



Meeting **PLANNING AND LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Date **Tuesday 22 April 2014 (commencing at 10.30 am)**

membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Sybil Fielding (Chairman)
Sue Saddington (Vice-Chairman)

Roy Allan
Andrew Brown
Steve Calvert
Jim Creamer
Rachel Madden

Andy Sissons
Keith Walker
A Yvonne Woodhead
John Wilmott

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor John Cottee

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Nathalie Birkett- Solicitor
David Forster – Democratic Services Officer
Jerry Smith – Team Manager, Development Management
Sally Gill – Group Manager Planning
Jonathan Smith – Principal Planning Officer

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2014 having been circulated to all Members were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP

The Clerk reported orally that Councillor John Wilmott had been appointed to the Committee in place of Councillor Darren Langton for this meeting only.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Yvonne Woodhead due to illness

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None

DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING OF MEMBERS

None

THE ERECTION OF TWO INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS AND THE INSTALLATION OF A 7 MEGAWATT (APPROXIMATE) WOOD FUELLED RENEWABLE ENERGY BIOMASS PLANT RETAINING THE EXISTING WOOD RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING OPERATIONS – JOHN BROOKE (SAWMILLS) LIMITED THE SAWMILL FOSSE WAY WIDMERPOOL

Mr Smith introduced the report and gave a slide presentation. He highlighted receipt of a further consultation response from Rushcliffe Borough Council which confirmed that the Borough Council's observations are based on the proposed building being used as a renewable energy biomass plant and should not imply support for any general industrial building of such scale in this countryside setting. An additional condition was suggested to this effect.

Following the introductory remarks by Mr Smith there were a number of speakers who were given an opportunity to speak and a summary of those speeches are set out below:-

Dr Young the agent acting for the applicant spoke in favour of the application and highlighted the following issues:-

- National Policy aims to move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy and the reduction in disposal of wood to landfill
- The need to reduce an already saturated market of recycled wood is essential for the reduction in landfill.
- The application helps in the contribution to national and regional targets for renewable energy provision as well as providing additional energy capacity.
- The proposals set out in the application will contribute to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through a reduced need for fossil fuel combustion.
- There will be a reduction in dust and noise impacts from existing operations as a waste and wood shredding and chipping operation.
- The introduction of 10 direct full time jobs and safeguarding existing jobs is a significant benefit to the local area.
- The development complies with adopted national and local planning policies.

In response to questions Dr Young responded as follows:-

- The catchment area for the site covers the majority of the East Midlands.
- The reason the permission is needed on a Sunday is that to close an operation down of this scale takes a week to shut the plant down.
- The noise issue will be reduced with the building of the processing shed.

With the consent of the Chairman and Committee Councillor John Cotte Local Member spoke against the application and highlighted the following issues:-

- There seems to be a large increase in the number of Tonnes of waste wood being delivered for processing.
- The access and egress of Lorries is an issue as it leads onto the busy A46.
- Would like to see that the conditions sets out that there is no deliveries of wood during a Sunday. Also the complaints procedure in Condition 26 seems a long time and could this be reduced to 14 days to respond.

There were no questions.

In response to issues raised Mr Smith responded as follows:-

- The increase in waste wood being brought to the site could be achieved without a large increase in the number of Lorries using the site.
- The issue of noise set out in condition 26 specifically regarding the length of time additional survey results are submitted to the WPA could be amended to read 14 days rather than one month.
- There could also be an additional condition ensuring that there are no lorry movements on a Sunday.

Following the speakers, members discussed the item and the following comments were responded to

- There is a circular route for Lorries within the site so there would be no additional noise from reversing Lorries.
- There will be monitoring of the number of Lorries using the site via records of movement being checked regularly achieved by adjusting Condition 33.
- It is not envisaged that there will be a problem with traffic build up the site is large enough to allow a number of Lorries to enter the site and not cause a traffic problem on the A46. An advisory note could be added.
- Lorries entering and leaving the site have to turn left and not cross the A46 as is a condition of permission.
- A liaison Group could be established as an additional requirement of the legal agreement.

On a motion by the Chairman seconded by Vice Chairman and upon a show of hands it was

RESOLVED 2014/016

That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions set out in the appendix attached to the report and the amendments set out below

- That the biomass building be only used for the generation of renewable energy.

- There are no Lorry movements in or out of the site on Sundays or Bank Holidays.
- The reason for Condition 26 be adjusted to include reference to policy on visual impact
- That the length of time additional survey results is submitted to the WPA could be amended to read 14 days rather than one month.
- Condition 33 be extended to require the operator to maintain records of lorry movements.
- That a liaison Group is established with the local community.
- That an advisory note refers to the need to manage the site so lorries can access the site without queuing on the A46.

CHANGES TO THE COMMITTEE'S CODE OF BEST PRACTICE

RESOLVED 2014/017

That the revised Code of Best Practice (incorporating a revised Public Speaking Protocol) as set out in the appendix attached to the report is approved.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT

RESOLVED 2014/018

That the report and appendices be noted

WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED 2014/019

That the Work Programme reported be noted

The meeting closed at 11.43 am.

CHAIRMAN