11, The Proposed route in Raydon will be directly adjoining Pipers Went as well as other properties , there are no pavements from Pipers Went into Raydon . The increase of traffic will be very dangerous for any walkers or pedestrians.

12, What will happen to the many bridle paths , public rights of ways and footpaths that are used regularly in Raydon ? The amount of traffic, dust and pollution to the residents does not seem to of been taken into account by NG

13, Why has the route been changed to now border so many properties in Raydon ? The route was originally much closer to Holton St Mary and the A12 , there is adequate land there to use so why push everything near to villages where many more residents will be affected .

14, The proposed AC solution with pylons and very wide underground trenches is both out dated and will cause huge disruption to hundreds of villages and its residents , not to mention the loss of ancient woodlands and valuable land . The ESO report would have far less impact , would use a much narrower swathe and would be less likely to suffer power outages using the HDVC cables .

NATIONAL ISSUES

1, A deadline which is completely unrealistic should not be used to drive a solution which is based purely on cost when it will have such a devastating impact on the countryside and so many people .

2, Why have NG totally dismissed the offshore option when by their own admission this is the future plans they will be pursuing .

3, NG are removing the outdated Pylons from other parts of the country so why are they even considering using such outdated technology when the HDVC cables are much more efficient .

In conclusion ,

Raydon Parish Council and its residents of Raydon and the surrounding villages are opposing NG's plan to dig up 100 metres swathe of land with all the disruption and distress that would cause to residents and wildlife , and the sub station that would not only be a blot on such a beautiful landscape but would also ruin an area well known for its "dark skies " and the Pylons which Impact not only the countryside but house prices and peoples health.