



**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF DEEPING ST NICHOLAS PARISH COUNCIL
ON MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2003 AT THE CP SCHOOL AT 7.00PM**

PRESENT Mr A Ivatt (in the Chair)

Mr J Davis; Mr I McDonald; Mr D Branton; Mr C Carter and Mrs G Scholes

The Clerk

Councillor P Espin

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs L McGuinness; Mr N Watts, Mr D Chappell and
Mr P Barrett

SHDC DRAFT PLANNING GUIDANCE ON WIND ENERGY

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The Council had received a response form for any comments it wished to make concerning the above, which needed to be returned to SHDC by the 19th December deadline.

All Councillors had received a copy of the Guidance. The general feeling was that SHDC, having now deemed Deeping St Nicholas to be 'unsuitable' in landscape capacity terms for Turbines, was guilty of gross mismanagement in not having prepared a Planning Guidance some two years ago. Particularly in view of a Government directive that the District Council should have a policy in place; a fact that was mentioned during the recent Appeal decision.

Members felt it to be a little late in the day to find Deeping St Nicholas an unsuitable area in landscape terms.

There was also some confusion regarding Paragraph 6.9 as to whether the District Council, having declared the area unsuitable for Turbines, was saying that a further 8 were likely.

Mr Espin thought it unlikely that there would be any further turbines in Deeping St Nicholas, and that the Guidance would protect the rest of the district from further developments.

The question of the transfer of Turbine power to the Grid was also raised. Although there was no mention of this in the Guidance, the Council had always supposed (as mentioned in the Environmental Statement) that this would be by underground cable. According to Mr Carter however, once the development is complete and transferred to the utility company, this company is then free to transfer the power in whichever way it wishes.

It was AGREED that the Clerk return the Response Form with the above comments. Following a suggestion from Mr Branton, it was proposed by Mr McDonald, seconded by Mr Carter and AGREED that the Parish Council make a statement in the Local Press, and that the Clerk prepare one for the Chairman's inspection.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

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The Council's Solicitors had written concerning a query on the parcel of land for the above.

20/03

The query is in regard to the area of land where the underground gas tanks for the development are situated, and which, according to the Plan, would not be owned by the Council. It was felt that this could give rise to several problems which would need clarifying. However, before instructing the Solicitor, it was agreed to hold a site Meeting on Sunday, 7th December, 2003, at 10.00am.

The Solicitor had estimated costs at between £400 - £800 for handling the transfer. Although the Developers had agreed to pay these costs, it was generally felt that this would only amount to the expense of a straight forward transfer.

CAMPAINS LANE – MOLES

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The Clerk had contacted 4 companies as follows:

COMPLETE WEED CONTROL

Although having done work for the Council in the past, they were now only interested in mole control as part of a grass cutting contract

PRONTO

A charge of £80 + VAT for a survey and basic treatment of one visit. Their preferred treatment was trapping.

ABATES

They were unwilling to quote at all, preferring sites where they were able to trap or use Strychnine (which is not allowed on public areas)

AGRIPEST

They were willing to gas, and quoted approx. £125 for two visits. They preferred Contract work, it being easier to keep a field clear of moles, once it has been cleaned.

As it is becoming more difficult to get anyone willing to carry out occasional work, it was agreed that the Clerk would obtain prices for contract work for the Council to consider.

It was proposed by Mr Carter, seconded by Mr Davis and AGREED to let AGRIPESST go ahead with the work.

CORRESPONDENCE

***Royal Mail – Campains Lane Post Box** – Acknowledgement of the Council’s letter and willingness for a site meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk ask Mr Barrett to deal with this and, at the same time, look at the Banks Drove site, where a suitable telegraph pole was now in place.

***SHDC Questionnaire regarding facilities in settlements**

***SHDC Housing need in South Holland** - Meeting Wednesday 10th December

21/03

***SHDC – Removal of BT Payphone** – The Clerk had been informed that a Main Road payphone was due to be removed, although the Council was unsure, from the details provided, which one.

***SHDC Garden Nuisance Questionnaire**

***Hare coursing** – Copy of a letter sent by Mr D Branton to the Chief Constable with copies to John Hayes MP and the Crown Prosecution Services at Grantham. This concerned a recently reported, particularly unpleasant incident involving himself and a large number of illegal hare courses driving over his land.

OPEN SESSION

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>Mr McDonald reported that the damaged manhole cover near Lonsdale House still had not been repaired.

>Report of a car in the dyke past Hospital Farm

>Spinney Rewind was having problems with deliveries finding them now that the new road layout was open. It was agreed that the Clerk write to LCC Highways to ask if a sign could be erected at the junction with the old New Road pointing out that New Road goes in both directions.

CLOSURE 8.25PM

Chairman.....

Date.....