

WENTLOOGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Date: 9th November 2020

Venue: The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020

Present Cllr B Miles (Chairman)

Cllr J Foster

Cllr A Picton

Cllr J Clatworthy

Cllr A Birch

City Cllr R White

Cllr T Witchell

Cllr D Birch

Absent: Cllr F Lovejoy

In attendance: Mrs M Mulcahy (Clerk)

MINUTES OF MEETING

- 1) No apologies received from Cllr Lovejoy
- 2) No declarations of Interest
- 3) Council discussed the following DNS Planning applications

3.1 Proposed Solar Farm by Wentlooge Farmers Solar Scheme Ltd.,.

Point 1 -WCC received a letter via email on 2.11.2020 from the Planning Inspectorate advising that the further information from the applicant and Newport City Council had been received. The further information is now on the DNS planning portal clearly marked as "further information". The Planning Inspectorate will now carry out the appropriate publicity of this requested information which will extend over a period of five weeks. **Any comments on the new information received, has to be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate by no later than 7.12.2020.** Comments at this stage must solely be made in relation to the further information submitted. Any comments not in relation to the further information will be disregarded and returned to sender.

The Chairman asked the Council for their views and comments on the preliminary draft reply for the Planning Inspectorate which had been sent to the council prior to the meeting. Council discussed draft response, amount of work and research that has been done and agreed that they were happy with the format of the response as it addresses each point in the same order as the additional information and distinctly covers all issues. Council also agreed the additional information which came from WCC taking a presentation call with Savills last week should also be included in the draft.

[Action - Chairman will proceed to compile rest of information including statements, photographs etc., on behalf of WCC to accompany response.](#)

Point 2 - WCC received an email from Savills asking for WCC to engage with them so that they could provide an update and also ask whether the community would like to consider whether there is scope for a "community benefit package" to be progressed. In order to seek clarity WCC agreed to Savills doing an online presentation last week. A community package is an economic benefit outside the planning process and can be

accepted irrelevant of the community councils views on the project if the project is approved and becomes operational.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman outlined the presentation and asked the Council for an idea on how WCC can engage with the community about this scheme as direct contact is restricted due to COVID and WCC do not keep residents email addresses due to data protection.

Recommendation: WCC to place details in Marshfield Mail, WCC notice boards and website about application, package and survey.

Clerk to contact website provider to see if it is possible to do a survey on the WCC website.

Action - City Councillor White to provide Cllr Foster with a copy of item that he is placing in the Marshfield Mail about this matter as soon as possible in order that Cllr Foster can draft WCCs article for November issue.

Action -Clerk to contact Website provider to see if a survey can be conducted through the WCC website.

2. Proposed Mor Hafren Bio Power Plant

WCC received a letter on 23.10.2020 advising that the application has been formally submitted to the Welsh Ministers for determination. The application has been passed to the Planning Inspectorate and they will be arranging for an Inspector to consider the issues involved and submit a report to the Welsh Ministers within 24 weeks of the date of this letter. Any comments on the application or representation must be received by the planning Inspectorate by Friday 27th November 2020. Any representations after the deadline will not be accepted.

Council discussed proposals and considered draft letter that Chairman had sent to the Councillors prior to meeting subject to a slight amendment. Cllr Foster had checked the Planning inspectorate portal and all the objections were from residents not businesses or groups. The Chairman advised that due to his current workload he is unable to take this matter further and had asked for a volunteer to oversee this case and amend the letter if necessary but any factual content would have to be backed up. Due to no volunteers presenting the Chairman asked the council for a third time if they agreed to the contents of the objection letter and it was agreed.

Action – Clerk to send letter to Planning Inspectorate

Chairman's signature..... Date

