

**Minutes of a Meeting of Holme Low Parish Council**  
**Held on Tuesday 30 April 2013**

**Present:-** Cllrs. J. Graham, M. Wright, M. Pearson, A. Sowden, N. Dainton & D. Findlay. Also Wendy Jameson (Parish Clerk) & 1 member of the public.

**1. Apologies**

None.

**2. Declaration of Interest**

None.

**3. Public Participation**

Members of the public were given the opportunity to express their views on matters included on the agenda.

**4. Planning Application**

The Parish Council considered the following planning applications:-

**a) Ref No: 2/2013/0218 Proposal:** Proposed siting of two wind turbines with a 30.4m hub height and 45m blade tip height **Location:** The Close Farm, Silloth **Applicant:** Mrs I Fisher

**b) Ref No: 2/2013/0275 Proposal:** Proposed siting of a 36.4m hub wind turbine with a tip height of 46m **Location:** Seaville Farm, Silloth **Applicant:** Mr Norman Hughes

Wind turbines with a ground to hub height of over 25m are not acceptable within an AONB - Policy R45. Councils have a responsibility to protect the natural beauty – Policy EN20. There are another two turbines planned at Fir Tree Farm which is owned by Kenneth Storr. Wind turbines are not meant to be sited within 400m of a dwelling. The area is being surrounded by wind turbines and there are too many. A lot of countries are taking them down and therefore why are they going up in this country. The Council can understand the landowners who are given financial incentives. Cumbria is becoming the 'energy coast of Britain'. When questionnaires were sent out for the Parish Plan everyone who replied were not in favour of wind turbines and therefore the Council needs to take this on board. Comments in relation to planning applications are put on the Allerdale website which may deter people from commenting, as they are open to public view. The efficiency of wind turbines is questionable as they often need to be switched off when it is too windy. Following the construction of Hellrigg it has become apparent that they do affect TV and radio reception, do cause low level noise, also noise and vibration when changing direction etc. A lot of the time they are not running because of maintenance or the weather. Low level flying is now diverted to avoid the area. The report states there are less birds killed with the smaller turbines than there are with the large turbines. The landowner at The Close has changed the use of the land/fields in the vicinity of the proposed turbines so that birds don't land in that

area now. If within 50m of a hedgerow or watercourse there needs to be a full ecological survey carried out to assess the impact on wildlife, bats etc. Proximity to hedgerows is a valid reason for objection. Fisher's application is within the Hadrian's Wall buffer zone which runs past the Close and along Causewayhead. Both applications are by Earthmill Ltd. The turbines will be as tall as Christ Church steeple. Smaller wind turbines which simply provide enough power to supply the landowner are understandable but these are commercial and are simply there due to the financial incentives.

A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council are against both planning applications.

Hughes – Full ecological survey required due to close proximity to hedgerows.

Fisher – Full ecological survey required due to close proximity to watercourse and hedgerows.

Fisher – Application is within the Hadrian's Wall buffer zone.

Hughes – Site is within the AONB.

Fisher – Site is close to the boundary of the AONB.

Fisher – survey is flawed as it states that can't see other turbines when Hellrigg is only 2km away.

Both - Cumulative impact on visual amenity of its site and surroundings.

Signed.....

Date.....