

**WOOLLEY HILL WIND FARM
COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 18th January 2011

In attendance: Cllr Ewan Rayner (Chairman & Ellington)
Cllr Hugh West (Leighton Bromswold)
Cllr Jane Baker (Alconbury Weston)
Cllr Mike Baker (Hunts DC)
Cllr Keith Baker (Hunts DC)
Cllr Bruce Chapman (Ellington??)
David Stoll (Spaldwick Parish Clerk)
Jon Knight (RES)
Phil Briscoe (Bellenden)

3 residents also attended the meeting.
Bob lumbers attended as a member of the public

Venue: Ellington village hall

Apologies: Cllr Graham Leach (Spaldwick)

Date: Tuesday, 18 January 2011

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Graham Leach.

2. Welcome and introduction

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true record, without amendment.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Woolley Hill Application & Planning Update

JK gave a project update, explaining that the planning application had been validated before Christmas and the ES had been sent out statutory consultees. He went on to say that many consultation responses had been sent back to Jennie Parsons, the planning

officer and although the formal consultation deadline had passed, members of the public could still submit comments up until the time the officers report is written for the planning committee.

JK said that no date had yet been fixed for the planning committee, and some supplementary information may be requested by the council, which would mean the application would go to the March committee at the earliest.

HW referred to the Kimbolton windfarm application which had been rejected on the preceding evening (17th Jan) and asked if any of the reasons for refusal could apply to Woolley Hill. JK said he didn't have a full answer for that but believed the main reasons for refusal were landscape, visual impact and heritage, along with the fact that the applicant had not supplied all of the requested information to the council. BL confirmed the result, having attended the meeting, and said that heritage had been a huge issue, with an impact on local churches and Kimbolton itself. He also said the applicants had been criticised for a lack of consultation, particularly with the surrounding villages.

The Chairman asked if Spaldwick had been consulted and DS confirmed they had and outlined the consultation that had taken place in the parish. As a result, the council voted to support the application and recommended approval, subject to a list of recommended conditions to be considered as mitigation measures.

KB confirmed that he had attended Alconbury Parish special meeting to discuss the application, where 15 people had attended and they had not objected.

HW said that Leighton Bromswold Parish Council had not been consulted by the council and JB said the same situation existed for Alconbury Weston Parish.

The Chairman asked for clarification as to whether this would affect the planning decision as there was clearly a lack of consultation and JK outlined his understanding of the council SPD policy.

The Chairman confirmed that Ellington Parish Council had submitted an objection based on visual impact, birds, aviation, heritage and traffic etc, and they had decided to do this following a village survey which showed a significant number of people opposed the plan.

6. Public Questions (15 minutes)

There were no questions from members of the public as there had been significant public involvement in the discussions on agenda items.

7. Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting date was provisionally set for Tuesday 15th March at 8pm in Ellington Village Hall. However, due to the uncertainty surrounding the decision date and if any further planning updates would be provided to the council, an alternative date of Tuesday 22nd February was also set.

JK/PB to advise in due course which date would be used for the meeting.

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.