

WENHASTON WITH MELLS HAMLET PARISH COUNCIL.

Clerk Mrs M Pennock

mary.pennock1@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 9th February, 2011.

Present:- Cllr. B. Orme Chairman, Cllr. T. Tate Vice Chairman, Cllr. H. Phillips, Cllr. J. Tate, Cllr. A. Edwards. Cllr. J. Wright, Cllr. R. Ives, Cllr. S. Hayward Rutter, Cllr. M. Gasper, Cllr. D. Wilkinson, District Cllr. P Austin, 131 Parishioners, and clerk Mrs M Pennock.

- 1. The Chairman welcomed the Councillors' and Parishioners' to the meeting.**

No apologies received.

Cllr. Orme informed the meeting that this was a Parish Council Meeting, and until it was proposed and seconded no Parishioner would be allowed to speak.

He also stated that SCDC Planning dept. have the final say on any planning matters.

- 2. Cllr. H. Phillips declared an interest in Agenda Item 4, C10/3209.**

- 3. Cllr. Orme read the press release from Anglian Bus. The Company announced that they had been successful with their tender to continue running the 520/522/523/524 bus service from April, 2011.**

A new commercial direct service from Halesworth to Lowestoft every 2 hours will start from April, 2011.

New time tables will come into effect from Monday 4th April, 2011.

Concession fares will be changing on 1st April, and will only be eligible for free travel after 09.30 Monday to Friday (free travel all day at weekends). Press release to be put up at bus shelters and on the notice boards.

- 3a. Cllr. Orme gave the following information regarding power up grade and tree works commencing April in the Blackheath area.**

Major up grades of the electricity power system will involved line and

732. pole replacement, also extensive tree surgery is required. On completion any available wood will be made available to the community.

Any questions regarding this work, please contact the field manager Dave Watson-01449 720330 or www.btsgroupuk.com.

4. Planning C10/3209. Church Farm, Bramfield Road, Wenhaston. Installation and operation of 330kw Enercon E33 Wind Turbine, that will produce 800,000Kw hours of renewable energy per annum. The turbine is mounted on a steel tower to a hub height of 50m and blade diameter of 33.4m.

Cllr. Orme read letters received from Parishioners', he also stated that the Parish Council had received the following letters address to M/s Dinnen the Planning Officer.

- 1. Suffolk County Council.**
- 2. Suffolk Coast & Heaths.**
- 3. Suffolk Wildlife Trust.**
- 4. Head of Env. Protection.**
- 5. Natural England**
- 6. Suffolk Preservation Society.**

These letters have been circulated to Parish Councillors', and are available if anyone would care to read them.

Proposed by Cllr .T. Tate and seconded by Cllr. Wright that the meeting be closed allow Parishioners to speak.

Proposed by Cllr. T. Tate and seconded by Cllr. Hayward Rutter that the meeting be re opened.

Cllr. Wilkinson proposed that in light of the recommendations seen that the Parish Council rejects this application. This proposal was not seconded.

The main concerns expressed by Councillors' were as follows:-

- 1. Too close to properties.**
- 2. Concerns about the noise level.**
- 3. Flicker issues affecting householders and wildlife.**
- 4. The scale of the turbine in relatively open countryside.**
- 5. Damage to owls, bats and other rare birds.**

- 6. No benefit for the Village.**
- 7. Concerns about the devaluation of properties within the scope of the turbine.**

Some Parish Councillors' felt the wind turbine would not cause the problems expressed.

More information regarding this particular wind turbine would have been helpful.

A vote of Parishioners' present was an over whelming no to the application. The Parish Council acknowledge the seriousness of climate change and the need for re new able energy. The Energy Support Group is looking at various alternatives for renewable energy.

The Chairman asked for a vote by Parish Councillors'.

3 in favour, 2 abstained, 1 abstention due to declaring an interest, and 4 Councillors' against.

The Chairman declared that the Parish Council cannot support this planning application.

Clerk to inform SCDC of the decision.

Meeting closed at 9.10.