

Ward Member representation in respect of Application 11/02028/FULEIS

I wish to emphasise most strongly my objection to this planning application.

The proposal for five wind turbines in close proximity to the village of Haversham and Little Linford and to other outline dwellings, as well as to a number of archaeological and heritage sites and buildings of significant interest is unacceptable.

Whilst I recognise that the Supplementary Planning Document recently adopted by Milton Keynes Council to be used as guidance by members of the Development Control Committee is currently the subject of legal challenge, it's contents and well researched evidence base is, in my opinion, robust and well able to stand up to challenge. It has been the subject of formal consultation and much debate among members of this council. The cross party consensus around both this document and the decision to proceed to the Development Plan Document stage in a timely manner is welcome and gratifying.

Aside of the SPD our current local plan policy sets only a minimum distance for turbines and is clear that this is not a maximum distance. Taken together with the comments of the inspector from the examination in public of the local plan it is clear that, whilst turbines should be no closer than 350 metres, this should not automatically mean that 351 metres or any distance above is acceptable. Each application should be judged on its merits. I believe that the topography, location and nature of this site would justify a much higher separation distance to overcome the potential issues of noise, visual intrusion, shadow flicker. There are also too many other unanswered questions around the proximity of the turbines to local lakes and woodlands and the potential effects on ecology and wildlife.

I therefore urge members of the DCC to follow the guidance of the SPD and spirit of the local plan, coupled together with the policy of the local plan and the spirit of the comments of the local plan inspector.

Andrew Geary
December 2012