

**MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING CALLED TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIONS IN
RESPECT OF PA13/06802; INSTALLATION OF A SMALL COMMUNITY OWNED E-3120
WIND TURBINE, PENHALE FARM HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2013 AT
FOWEY TOWN HALL**

13/01P Present

The Mayor, Cllr John Berryman
The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs A Boosey
Councillors T Delves, Mrs C Eardley, Cllr Mrs R Finlay, Cllr Mrs S
Gudmunsen, D Hughes, D Willmore

In Attendance

The Town Clerk, Sally Vincent
PCSO Linda Thomas
1 member of the press
66 members of the public

13/02P Apologies

Mrs K Alexander (family commitment).

13/02P Declaration of Interests

The Mayor informed the meeting that he had a non non registerable interest in the application but that he was able to Chair the meeting as no decisions would be made. Additionally he would not be making any comment whatsoever about the proposal.

13/03P Public Participation

The Mayor invited the applicant, Christine Wharton, to explain the difference between the current application to the previous one, which had not been supported by FTC. At this point in the meeting he emphasised that he only wanted to hear the difference between the two applications so that FTC had a clear understanding of the situation; there would be an opportunity for Christine to make any other points that FREE wished to put forward later in the proceedings

Christine explained that this application was for one 24m (hub height) turbine outside the AONB. FREE had listened to the objections to the previous application and to address local concerns had reduced the size of the turbine from 36m (hub height) and had also moved it 59m to the north east.

The Mayor then invited comments from the floor.

BB. Object, visual impact on areas as far away as, *inter alia*, the Dodman, Stenalees and Polruan

CN. Object, adverse effect on the adjacent AONB and also in conflict with the CC Landscape Character Assessment within CA39 St Austell Bay and the Luxulyan Valley.

AC. Object, new application so FREE should have called another public meeting to ascertain public opinion. Additionally FREE had not commissioned a report on the previously highlighted 'line of sight' telecommunication problem between Four Turnings and the police station at St Blazey and made it available to the public.

NF. (Community Energy Plus) confirmed that there were no objections to the application based on Telecom issues

WE. Support, the Fowey Town Plan, which had been the result of wide consultation within the community and been adopted by FTC and Cornwall Council, supported community energy generation. Where would the integrity of FTC be if it objected to this application? (The Town Clerk corrected this statement – the Fowey Parish Plan had not been adopted by Restormel Borough Council or Cornwall Council).

?M. Object, solar farms and wind turbines detract from tourism which is vital for Fowey. 70% of visits to Cornwall are driven by the landscape and the environment; in parts of Europe there has been a 50% drop in tourism due to turbines.

PM. Support, nearby residents were unsuccessful in stopping the installation of the tetra mast at Four Turnings – what is the difference between that and a turbine?

SG. Support, works in the tourism industry and there is no evidence that wind turbines affect tourism.

IP. Support, why not paint the turbine in many colours as a tourist attraction.

?S. Support, Green Cornwall has no objection to the application in respect of tourism..

GA. Object, has lived at Newtown for 18 years and has surveyed the Newtown residents, who, apart from the visual impact, will be affected by flicker - all but one of them strongly objects to this application. The need for renewable energy does not automatically override environmental protection.

RC. Object, worked in the turbine industry in Scotland and is appalled by the environmental mess caused by the turbines in the highlands. If FTC allows the application it will result in infill as happened there.

SM. Support, FREE has chosen a site that will have minimal impact

RR. Support, as landowner has no objection and after 20 years the site will be returned to its natural state. This is just 1 turbine, not a wind farm. The income stream for Fowey from the project would be 25K pa, which could be used for community projects.

AC. Object, why is there is provision for 6 turbines in the documents supporting the application?

NF (Community Energy Plus) That is not the case, FREE already have PP for 7 pv installations and 1 turbine and just want I more.

CW. The information being referred to is the original 2011 application which has been superseded.

RR. If this application is successful I will allow no more turbines on the Menabilly estate

L?. Support, one turbine will not ruin the beauty of the area. People must accept change.

AM. Object, this turbine would be in a prominent location and would dominate the entrance to Fowey. I have considered the introduction of turbines on my land as part of my green tourism business at Polglaze Farm, Fowey but have decided against it, particularly because of noise nuisance to my campers.

The Mayor thanked everybody for their attendance and explained that a decision on the application would be made at the full council meeting following the public meeting.

13/04P Meeting Closed