



Hinckley & Bosworth  
Borough Council

*A Borough to be proud of*

**Wind Turbine Task & Finish Group**

**14 August 2012 at 6:30pm**

**Venue: Committee Room 2, Hinckley & Bosworth Council Offices.**

**Minutes**

<p><b><u>Attendees</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Gould Councillor Sutton Councillor Mr Hall Councillor Witherford Sally Smith Andrew Killip David Kiernan</p> <p><b><u>Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Morrell Councillor Mayne Councillor Crooks</p> <p><b><u>1 – Appointment of Chair</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Crooks has been appointed by Executive to be the Chair of the group. As apologies had been sent by Councillor Crooks it was agreed that Councillor Gould would act as Chair for this first meeting.</p>	
<p><b><u>2 – Remit of the Group</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed that the group would be named the Renewable Energy Task and Finish Group as opposed to the Wind Turbine Task and Finish Group and the group would aim to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meet the national target for renewable energy</li><li>• Investigate how the group could achieve this target via a specialist consultant.</li><li>• Develop a local policy to help achieve the target</li></ul> <p>It was agreed that health impacts would not be within the remit of this group.</p>	
<p><b><u>3 – Policy Background to Wind Turbines</u></b></p>	

The briefing note was introduced, it was asked whether our policy has separation distances between industrial wind turbines and residential properties. Officers stated that England has no separation distances, the Government has rejected the idea of a defined separation distance for England. Officers outlined that existing planning policy does not include an exclusion zone between wind turbines and dwellings. Rather, impacts should be assessed on a case by case basis taking into account the context, such as; biodiversity and geological conservation, historic environment, landscape and visual impact, noise and vibration, shadow flicker and traffic and transport.

#### **4 – Draft Consultants Brief**

The draft consultants brief which had been prepared by Officers was discussed by the group and the following changes were requested.

- Changed name of the task group
- Revised the timetable to include the task groups involvement
- Added neighbouring renewable schemes as a potential constraint to consider, such as Enderby.
- Inserted an explicit reference to the consultants formulating a renewable energy target with timescales, having consideration to the Renewable Energy Strategy.

#### **5 – Work Programme**

Distribute project brief and invite tender proposals	20 <sup>th</sup> August 2012
Deadline for submission of tender proposals	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2012
Consider submissions and hold interviews of shortlisted consultants	w/c 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2012
Contract awarded	9 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
Inception meeting and consultants commence work	15 <sup>th</sup> October 2012
Presentation to members of the Renewable Energy Task Group for the work programme and scope of the study.	W/c 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2012
Progress meeting	W/c 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2012
Deadline for Draft Report	18 <sup>th</sup> January 2013
Draft report review meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2013
Meeting with Renewable Energy Task Group to report on findings of study	W/c 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2013
Deadline for Final report	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2013

#### **6. AOB**

None raised.

#### **7. Date of next meeting**

Next meeting: w/c 12 November 2012 to be confirmed at inception meeting with Officers.