

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF HADDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013 at 7.30pm at Haddenham Library, Station Road, Haddenham, Cambs.**

**Attendance:** Cllrs Goddard, Lyon (Chairman), Norman, Page, Parr and Smith

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** having been circulated to all members were taken as read. Cllr Page proposed and Cllr Goddard seconded that the minutes should be signed as a true record of the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllrs Fairchild and Haigh – prior commitments.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Several members of the public were in attendance and it was agreed they would be allowed to speak whilst the planning applications were being discussed.

5. **PLANNING**

**13/01027/SCOPE Berry Fen, Dam Bank Drove, Haddenham: Scoping Opinion – Wind Farm.**

Cllr Lyon introduced Mr Bruce Caldwell, Ms Heather Jones and Mr George Burr who had attended the meeting as representatives of REG Windpower to answer questions on the Scoping Document.

Cllr Lyon explained that the matter being considered was not a planning application but a document setting out the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out prior to the submission of a planning application.

A variety of consultants will contribute to the final EIA and their findings may affect the final layout within the application, which is expected to be submitted to East Cambs District Council in Spring 2014.

Detailed surveys and consultation with local residents and groups will also be carried out over the next few months. The first round of public exhibitions is due to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> December and further exhibitions are planned for the New Year.

Background noise level monitoring is being carried out at present and options for connection to the Grid will also be looked at within the EIA. Improvements along the fen road will need to be considered for the proposed access along Long Drove to be feasible.

There was also mention of the Community Benefit Funds, which would come with the installation of the wind farm but it was felt this was a separate issue to be discussed at a later date and not relevant for the purposes of discussing the EIA scope.

The overall opinion was that the Scoping Document showed a thorough and quite comprehensive approach to identifying any possible impacts on the environment. A member of the public expressed concern that the impact on horses using the local bridleways may not be included and it was agreed that REG would investigate this.

There was some concern expressed regarding the potential impact on house values in the vicinity of the site. However, this matter was outside the scope of the EIA and would need to be considered by the Planning Authority (ECDC) in its final deliberations.

Cllr Parr proposed and Cllr Smith seconded that the Committee was happy with the content of the Scoping Document but that it should also consider the impact on horses/riders and bridleways. Motion carried unanimously.

*Cllr Goddard left meeting at 8.00pm for another meeting.*

**13/00993/FUL 8 High Street, Aldreth:** New pitched roof over entire property. New bay windows, front door and porch to front. Cllr Parr proposed and Cllr Smith seconded that there were no objections. Motion carried unanimously.