

Minutes of a meeting of Holme Low Parish Council
Held on 19 January 2010

Present:- Cllrs. J. Graham, M. Wright, C. Byles, D. Findlay, M. Little & M. Pearson.

1. Apologies:- None.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Exclusion of Press and Public

There were no items to be discussed which required the Press and Public to be excluded.

4. Planning Applications

Ref No: 2/2009/0864 **Applicant:** Montgomerie Feed LLP **Proposal:** Construction of an anaerobic digester plant for the production of electricity from crops and animal slurries, including all plant, digester tanks, storage clamps, associated machinery and alterations to existing access **Location:** Dryholme Farm, Silloth

The application went to the County Council but was then passed to Allerdale on the strength that they were not importing slurry. However on P5 of the Design & Access Statement it says they will be importing 150 tractor loads of slurry. The applicant does not have a waste disposal licence at present. The matter needs to be clarified either way. The plans will involve extra vehicles on the roads but there are no plans shown of where vehicles will be travelling. A map is needed showing where vehicles will be coming from.

No-one has committed to the scheme but there is an open invitation to anyone wishing to join the scheme. Green energy is a good thing but there is a high failure rate. It will be good for people selling land in the area but not good for anyone wanting to buy land. The applicant already has 1/3 of the land that is needed for the scheme but will probably buy up any other land that comes available. The scheme does not pose a visual problem and smell shouldn't be a problem. The biggest impact will be on the farming community and how land will be used. 11 people will be employed. It was questioned what provision has been made for the unusable by-product and how the waste water will be managed. There seems to be public support for the application but not in favour of the wind turbines.

It was proposed that the application be approved but the routes to be used need to be sorted out. Proposed by Cllr. Little. Seconded by Cllr. Wright. 5 in favour.

Cllr. Pearson was asked to leave the meeting which he did.

Proposal: Anaerobic Digester Plant **Location:** Blackdyke, Silloth

The application for an anaerobic digester at Blackdyke was discussed at the last meeting and a vote was taken which was 2 for, 1 against and 2 abstentions. The Council were not informed of the designated delivery routes when the plans were received. The routes

from Cowlyers and Balladoyle are through the road by The Windmill. 20 ton tractors will be using the route which will be dangerous. A meeting is to be held tomorrow with officers from Planning and Highways to discuss this at 2.15 at Armstrong's entrance. The road past The Windmill is a narrow road with a 6ft 6 width restriction and with no suitable places for vehicles to pass. There is a dangerous 45 degree bend at the Windmill, with no viewing points to see around the corner which is particularly hazardous. Additional vehicles along this route would cause further risk to pedestrians and cyclists, as this road is popular with visitors to the nearby Tanglewood caravan park and by locals in the area. It has been suggested that West Causewayhead Lane be used as an alternative route but this road is also unsuitable. The road has collapsed in places and there is already too much traffic using it at the moment. The only safe route in the opinion of the Parish Council is along the main Blackdyke road to link in with the route to be used from Seaville Farm, Firtree Farm and Stonehouse.

Letter to be sent to Maggie Mason at Kendal with the above points.

Copy of letter sent by Cllr. John Graham to the County Council was provided for the file.

Cllr. Pearson was handed an unsigned letter with various points re: Dryholme Farm application.

Signed..... Date.....