

# **WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 21st May 2018 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

## **PRESENT**

G C M Willis, Chairman

Councillors B L Correll, Mrs J M Cole, R J Dykstra, D W England, Ms L A Gifford, Mrs M H Harlock, J A Parker, P S Potts, Mrs J E Tavener, Dr S C Withams and Mrs A R Wyatt.

## **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G B Joseph and Mrs S J Wilcox and County Councillor T V Rogers.

## **10/18 MINUTES**

Upon being moved by Councillor Dykstra and seconded by Councillor Potts, the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14th May 2018 were signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

## **11/18 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made by Members in respect of items appearing on the agenda.

## **12/18 APPLICATION H/5002/18/CW – PROPOSED COMBINED HEAT AND POWER AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS, WARBOYS LANDFILL SITE**

The Committee noted that further documentation had been submitted by the applicants in support of application H/5002/18/CW for combined heat and power and waste water treatment plants at Warboys Landfill Site. This had arisen from a challenge by Public Interest Consultants acting on behalf of the Landfill Action Group to the fact that the application had not been accompanied by an Environmental Statement in accordance with the planning legislation.

As a result a further consultation period of 30 days had been announced by the County Council which would end on 3rd June. The County Council had advised that all previous comments would be carried forward for consideration when the application was determined, although there was now an opportunity to add further comments or for observations to be submitted by additional people.

Before the matter was considered by the Committee, the Chairman invited members of the public present at the meeting if they wished to speak on the matter. A number of

those present expressed their continued opposition to the application. Among the issues raised were the lack of evidence to show that the processes were not harmful to health or the environment, the long term impact of emissions from the plants and the fact that the processes proposed were not operational anywhere in the United Kingdom currently.

Representatives of the Landfill Action Group present advised that they had obtained information from the Environment Agency that suggested that there was insufficient landfill leachate available within a 30 mile radius of Warboys to meet the anticipated throughput of waste water of 65,000 tonnes per annum which suggested that other forms of non-specified water would be treated. It was also suggested that the waste hierarchy had not been followed correctly in that it was possible for some of the grade B waste wood that it was proposed to use for fuel could be recycled.

Representatives of the Group had met County Councillor Rogers and had briefed him on the opposition locally to the application. A petition was being organised which currently had in excess of 200 signatories, households were being leafleted and encouraged to write individually to the County Council to express their concerns and a press release had been sent to the Hunts Post.

The Clerk drew attention to the site search for a suitable location for a plant of this nature that had been undertaken by the applicants and described in the Environmental Statement submitted. The final and third stage assessment had compared the short-listed sites of Warboys and Fordham with the latter being discounted because there were unacceptable risks to air quality, noise disturbance and landscape issues to properties situated within 20 metres of the site. The Environmental Statement had regarded these as acceptable at Warboys as there were no dwellings within 100 metres, although the Clerk pointed out that the nearest dwelling was actually situated 85 metres away and that it was unrealistic to suggest that the impact of the plant would have dissipated in so short a distance compared to Fordham.

Members of the Council reiterated their concern over the application and after members of the public were reminded of the importance of sending individual letters of objection to the County Council, it was

#### **RESOLVED**

that the Clerk be authorised to submit supplementary information to the County Council following an analysis of the further documentation in support of the Parish Council's recommendation that the application be refused.

#### **13/18 AMENDED APPLICATION**

Further to Minute No. 91/17(a), the Committee considered amended plans in respect of application 18/00451/HHFUL for an extension and alterations at The Laurels, High Fen Straight. In view of the amendments made, it was

#### **RESOLVED**

that the Committee's recommendation that the application be refused be withdrawn and the District Council now be recommended to approve the application as it complied with the Development Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

**Chairman.**