Response of Yaxley Parish Council to Progress Power.

At the meeting of the Parish Council on 24th October 2013 it was agreed that the following points would be made as Yaxley Parish Council’s requirement for further information (it should be noted that the meeting was attended by a large number of local residents who are very unhappy about the entire proposal):

1. The current options limit the way that the project may move forward. The Parish Council would like to see additional options added to the future planning application that will no doubt be submitted:
   a. Substation on the airfield adjacent to the new power station and overhead power lines.
   b. Substation on the airfield adjacent to the new power station and underground power lines.

   These would remove the need for a substation, on the west side of the A140, which the Parish Council believes would adversely affect the local environment. Why were these, apparently, removed from the proposal following the consultation in May 2013?

2. The Parish Council would like to see the following areas addressed in the next phase of the environmental survey:
   a. The impact on the infrastructure in the local area, in particular the impact on the road network. This should include the impact of the use of the Old Norwich Road, in Yaxley, as a route to the proposed substation site as it would affect local children as they get on the school bus in the morning and return in the afternoon. In addition, it should be noted that children cycle to Hartismere School along the road that would be affected by your proposal.
   b. The proposed road from the A140 to the site of the substation would cut across an ancient bridle way. What is the age of this green lane and the hedges that border it?
   c. What will be the impact on the local wild life? It is an area where owls, bats, adders etc are regularly seen.
   d. The map showing the listed buildings in the area is incomplete, the Parish Council would like to see an accurate assessment on the impact on listed buildings.
   e. The impact of the project on local people, some years ago there was a plan to build a substation in the same area. One of the reasons that it was rejected was the risk to the health of local people. In addition, there needs to be clear data on the increase in noise levels from power lines and the substation itself. The Parish Council also requires an explanation as to why Stowmarket was used as an area to monitor emissions.
f. What are the risks to animals of underground cables, in particular to horses as they are ridden across it, wildlife and people in general. There are reports of animals being electrocuted by such cables.

h. There are tree preservation orders on trees in the areas which will be affected by the proposed scheme. How will the scheme be implemented so that they are not harmed?

j. It appears that you are using local maps which are significantly out of date. Why is this? Can you reassure the Parish Council that the most up to date maps will be used for future investigations and surveys?

Philip Freeman
Clerk to Yaxley Parish Council.