

Humber, Ford & Stoke Prior Group Parish Council

DRAFT – subject to
confirmation

Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 7 January 2014 at 7.00pm in Risbury Village Hall

Present: Cllr Michael Hubbard (Chairman)
Cllr William Jackson Cllr Peter Lefroy-Owen
Cllr Rodney Thompson Cllr Mrs Stephanie Wilson

Officer in attendance: Mr Philip Brown (Clerk)

With: Mr Tim Parry (applicant for 133173)
and 9 other members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed members of the public and the applicant to the meeting, reminding them that the Council did not have the power to make a decision about applications; this committee was meeting to determine the Council's views to be submitted to the Planning Authority (Herefordshire Council). An opportunity would be given to all members of the public to make statements or ask questions of the applicant.

PC01/14 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs Jenny Ellerton.

PC02/14 Declaration of interests and dispensations

- (a) There were no declarations of interest in agenda items from members.
- (b) There were no applications for dispensations from the rules on participation by members with a disclosable pecuniary interest.

PC03/14 Minutes of 30 October 2013

Resolved: to approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 30 October 2013.

PC04/14 Matters for report arising from the minutes

- (a) Application 132537: Hennerwood Farm – deposition of builders' waste

Reported: that the application was withdrawn on 8 November 2013.

Noted: that there had been some reports from residents about continued traffic through Risbury of lorries carrying waste; the Clerk would ask the Planning Officer to investigate this.

PC05/14 Application No: 133173: Burnt Mill, Hampton Wafre: erection of two Gaia133 11kw wind turbines on 27m tubular towers, 33.5m height to blade tip

- (a) *Received:* the application (circulated 14 December 2013). The Chairman summarised the application and the issues which the committee would wish to explore.
- (b) *Received:* an oral statement from the applicant, Mr Tim Parry: He was applying for two relatively small turbines to supplement the generation of electricity from solar panels for his pig-farm. They would have reduced visual impact on the landscape, they had very low noise levels, and no temporary construction roads were needed.
- (c) *Noted:* In answer to questions from the committee and members of the public, Mr Parry said that the turbines were the most efficient means of supplementing his green-energy generation, despite their low output of 11kw maximum each, as they did not require any fuel.
- (d) *Noted:* objections from six members of the public present, saying that the structures were unacceptably large objects which would spoil the landscape and impact upon tourism, especially as there was already permission for another larger wind-turbine less than half-a-mile away; the benefits of the small energy generation from the proposed turbines would not outweigh the negative impacts.

- (e) *Noted:* support from one member of the public present, saying that green-energy generation was necessary to help meet future national power deficits.
- (f) *Noted in discussion:* that the Committee should judge the application on the facts of this particular case against current Herefordshire planning policies (particularly CF4) and not on the general arguments for or against renewable energy; the issue was whether the benefits of the scheme outweighed the negative impacts on the landscape and on local people, and there were differing views on this.
- (g) **Resolved** (by 4 votes to 1): to submit the following comments:
The Committee supports the application, as meeting the planning requirements of policy CF4 (Renewable Energy). The Committee took note of the views of local residents, including objections about the impact on the landscape, but judged that this impact was outweighed by the generation of green energy for use in a local business.

PC06/14 Dates of future meetings

Noted: provisional dates for meetings of the Committee in 2014:

5 February, 26 February, 19 March, 9 April, 30 April all at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.07pm.

Signed(Chairman) Date