

Meeting Number	137
Date Of Meeting:	25 th February 2010
Location:	Brigstock Village Hall
Purpose Of Meeting:	Wind Farm Public Meeting
Minutes Prepared By:	Nigel Searle
Date & Location Of Next Meetings:	17 th March 2010 Brigstock Village Hall
Attendees:	Mrs D Solesbury, Mrs S Wilks (Part Time), Mr W Millen, J Steward Mrs A Marsden-Findlay (Chair) District Councillor Mrs. S Hughes
Apologies:	
Copies to:	All Parish councillors and District Councillor

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm with 34 members of the public present

Mrs A Marsden-Findlay (Chair) opened the meeting with an overview of proceedings and emphasised the short timescale available for the Parish Council to respond. The Chair also introduced District Councillor Hughes who is the member for Lyveden Ward and represents the Brigstock Parish.

Mr. W. Millen (Chair of planning committee) gave an introduction to the papers and photo-montages submitted by West Cost Energy in their planning application submission.

Peter Stephens chair of Sudborough Parish Council gave an overview of the stance taken by Sudborough who had, at their last meeting unanimously opposed the application. The grounds for this are tabled below.

1 The cumulative effect created by other potential wind farms in the area, particularly with Cranford and Ringstead which will almost certainly be seen from various locations in Sudborough Parish.

2 Noise, (including LF/ vibration) especially to nearby properties.

3 The visual impact on the landscape; Lyveden New Bield; numerous listed buildings and from the tower of All Saints Church, Sudborough.

4 The potential adverse effect on tourism to the surrounding area.

5 The potential loss of amenity (Welland Gliding Club) due to safety factors.

6 The possible adverse effect on recreation (Loss of peace and tranquility).

7 Damage to Archaeology.

8 Shadow Flicker problem. (Play area and refreshment area and cafe in Fermyn Woods Country Park, Lyveden New Bield, and properties along Harley Way etc).

9 Ecological issues (Red Kite, Hobby, bats, various species of arboreal butterfly including Purple Emperor, and also to great crested newts).

10 The potential environmental impact on wild life. (There is growing evidence of problems due to low frequency noise/ vibration that could result in driving wildlife away from the location of turbines, eg "Birds not nesting within 1/2 mile of wind farm").

The text below reflects the comments made at the meeting and is in no specific order or importance.

1	West Coast are currently collecting signatures on a petition in Oundle on green energy.
2	West Coast Energy proposed setting trees to negate the impact on Lyveden New Build. It is believed that this has now been withdrawn due to it not being acceptable to the National Trust.
3	Land owner can benefit by tens of thousands of pounds for turbines on the land.
4	Derek Coleman Red Kite specialist has reviewed the West Coast Documentation and contradicts the Environmental Survey on fatalities.
5	There are Hobby nesting sites in the vicinity of the turbines
6	The West Cost Bat survey is believed not to represent the true position. There are some very rare species.
7	The West Cost Butterfly survey is believed not reflect the true position. No comment on the Purple Emperor and Hairstreak .
8	Why were West Coast not invited to this meeting
9	Number of turbines currently to be 5
10	West Coast Energy and Barnwell Estates refused to allow a blimp to be flown from the proposed site.
11	The longer term impact will turn this site into an industrial Brownfield site
12	There was concern expressed on the varying statements on the impact on Red Kites.
13	If the site is going to be efficient then it is worth putting the turbines up
14	Can responses to previous tribune applications be of help to the Parish Council in its response to this application.
15	Does the landscape have any special significance. The turbines are by an SSI site. They are on a Roman Road and Saxon archeological site.
16	There is an impact on the country park and Lyveden way.
17	Every village should have a wind farm

18	Do we know the National trusts response – NO
19	Should the residents and parish council contact the National Trust and give an opinion.
20	Is CPRE position known? NO but it is believed their response will be negative
21	There was concern expressed that a large number in the village were not aware of the public meeting.
22	31 st March is the provisional date for the ENC planning committee meeting
23	Did not come to meeting to find it an opposition meeting
24	In favor of local energy due to significant loss of energy in transmission lines.
25	This is a planning issue not a green issue
26	Does the parish get any cash as a result of the wind farm – NO
27	There are environmental issues with the turbines destroying our landscape.
28	Tip of blades can travel up to 200mph
29	Turbines can be removed when they become redundant and landscape restored
30	No apparent cohesion in government policy
31	No objections to turbines, but this site is possibly the worst possible choice in the area.
32	Put blimp pictures on parish website
33	Planning application documents can be viewed on ENC website planning portal
34	Local residents could set up an action group
35	<p>Would it be possible to display all the material for interested people to look at. YES</p> <p>West Coast presentation and pictures of blimp will be on display in cafe area of village shop 'Greenworths' High street, Brigstock from 1st March to 6th March.'</p>

The summation of the meeting by the Chair was that we are favour of green energy and had no objections to wind turbines. But its impact on our historic setting and environment was significant. The sighting of the turbines was thought to be in the worst possible place, causing undue impact on the parishes.

The Parish Council would before the response date consider all the points before making its response.