

# SHERINGHAM SHOAL

## Offshore Wind Farm

Operated by Statoil

# Statoil becomes Sheringham Shoal Operator



● Crew transfer vessels arrive from and depart for the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm the Outer Harbour at Wells-next-the-Sea

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 Statoil took over from Statkraft as the Operator of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm. Both companies, along with the UK's Green Investment Bank, are currently owners of the wind farm, but Statkraft's announcement in September 2016 that it was preparing for the divestment of the share holdings in all its UK offshore wind assets created the need for the role of Operator to be transferred to Statoil.

Statoil has played a major role at Sheringham Shoal since becoming one of its owners in 2005, with its many years of experience in offshore oil and gas production proving invaluable during the construction and initial operation and maintenance (O&M) stages of this £1 billion project.

Having been involved in the wind farm's construction phase before leading all marine logistics operations until June 2015, Statoil's Tom James is delighted to have been appointed as Sheringham Shoal's General Manager and Power Plant Manager.

In an interview for this newsletter, he said:

*"I am really enjoying being back in North*



● Power Plant Manager Tom James

*Norfolk. The Sheringham Shoal team is highly competent and very enthusiastic and the work that was undertaken in the months leading up to the change in Operator ensured a smooth handover process.*

*"I am now expecting the coming months to be quite demanding; since June we have been rolling out some significant operational changes to ensure that we continue to maximise wind turbine availability at all times. Amongst other things a major service contract expired."*

2017 is set to be a milestone year for Statoil's growing involvement in UK offshore wind energy. The formal opening of the world's first floating offshore wind farm, the Hywind Pilot Park off the coast of Peterhead, Scotland, will take place in October, and this will be followed in November with the opening of the Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm, 20 miles off the coast of Cromer in North Norfolk.

October will also mark the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm being fully commissioned ●

## Power success in 2016

The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm consists of 88 wind turbine generators (3.6MW) and it was anticipated that it would generate sufficient electricity to power 220,000 UK homes.

Since it was fully commissioned in late 2012, the wind farm has performed exceptional well, generating more electricity than was originally anticipated. In 2016 it generated 1042 GWh which is sufficient to power 248,000 UK homes (DECC Dukes).

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## Maintaining the power flow in 2017

Scheduled and corrective maintenance is essential in order to ensure that the Sheringham Shoal wind turbine generators remain safe, functional and available to produce electricity when the wind blows.

Maintaining a high level of turbine availability means that maintenance tasks need to be planned and carried out in such a way as to reduce the length of time that they are out

of operation during periods of high wind. The maintenance programme also needs to ensure that the work undertaken protects the efficiency of the turbines, enabling them to perform at high levels for longer periods of time.

From June 2017 all maintenance work is the in-house responsibility of Statoil, as the Operator of the wind farm. The maintenance team now consists of 31 multi-skilled technicians and support staff, whose task is to keep the turbines spinning and the power flowing ●

## Spotlight on... Health and Safety

Health and Safety is of the utmost priority and at the forefront of all daily operational activities at the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm.

The wind farm team is justifiably very proud of its health and safety record (accidents/injuries) and Site Support Manager Gavin Graham believes that the site safety culture is a major contributor to this record, saying:

*“Everyone throughout the organisation is collaboratively involved in our safety campaigns and initiatives, and openness and honesty prevails when reporting any hazards or unsafe conditions.”*

Whilst continuing to strive to maintain the high standards that are already in place, 2017 has seen the introduction of additional areas of health and safety focus at Sheringham Shoal.

One such focus is mental health and general health and wellbeing, with the strengthening of the 1<sup>st</sup> line emergency response process including the introduction of readily available critical support medical equipment. This is seen to be of paramount importance in an offshore working environment ●

## Sheringham Shoal in ‘24 hours of Reality 2016’

The first transfer and climb from a crew transfer vessel to an offshore wind turbine is generally a time of nervousness and stress for a wind farm technician, but Sheringham Shoal's Operations and Maintenance Co-ordinator Hannah Carbis had more reason than most to be nervous when she undertook her first climb in November 2016.

She was being filmed as part of the coverage of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm for the AI Gore 24 hours of Climate Change Reality livestream which was broadcast on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z450b\\_VKUZE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z450b_VKUZE)

On returning to shore from a memorable trip to the wind farm, Hannah said:

*“I was excited to do my first transfer to a turbine, and it was very satisfying to put all my training into practice” ●*

## New arrivals at Sheringham Shoal

A number of new people have joined the Sheringham Shoal team during 2017:

### Conan Hoey

Conan is an Operation & Maintenance Engineer, supporting the engineering team with its day to day activities and project work.



His tasks range from reviewing data feeds to initiating the repair of faulty components. He also produces the appropriate documentation, and liaises with other departments within the Sheringham Shoal organisation, to ensure that there is maximum wind turbine availability as regularly as possible.

### Amir Hashemian

Amir is an O&M Engineer who is a member of the team of engineers which is responsible for maintaining the wind farm's assets in such a way as to ensure maximum availability for the generation of electricity whilst promoting longevity of all plant and equipment.

In supporting the engineering team in delivering a wide range of maintenance projects, he is involved in the production the RAMS documentation for a range of tasks; this means that health and safety awareness is a key element of his role.



● Hannah Carbis accompanied by HSE Site Representative Richard Sykes

## Local initiatives...

A number of local initiatives in North Norfolk receive support from the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm; here is an update on just three of those initiatives.

### Initiative 1



● HRH The Duke of Kent being introduced to Rune Ronvik (right)

### New Education facility at The Mo

A £1 million+ extension at the Sheringham Museum at The Mo was opened on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2107 by HRH the Duke of Kent. Besides achieving the ambition of bringing the Atlantic 75 Sheringham lifeboat into the museum, the additional space includes a spacious new Education Centre, which provides a useful lecture, presentation and study area for student parties visiting the Sheringham Shoal Visitor Centre. It will also serve as a venue for conferences and celebratory events. Rune Ronvik, UK Head of Statoil's Dudgeon Wind Farm Operations, attended the opening, and commented:

*“This is an excellent new facility and it will provide useful support to the increasing educational use of the Sheringham Shoal Visitor Centre.”*

The extension was made possible by a Heritage Lottery Fund Grant and a sustained fundraising campaign by the team at The Mo ●

### Initiative 2

### Young sailors exchange programme

Exchange visits for young American and British sailors form part of an on-going programme planned by the Wells-next-the-Sea and Oxford Maryland twinning association. In 2016, 4 young sailors from Alderman Peel High School spent 10 days in the beautiful Maryland port, which was followed by a visit to Wells from 3 of their fellow sailors from the US.

The Young Sailors exchange is the first of many planned links between the two ports, which aims to promote participation in the sport of sailing, and to experience different conditions, water, weather, tides, clothing and boats. Sheringham Shoal was pleased to contribute to the fundraising campaign which supported this exchange programme ●



● Oxford, Maryland, USA



● The National Coastwatch look-out at Sheringham

### Initiative 3

### Sheringham Shoal continues to support National Coastwatch

The National Coastwatch Institution is a voluntary organisation that keeps a visual watch along the shores of the UK. There are 50 such stations around our coastline, which in 2016 supplied 246,000 hours of organised coastal surveillance by 2,000 volunteers. Local support for these NCI stations is vital.

The services provided by North Norfolk's three stations at Wells-next-the-Sea, Sheringham and East Runton, are highly valued by Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm. Tom James, General Manager at Sheringham Shoal comments: *“With much of our work carried out at sea, we are very aware of the dangers involved and are very happy to contribute to support these stations” ●*

**SHERINGHAM SHOAL**  
Offshore Wind Farm  
Operated by Statoil

Educational visits welcome  
Contact us for more information

### Wind Farm Visitor Centre at The Mo

An educational, interactive & fun exhibition; accessible to everyone, group visits welcome.

- Learn about climate change & renewable energy
- Understand the historic importance of wind energy to North Norfolk
- See the development and construction of the wind farm unfold before you
- Learn about the daily operation and maintenance activities at the wind farm

Free entry to exhibition (Normal entry fees apply when visiting the Sheringham Museum).

**Open:** 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017;  
Tue - Sat: 10am - 4.30pm; Sunday: Noon - 4pm.  
Mondays from June throughout September & school holidays.

The Mo, Lifeboat Plain,  
Sheringham, NR26 8BG  
01263 824482  
[www.scira.co.uk](http://www.scira.co.uk)

# The Sheringham Shoal Community Fund...

Since its establishment in 2010, the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund has made grant awards totalling over £512,000 to various community groups, charities and schools in North Norfolk.

The fund criteria relate to renewable energy, marine environment and safety, sustainability, or education in these areas. The fund is operated by Norfolk Community Foundation, and a panel made up of local representatives from the community, business and education sectors sits twice a year to consider applications and award grants. Panel meetings are held in May and November.

## Case Study 1

### Inspired Women in Engineering and Energy

Inspired Youth is a social enterprise that aims to bring together local employers with local young people through projects that encourage real conversations about skills and careers. In 2015 the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund awarded a grant to this organisation to help it fund the Inspired Women in Engineering and Energy programme.

This programme was an in-school project which took place in 5 schools in North Norfolk during 2015/16 designed to raise awareness in young females of career opportunities in engineering and energy. It provided for a range of activities to be run by small groups of female students, and for the outputs from those activities to be shared across the school. Each school was supported by a representative from industry, and the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm supported the programme at Fakenham Academy, Sheringham High School and Alderman Peel High School.

In total, 63 students were involved in running project activities with around 1,000 students participating in the school assemblies and other presentations used to share the programmes outputs and outcomes.

A further grant has been awarded to enable the programme to be implemented in 7 schools in 2017, and an Inspired Women Conference was held at The Sheringham Shoal Visitor Centre at The Mo in June 2017 to coincide with International Women in Engineering Day.

## Case Study 2

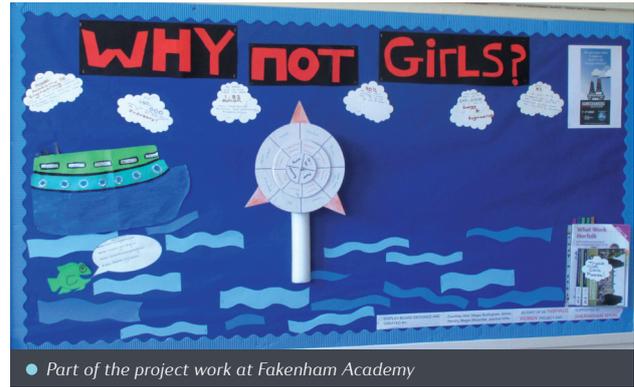


● Tim Hardy presenting the keys for the electric van to Ella King

### Cromer and District Food Bank 'electrified' by Sheringham Shoal

A grant to the Cromer and District Food Bank (C&DFB) has enabled it to purchase an electric Nissan e-NV 200 van. This economic work horse, which has been supplied and sponsored by the Nissan dealership Crayford and Abbs in Bodham, North Norfolk, is cutting C&DFB's vehicle running costs significantly.

Ella King, Project Manager at the Food Bank said: "We are very grateful to the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund for making this purchase possible. Every penny we save on running costs means more help to local families in need of support." ●



● Part of the project work at Fakenham Academy

## Questions from the Community

### Have any surveys been undertaken to study the marine life around the foundations of the wind turbines?

In order to satisfy the conditions of the Licence from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm undertakes various marine surveys on an on-going basis. However a study of marine life around the foundations of the wind turbines is not included in these survey programmes ●

### To which wind farms do the turbines belong that can now be seen to both the east and the west of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind farm on some clear days?

The wind turbines to the west of the Sheringham Shoal belong to the Race Bank Offshore Wind Farm operated by Dong Energy, whilst those to the east belong to the Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm which is operated by Statoil ●

## Contact details and more information:

Sheringham Shoal is owned by Statoil, Statkraft and the Green Investment Bank through Scira Offshore Energy Ltd. Statoil is the operator for the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm. Scira Offshore Energy Ltd. is the legal entity.

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