

Little Cheyne Court Local Liaison Committee Meeting
Tuesday 31st July 2007
Rose and Crown Public House, Old Romney

Attendees

Michael Pullan – NRL
Andreas Renkes, Project Manager, npower renewables
Martin Kelly, Deputy Project Manager, npower renewables
Ian Gardner, Site Manager, npower renewables
Philip Jones – Maxim Communications
Jim Pilcher – East Guldeford resident
Barbara Walsh – Former councillor at Lydd
Caroline Solly – Brookland resident & Ivychurch Parish Council.
Pat Brazier – Camber Parish
Nicola Young – RWE npower, Ecology Team
Neale East – Rye resident
Colin Hill – Brookland Parish Council
Alan Picher – East Guldeford
Sandra Banyard – Old Romney Village

Not present

George Finlay – Operations Manager from Skanska McNicholas, Cabling contractor
Simon Ashworth – Councillor from Lydd, Adjacent farmer at LCC.

Agenda

1) Introductions

2) Actions from last meeting

- Hand out a site plan for all members – Photocopy on Monday. New micro-cited position map to be sent out via email.
- Blog/message board – Spoken to our website technical guy and will update pre-construction.
- MP to send BW comments of MOD during planning application.
- CS – Would like a final turbine description and the noise levels of the turbines. Would like a noise model graph for the Nordex N-90, similar to the graph that was included in the ES. CS – would like to visit a wind farm on a flat landscape.

3) Update on legal situation

MP- The latest is that Phillip Merricks failed in his high court bid to appeal an earlier decision not to allow a judicial review of the wind farm's planning consent. It is our understanding that that is the final British legal avenue available to him and that any further legal challenge would have to be taken at a European level – presumably the European Court of Appeal.

4) Ecological Work at the site

NY – Responsible for 26 hydro and wind farms to ensure that all planning conditions are met. Is sitting on habitat management group, along with RSPB, Adrian Clifton, Sean McMinn and Natural England.

Group have completed wintering bird survey, completed bird survey, survey on newts and water voles and also medicinal leeches. Currently monitoring badgers to ensure we have licenses. Looking at monitoring technologies for birds (human, radar and thermal monitoring) these are being reviewed to decide which is best option.

BW – are you doing archaeology surveys?

AR - Archaeological digs have been put in place to look at makeup of the ground.

NE – Are we working with the Rye resident who wanted break down of the soil composition?

AR – South Eastern archaeology have a report and they are in touch. Report is to be made public.

BW – Can we have a copy?

MK/AR – Should be on the Shepway DC website.

CH – How would wind turbines have fared in the recent storm?

AR – Unknown without wind speeds.

5) Update from Skanska.

No problems.

The back lane at Becketts Lane should be finished on the 12th August.

Three drillings on bridges on Becketts Lane start from 20th August.

Spoke to NEF farmers rep this afternoon. Agreement to stop work for a couple of days to allow harvesting.

CS – The tarmac on the Woolpack corner needs to be replaced. Issue raised to Kent County Council.

6) Update on construction latest

PB – What will traffic levels be like in October, as a bridge at Rye will be closed?

MK – Planning to be on site in August so it is likely that there will be construction traffic in the area.

JP – Concerns over the piling, what has been decided?

MK - ES said augered piling, level of 118db is in the planning conditions. We are looking at other type of piling at 89db, a new consultation is needed to alter that, depending on the timeframe for this we will use augered piling.

MK - Looking to get a start on first foundations asap, still haven't discharged all of the conditions so can't start works.

CH – query over the depth and quality of the roads.

MK – We need to build roads that will support the vehicles, we have no concerns in this regard.

7) Comments from the committee

CH – Is there still a plan to build on three piles?

AR – No design for the turbine piles yet, but we are looking at more than three, more like circa 20 piles to a depth of 30m.

8) AOB

Thanks for attendance

Next meeting – 18th September 2007 TBC