

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT STATEMENT

Dated 17TH August 2015

Applicant:	Robert Barraclough
Proposed Development:	Installation of 1 No small-scale 50kW Endurance wind turbine on a monopole mast (34.2m to blade tip)
Site Address:	Land at Westfield Farm, Royd Moor Road, Thurlstone, S36 7RD

1 Introduction

- 1.1 At the heart of the Government's drive to create safer, accessible and sustainable communities is the need to involve local people in the development and decision-making process.
- 1.2 It is widely recognised that involving local people early on in the design and planning process i.e. at pre-application stage, can bring added value to development proposals allowing the developer to explain the technical aspects, constraints and benefits of their proposal to the local community; thus enabling local residents, businesses and specialist interest groups to provide constructive comment to help shape and modify proposals using their local knowledge.
- 1.3 Empowering local people to shape their surroundings is one of the core principles of the NPPF. It recommends pre-application engagement at the earliest opportunity to enable better co-ordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community. Delivering Sustainable Development stresses the importance of pre-application discussions and community engagement so that development proposals "can be adapted to ensure that they better reflect community aspirations and those applications are complete and address all the relevant issues."
- 1.4 Pre-application consultation requirements are set out in general under Section 61W of the Town and Country Planning Act. However, in December 2013 the Government introduced new legislation under the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure & Section 62A Applications) (England) (Amendment) Order 2013 specifically relating to wind

turbines. This order now makes pre-application consultation between wind developers and the public compulsory for all new applications.

1.5 Pre-application discussions were held with Laura Bibby on 15th June 2015 specifically regarding the scope of the pre-application consultation and the followings was agreed: -

- To send individual letters to all neighbours within 0.5km of the site
- To consult with the local Parish Council
- To post site notices on the proposed access point to the site
- To allow a 21 days consultation period

2 Community Consultation Process

2.1 Timing of Consultation

Consultation was undertaken as part of our feasibility to consider relocating the turbine to satisfy the concerns of the planning inspector raised in his decision letter dated 21st July 2014 (APP/R4408/A/14/2212199)

2.2 Our formal pre-application consultation exercise was carried out to satisfy the requirements of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure & Section 62A Applications) (England) (Amendment) Order 2013. This was undertaken between June and July 2015 in accordance with the scope and content agreed with the LPA as detailed above.

2.2 Target Groups

Local Residents
Parish Council
General Public

2.3 Method

Individual letters were posted to all local residents living within 0.5km radius of the base of the proposed turbine (69 households) and to Penistone Parish Council. In addition to the letter a site plan and an elevation drawing of the proposed turbine type was also included in the mail out. A site notice was posted at the entrance to the proposed site to inform the general public of its location. The consultation period was set at 21 days.

2.4 Formal Consultation responses Received

6 in support of the proposal
0 Neutral
2 objecting to the proposal

2.5 Informal Responses and Feedback

None received

2.6 Outcome

No further modifications have made to our proposal as a result of the Pre-application consultation.

3 Detailed Assessment of Formal Representations

- 3.1 The majority of the letters received are from residents and organisations locally that **support** the scheme. These can be summarised as follows: -

R A Davis, 64 Westfield Avenue, Thurlstone

- 3.2 I support the proposal as it will provide green energy and have no detrimental effects on the surrounding area.

W Kaye, Folly Barn, Thurlstone

- 3.3 It will have many environmental benefits, help support the farm and have no adverse effect on my TV signal.

J Buchanan, Overwark, Royd Moor Road, Thurlstone

- 3.4 I live only 200m from the proposed turbine and I have no objection to it.

Mrs T Crowther, 14 Westfield Avenue, Thurlstone

- 3.5 I have lived in the village all my life. It will to improvements in traffic and highway safety by taking HGV's out of the village.

Daisy Chains Pre-School (Adele Townsend, Manager)

- 3.6 The turbine will not have a detrimental effect on the village. It will lead to reduced heavy traffic in the village and thus improve highway safety.

Thurlstone Primary School (Charlotte Gibbons, Head)

- 3.7 By supporting the farm it will stop HGV's running through the village and improve highway safety.

- 3.8 The concerns received from **objectors** can be summarised as follows:-

Elaine Richards, 75 Westfield Avenue, Thurlstone

- 3.9 The proposal will spoil the view, it will be noisy and there may be glare from the blades.

Unnamed Person (no address given).

- 3.10 It will have an adverse impact on the landscape, cause shadow flicker and be a noisy.

- 3.11 Copies of all detail responses are attached in the Appendix

4 Ongoing Involvement

- 4.1 Residents and the Parish Councils will be kept informed of any material changes to our application (if any are made) at and during the formal planning stage.

Appendices

A – Copy of site notices, letters to residents, address list, letter to the Parish Council and site notice.

B–Copy of all responses received