

ETTON PARISH COUNCIL

(SPECIAL MEETING)

21ST JULY 2011

PRESENT: Councillors Bell (Chairman), Armstrong, Cunliffe, Eggleston, Holmes, Sleight, Widd and Wright.

Members of the public – Nil

An apology for absence was submitted from Councillor Boyd OBE.

The meeting was held in the Light Dragoon Inn as the Village Hall was not available

94/11 PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF 2 WIND TURBINES AT LABURNUM FARM

– The meeting was held following a public meeting which the Dalton Estate had held in the Village Hall immediately prior to this meeting to inform residents that the Estate had submitted a planning application for the erection of two 50kw wind turbines at Laburnum Farm. The 2 turbines would be 24 metres tall to the hub and located at ‘over the ridge’ to the north, which the Estate believed would reduce their impact on the Village. No formal details of the application had yet been received by the Parish Council. Those residents at the public meeting gave the Estate a very clear message that they totally opposed the scheme and felt that the Estate could have sited the turbines elsewhere on its land and away from Etton. The Chairman of the Parish Council had assured residents that the Council would give its fullest support to pursuing their objections. The Clerk reported that as an application had been submitted to East Riding Council various timescales would have to be met and the Parish Council may only have a limited time in which to submit its formal response. Members suggested that as a first step the Parish Council should look to engage the services of an Agent with knowledge of the planning requirements relating to wind turbines to advise the Council regarding possible planning grounds for objecting to the application. Members recognised that there would be a cost to that and given the limited budget on which the Council operated it might be that the Council would need to look for financial support from residents to a “fighting fund”. Members suggested that a note should be distributed to residents advising them of the application and outlining the action the Council was taking and that it was the intention to convene a public meeting following the receipt of advice from the Agent. It was suggested that the three East Riding Council Ward Members should be invited to participate in the proposed public meeting and that consideration be given to involving the local press and media and seeking the support of its objections from other Parish Councils. The Clerk reminded Members that an important part of the process would be to encourage residents to write direct to the Planning Department objecting to the application. **Resolved** – (a) That an information leaflet be distributed to every property in the parish informing residents of the action being taken by the Council in supports of residents objections to the application, (b) that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to approve the appointment of an Agent to advise the Council on the construction of objections to the planning application, (c) that a special meeting of the Council be convened as soon as advice is available from the Agent, and (d) that it be noted that it might be necessary to establish a “fighting fund” to meet the costs of mounting a challenge to the application.

