

SHR

Weaverthorpe Parish Council
C/o Boltby Cottage
Main Road
Weaverthorpe
North Yorkshire
YO17 8EY
Tel: 01944 738841

AS)

KK 12/9/13
RYEDALE DM

12 SEP 2013

DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT

Karen Hood
Managing Development Team Leader
Ryedale District Council
Ryedale House
Malton
North Yorkshire
YO17 8EY

Dear Ms Hood,

Application number: 13/00850/FUL Weaverthorpe Wind, Land to West Pasture Road, Weaverthorpe

This planning application was discussed by Weaverthorpe Parish Council on 9th September 2013, at a meeting attended by over 40 members of the public. There are strong feelings in the community on the subject matter contained in this letter. Those present at the meeting voted overwhelmingly to oppose the application.

Previous applications approved for wind turbines within Weaverthorpe have been a total height of 34.2 metres (Manor Farm and Gara Farm). This application is for a turbine with an overall height of 67 metres almost twice the height of the turbines already erected.

The turbine will be 800metres, south east of another turbine at Jubilee Farm (13/00624/FUL) which, if planning permission is granted will be 46 metres tall, which will look disparate, with two turbines of unequal heights so close together. This statement is made by looking at the map provided with the application, the actual map co ordinates provided on the Planning Application put the turbine in a different position.

The impact on the landscape will be significant, as if all the turbines currently in the planning process are built, you will be able to see six turbines at the east end of Weaverthorpe. We have already stated in previous replies to planning applications for wind turbines that there are too many being built in such a small area of our countryside.

Previous planning applications for wind turbines have been for electricity for farm use, thus reducing the carbon footprint of the valley. 25% of the income from this turbine will go outside of the local community to HCDA, an organisation based in Hull. .

Paragraph 11 of the planning statement says that Weaverthorpe Wind's secondary objective is to increase the sustainability of other communities across the wider region by generating a sustainable income stream for HCDA. It is strongly felt by the local community that Weaverthorpe Wind should concentrate on the local community.

Of the public comments on the planning portal web site, many of the supporters live well outside of the local area, many of which come from Hull which is where HCDA and is based. We do not feel that the planning authority should consider support from outside the authority area.

There is much reference in the applications of this being a community project, but it is not representative of the community.

Paragraph 2 of the planning statement states that both this turbine and the one at land to the north of Main Road, Weaverthorpe have been widely publicised. This is not a view of the local community, because although the organisations involved have talked of wind power for some time, the actual locations were not known until the planning applications were submitted. There were statements made by the applicants that the community would be consulted about their plans before anything was formalised, but this did not happen.

Paragraph 52 of the planning statement says that the turbine will be screened from substantial parts of the highway system. This is not true as both this turbine and the one for Wolds Valley Wind Collective at Weaverthorpe will be visible from the main valley road and feeder roads into the valley. The height and location will make it a dominant feature for miles around.

Many homeowners believe that their property values will be adversely affected by the presence of two large turbines. Further, a few residents who are dependent on the tourism business believe the effect on the landscape will decrease the number of visitors to the Great Wolds Valley.

It is evident from the feedback that the Parish Council received from the public that this is an issue which has deeply divided our communities because of the lack of information, consultation and the size of the turbine.

Two members of the community offered to fund a referendum across the villages of Helperthorpe, Weaverthorpe and Butterwick. We are unsure whether this would be too late for the timing of this application and whether the results would have any effect on the decision made by RDC. We would welcome your views on this.

Based on the foregoing Weaverthorpe Parish Council **OBJECT** to this application.

Yours sincerely

J House
Clerk to Weaverthorpe Parish Council