

FLIXBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD at THE VILLAGE HALL, HIGH STREET, FLIXBOROUGH

On SATURDAY 11th July 2026 at 16.00

Councillors: Cllr Wilkinson (Chair), Cllr McGee, Cllr Lonsdale, and Cllr Sanderson

Also, in attendance: Rivington Energy (Management) Ltd – 3

Members of the public: 6

Public Participation

Prior to the formal meeting, representatives from Rivington Energy provided an overview of the proposed Conesby Data Centre and answered questions from residents, visitors and councillors. The Chair reminded those present that the meeting was not a planning determination, that no final planning application was before the planning authority for decision at this stage, and that the purpose was to gather information, questions and concerns to inform the Parish Council response when full planning proposal is submitted.

The following themes were raised during public participation and the developer question-and-answer session: visual impact and the scale of the buildings; construction traffic and routing; operational noise including cooling equipment and generators; water use; drainage and ecology; lighting; landscaping and the character of the local area; consultation arrangements; and potential employment and wider economic benefits.

Points recorded from the public session and presentation

Theme	Summary of points raised
Project description	The proposal was described as a data centre campus with two data halls of approximately 30MW each, with associated solar provision and potential solar development to the south plus wind turbines.
Design and visual impact	Initial questions focused on the scale and acceptability of the proposal. Building height was noted as approximately 29m, with Rivington Energy indicating an intention to try to reduce this to below 20m before a formal application. The need for viewpoints, photomontages and clear landscape assessment from Flixborough and surrounding areas was noted.
Environmental matters	Environmental assessment and ecology surveys were described as underway, with reports due. The requirement for drainage studies was also noted. Biodiversity measures, removal of biomass crop fields as well as turfing fields, landscaping and the ecological treatment of the wider site were discussed. Use of diesel generators during downtime was also discussed with Rivington Energy stating that this is all very strictly regulated by The Environment Agency and any 'down time' should be minutes.
Noise and operations	Questions were raised about whether noise would be mechanical and about potential noise from cooling equipment, generators and receptors. Rivington Energy indicated that the aim would be to reduce operational noise as much as possible towards baseline levels with estimations that from around 100m away the noise should be less than 5dBs.

Light Use	Questions were raised about the impact of operational lighting, particularly at night time. Rivington Energy stated that whilst a plan is not currently in place, any lighting used at night would be linked to the security of the site rather than operational requirement and therefore would be planned and targeted carefully.
Water use	Questions were raised about how much water the development would require and how the water system would be refilled. The response was this would be via a closed-loop system, similar to a radiator, intended to minimise water use as much as possible, with annual use compared to approximately five households.
Highways and construction traffic	Questions were raised about traffic disruption during construction, including delivery movements, use of main routes, Phoenix Parkway and Normanby Road, and avoiding busy times. The response was that traffic was expected to be fairly minimal on some days, with more movements on delivery days and an estimate of 40 to 60 movements on the worst days.
Construction duration	Build duration was discussed as approximately 10 to 13 months, with the first and last three months expected to be the busiest.
Planning and consultation process	The proposal was described as being at pre-application/consultation stage, with a submission of full planning proposal expected by the end of July and Spring 2027 for decision. It was noted that the consultation report should include the answers provided to the public questions raised at the Flixborough Parish Council Extraordinary meeting.

Public Participation

None present.

EOM2607/1 Apologies

Apologies were received by Ward Cllr Marper, Ward Cllr Ogg and Ward Cllr Rowson.

EOM2607/2 Declarations of interests / dispensations

None declared or received.

EOM2607/3 Conesby Data Centre

Proposed: Cllr McGee, Seconded: Cllr Lonsdale

The Council considered its response to the Conesby Data Centre consultation following the public participation session and presentation by Rivington Energy. Councillors discussed the key matters raised by residents and the need for clear written evidence and mitigations as part of any formal planning application submission.

Resolved: That Flixborough Parish Council submit a consultation response on the EIA Screening Request for the Conesby Data Centre proposal by 15 July 2026, drawing on the issues raised during public participation. The response will make clear that the Parish Council is seeking robust evidence and safeguards before the proposal progresses to a formal planning application.

EOM2607/4 Date of next meeting

15th July 2026, The Village Hall, Flixborough @ 18:00

Meeting closed: 17:05 hrs