



Orsted Horsea Three wind farm blamed for River Glaven pollution

30th October 2023

ENVIRONMENT

HOLT

NORFOLK





By Adam Barker

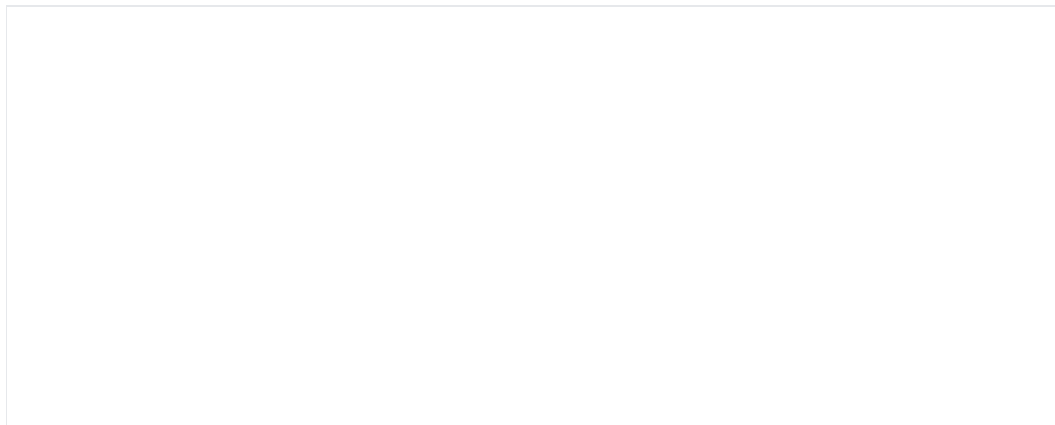
Reporter

Share

No Comments

Ongoing work to build what will be the single largest wind farm in the world off the north Norfolk coast has been blamed for “destroying” one of the region’s rivers.

ADVERTISEMENT





Find out how the Vaillant Hare can help make home heating easy. Match the tiles to find your perfect heating solution

[Learn more](#)

 Carbon-Neutral Ad

Inspired by  invibee

Works on the Hornsea Three offshore wind farm project began earlier this year, carving a 33 mile long and 262ft wide trench through the north Norfolk countryside as part of a major cable route.

It will connect up to 231 turbines - with the potential to power three million homes - to the National Grid at the Norwich main 400-kilovolt substation, between Swardeston and Stoke Holy Cross.





How To Invest In Whisky. Own A Barrel Of Whisky

Whisky Partners | Sponsored

READ MORE: Ørsted has started building trench for Hornsea Three wind farm



A view of the Hornsea Three trench being dug, showing Kelling Heath, the village of Weybourne beyond it, and the north Norfolk coast (*Image: Mike Page*)



owned company behind the Ebn project – claiming a Norfolk river in the name of creating green energy by polluting it with tonnes of sediment known as silt.

The River Glaven is a 10 mile long river that flows from Selbrigg Pond, near Holt, out into the sea at Blakeney Point.





The Orsted Hornsea Three project off the north Norfolk coast will create the single largest wind farm in the world (*Image: Archant*)

Professor Carl Sayer, a freshwater scientist and member of The River Glaven Conservation Group, has said that soil dug-up to create the trenches for the cable route has been carried by surface run-off in recent heavy rain and deposited into the river.

Mr Sayer, who grew up in Bodham and has fond memories of fishing on the Glaven, said the river has become clogged up by silt, which has caused an “ecological disaster”.

Sign up to the Breaking news newsletter

The biggest and newest stories, sent straight to you as they happen.

Sign Up

By signing up, you agree to our [privacy policy](#) and [terms of service](#).

“This is a massive pollution event,” Mr Sayer said.

“It will take decades to recover from this as there’s so much sediment to pass through the river.



rare species such as the white-clawed crayfish, which are found in freshwater chalk streams, and brown trout could suffer because of the pollution.

READ MORE: Village butcher's to close after more than 70 years





A section of the River Glaven - now narrower with more sediment (*Image: Supplied*)

Henry Crawley, chair of the River Glaven Conservation Group, said he, alongside the Norfolk Rivers Trust, first warned Orsted and the Environment Agency about the prospect of pollution from the wind farm works in August.

“We were reassured us they had it all under control,” Mr Crawley said.

“They’ve done this work at a time of high risk because we get a lot of heavy



“It’s real tragedy and we need to make sure it doesn’t happen again.”

Kate Dickson, who owns Thornage water mill on the River Glaven, said the river has been “absolutely ruined” and is now “unrecognisable”.





Kate Dickson (*Image: Supplied*)

“I’m desperately upset because where I live is ruined,” she said.



at the bottom of the stream. It sits there like a big layer of doom.

“The river looks like a builder’s tea. It used to be crystal clear and you could see the trout. Now it’s filthy.

“I feel they [Orsted] are responsible for a hell of a lot of damage done.

“We told them and they chose to ignore it.”



Thornage Watermill (*Image: Supplied*)



"We are aware that there are pre-existing flooding issues locally with a number of contributing factors.

"As a responsible developer, we take potential impacts of any works we carry out very seriously.

"We are working closely with our contractors, the Environment Agency and other local stakeholders to thoroughly investigate the events and are taking active steps to ensure that mitigation measures in place on our site can handle extreme weather."

ENVIRONMENT

HOLT

NORFOLK

Share

0 Comments

More Stories



How To Invest In Whisky. Own A Barrel Of Whisky

Whisky Partners | Sponsored



People With Low Vision Are Going Crazy Over This Device

OrCam | Sponsored



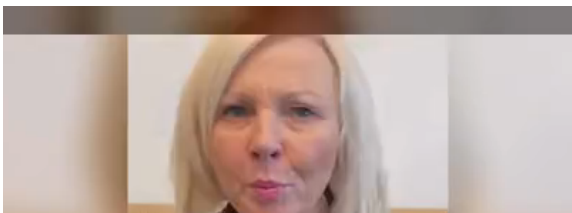
Eight of the best spy novels

The Economist | Sponsored



Solar panels in 2024: This is what you need to know

Project Solar | Sponsored





No Joke: This Is How Much A Will Should Actually Cost

Local Will Finder | Sponsored

Urologist Asks Men to "Shrink" Prostate With This Tip (Every Morning)

Prostate Revelation | Sponsored

New dental practice to open in Norfolk town this month...

North Norfolk News

Baby found in shopping bag was less than an hour...

North Norfolk News

End of the line for model railways?

North Norfolk News

Prostate: Always Need The Toilet? Try This Tonight

Physical Health Discovery | Sponsored

The Unheard Of £7,500 Grant For Heat Pumps Is Here

theecoexperts.com | Sponsored



Get *involved*
with **the news**



Most read **Commented**

- 1** Road closure at Norfolk's 'bottleneck village' set to disrupt 10,000 drivers a day
- 2** The Gin Train returning to Norfolk with local tipples and mezze boards
- 3** 7 of the best places to spot celebrities in Norfolk
- 4** Weather warning extended after 69mph winds hit Norfolk
- 5** Dozens of homes without power as Storm Isha batters Norfolk with 60mph winds

- 6** Two Norfolk hotels named as the best in Britain for a winter getaway
- 7** Fine dining restaurant launches 'more casual and affordable' set menus



9 Norfolk hotel named one of Britain's best to visit by train

10 Teen arrested on suspicion of drug crime in north Norfolk market town

[Show more articles](#)







- 1** Road closure at Norfolk's 'bottleneck village' set to disrupt 10,000 drivers a day
- 2** The Gin Train returning to Norfolk with local tipples and mezze boards
- 3** 7 of the best places to spot celebrities in Norfolk
- 4** Weather warning extended after 69mph winds hit Norfolk
- 5** Dozens of homes without power as Storm Isha batters Norfolk with 60mph winds
- 6** Two Norfolk hotels named as the best in Britain for a winter getaway
- 7** Fine dining restaurant launches 'more casual and affordable' set menus
- 8** 'Best of the best' Norfolk fish and chip shop a finalist for national award
- 9** Norfolk hotel named one of Britain's best to visit by train
- 10** Teen arrested on suspicion of drug crime in north Norfolk market town

[Show more articles](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Manage Consent](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Cookie Policy](#)

[Terms & Conditions](#)

[Contributor Terms](#)

[Newsquest printing](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Newsletters](#)

[Site Man](#)

[Exchange and Mart](#)

[Terms of Advertising](#)



[Archive](#)

[Add Your Event For Free](#)

FOLLOW US

[North Norfolk News](#)

[North Norfolk News](#)

This website and associated newspapers adhere to the Independent Press Standards Organisation's Editors' Code of Practice. If you have a complaint about the editorial content which relates to inaccuracy or intrusion, then please **contact the editor here**. If you are dissatisfied with the response provided you can **contact IPSO here**

© **2001-2024**. This site is part of Newsquest's audited local newspaper network. A Gannett Company.
Newsquest Media Group Ltd, 1st Floor, Chartist Tower, Upper Dock Street, Newport, Wales, NP20 1DW Registered in England & Wales | 01676637 |