

## Update from JG Pears for NORMANTON ON TRENT WITH MARNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

January / February 2024

### Neighbours & Community:

1. Complaints.  
Direct site number – 01636 529494 – is shared with Parish Council is also on the website.  
A total of 25 complaints in January and February were received, (both EA and directly reported to site), of which 5 (20%) were verified by site, which were associated with a plant breakdown in early February needing large equipment access doors opening, several particularly odorous raw material trailers being received on one day, and then a sudden trip of the CHP whilst the site was in island mode causing a temporary lack of power for other abatement facilities. These were all reported by JG Pears to the Environment Agency. 4 were noise complaints of which we can validate one as from the site, caused by an ash conveyor wear issue in January.
2. Website. To keep people informed, our Community Page on our website is kept up to date with planned works or unusual activity - <https://jgpears.com/community-liaison/>. Our last update in January / February period was on the 28<sup>th</sup> February about the premature curtailment of work by National Grid whilst the site was in “island mode” (i.e. under its own electrical power). This was due to a trip at the CHP caused by an electronics hardware fault.

### Completed Improvements – no further updates from last bulletin.

1. Repairs to the steam circuits in CHP have been completed to allow running to the next outage. The next planned CHP outage is planned for April 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 and is expected to last 7 days.
2. The Product Storage warehouse at High Marnham has been completed for use as a store of MBM and meal products, and an existing weighbridge at the site has been reinstated for use until the new security lodge is built.
3. The fence at High Marnham has been painted green!

### In Progress

1. Work to upgrade the Feathers processing operation are continuing, the initial civils works have been completed and cooling towers and other associated equipment installed inside the factory, along with preparation works for raw material reception improvements. Installation of milling equipment is ongoing. The main process installation to recommence, and we are currently planning recommencing the project beginning with the transfer of drying and milling to other existing facilities and allowing the removal of the old drying and milling plant, and then the installation of new loading equipment.
2. Scoping and planning on the detail of units and connections for the solar farm in the land around the former High Marnham Power station site is still ongoing, to enable the pre-commencement planning conditions to be completed. However, as you will be aware National Grid have submitted an EIA screening request to install a new substation on part of the solar farmland, we need to see how this National Grid project will affect the solar project going forward.
3. Planning conditions for the hydrogen plant at High Marnham has all been submitted (and several of them cleared) ready for works to start of the project in the next few months.

### Planning

1. As mentioned before, National Grid carried out an outage at their High Marnham sub-station site to maintain and upgrade switchgear. This lasted for a week at the end of February and beginning of March and entailed the JG Pears Low Marnham site relying on energy produced by its CHP plant. Unfortunately, this was cut short, and some additional work was discovered (which requires a crane). The remainder of

the works (around 3 to 4 days) are planned for late April, after the next CHP maintenance outage is complete.

2. Update on planning applications at the High Marnham site.
  - a. The planning condition requiring the fence at High Marnham to be painted has been dealt with and the fence is now painted.
  - b. The application for the green hydrogen generation plant and demonstration ammonia cracker project was split into 2 separate applications.
    - i. The Green Hydrogen plant was approved in late October and is currently awaiting final planning condition clearance prior to construction works starting on site.
    - ii. The Ammonia Cracker plant was approved by the BLDC planning committee in early February, we are currently looking at the planning conditions associated with this.
  - c. Additional Hydrogen Capacity and DESNZ funding  
Our green hydrogen production plant has been selected as one of only 11 plants in the UK to receive Government funding under the "Hydrogen Business Model Scheme." During the negotiations with Government, we were asked to increase the capacity of our plant to get the project to fit government funding model. We have therefore submitted a planning application to install a further 6MW of Electrolyser capacity on the same cooling tower base on the High Marnham site. This will bring the capacity of the plant up to 14MWe (electrical input), 9.3MW Hydrogen Higher Heating Value (output). This application was submitted on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> of January. The planning application only effects the area of the cooling tower base with no additional works taking place outside of this area.  
We expect this application to be decided in the next few weeks.

### **High Marnham – Security and Access arrangements for Sustrans users**

We are still willing to help facilitate a parking solution for the Sustrans route close to the entrance to the former High Marnham power station site.