

# WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on 15th March 2023 at the Parish Centre, Warboys.

## **PRESENT**

Councillor G C M Willis, Chairman

Councillors R J Dykstra, D W England, Ms L A Gifford, J Land, J A Parker, P S Potts, Mrs C L Sproats and Dr S C Withams.

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

District Councillor Ms C A Lowe.

## **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs J M Cole, D R A Fabb, Ms M L Morrow and Mrs A R Wyatt

## **80/22 MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

No interests were declared in respect of the item appearing on the agenda.

## **81/22 CCC/22/151/FUL – THE OLD BRICKWORKS, PUDDOCK HILL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THERMAL TREATMENT FACILITY FOR THE GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY FROM NON-HAZARDOUS, RESIDUAL WASTE (POST-RECYCLING); INCLUDING ASSOCIATED PLANT AND INFRASTRUCTURE, VEHICULAR ACCESS, CAR PARKING AND LANDSCAPING.**

The Committee considered a report by the Clerk (copies of which had been circulated) relating to an application submitted to the County Council for planning permission to construct a Thermal Treatment Facility (TTF) at the landfill site on Puddock Hill. The closing date for the receipt of comments by the County Council was 25th March.

The Clerk reminded Members that planning permission had been granted in 2019 for the construction of a combined heat and power plant and waste water treatment plant on the same site but this had lapsed in 2022 as work had not commenced. The application had generated considerable opposition locally and members of the Council and the public had attended the meetings of the County Council's Planning Committee to speak in support of their objections before a decision was reached.

The Clerk reported that the current application proposed the incineration of 87,000 tonnes of waste annually that would otherwise have been disposed of by landfill or export due a shortage of landfill sites now available in this country. It was possible that 20% of the waste would be derived from the adjoining Materials Recycling Facility operated by Woodford Recycling with the remainder imported to site via Fenside Road. The

Transport Assessment indicated that this would involve 30 vehicle movements per day by HGVs. It was claimed that this would generate 8 MW of electricity which would be sufficient for 21,000 homes.

The type of materials to be used to fuel the plant was described as non-hazardous, residual waste (post recycling) but the Clerk pointed out that the actual composition of the waste did not appear to be described in the copious documentation submitted in support of the applications.

The Clerk suggested that the application had not demonstrated a need for the facility as the County Council's Minerals and Waste Plan contained evidence that there was surplus capacity for the recovery of waste by thermal treatment and energy recovery. Concerns also were expressed about the impact on the landscape, noise and air pollution and the additional traffic usage of Fenside Road.

Members of the public who were present at the meeting were invited to speak before the application was discussed by the Committee. A range of objections were raised by residents, including noise, flooding, air pollution, impact on neighbouring agricultural land, transport and insufficient information about the applicants and the processes involved.

The Committee then discussed the application and, after a vote had been taken, it was

**RESOLVED**

that the County Council be recommended to refuse the application and the Clerk authorised to submit a detailed objection to the County Council.

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

**Chairman.**