



**Heysham
Neighbourhood
Council**

Bringing The Community Together

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**Extraordinary Public Meeting
In response to the Wind Turbine Application**

**Monday 16th March 2009
Heysham Youth & Community Centre**

Start :19.30

In The Chair: Mr Peter Whaley (Chairman)

Clerk: Allison Thomas

Members Present:

David Wilcock, Sheila Hindson, Graeme Austin, Brian Reeves ,Janice Whaley

Members of the Public: 59

Update from The Chairman

The application is now with Lancaster City Council dated 24th February 2009 – an extension been applied for remarks to be taken into consideration.

The height of the turbines applied for is 141m (as a comparison Blackpool Tower is 158m). Proposed location is close to the Special Scientific Interest site of Heysham Moss, and residential areas of Mossgate Park and Windermere Park.

The objections against the planning application include:

- Close proximity to residential areas
- Safety aspects and noise
- Environmental impact of both wildlife and land at Heysham Moss
- Effects on winter birds nesting site and flight migration
- Possible loss of TV and digital signal to many areas in Heysham and Morecambe

Heysham Neighbourhood Council will be putting these objections to Lancaster City Council on behalf of all residents of Heysham

Update from County Councillor Jean Yates

Councillor Yates has voiced her concerns strongly to Andrew Dobson at the Planning Department advising of the upset to every Heysham resident this proposal would cause, and outlining the visually massive impact in addition to the environmental aspects.

Members of the general public were encouraged to write/email members on the Planning Committee (approx 12 members) as soon as possible as the meeting to discuss the application is scheduled to happen in the next few weeks.

Councillor Yates advised that if the application is approved there is no right of appeal and the Secretary of State for the Environment is 'unlikely to call it in.' The developer has the right of appeal up to a period of 18 months.

Councillor David Morris (Prospective Candidate for Morecambe & Lunesdale Conservative) informed that he had written to the Secretary of State for the Environment but has not received a reply – Councillor Yates advised that the Secretary will not interfere with the application until a decision has been made.

Comments from the Meeting

Mr Graeme Austin advised of a wind turbine site in Sheerness, Kent close to a residential area which had gone ahead in spite of public opinion.

Residents enquired whether there would be any compensation for the devaluation of properties nearby.

Would the turbines cause a driving hazard for motorists on the bypass because of distraction – unlikely as parts of the M6 already have turbines close by.

A resident working at Heysham Power Station advised that possibly the only concern for the Station would be the surges on the grid.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm