

**MINUTES**  
**LEIGH-ON-MENDIP EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE MEMORIAL**  
**HALL**

<b>Present</b>	Chris Cudmore	CC
	Gill Boden	GB
	David Sparkes	DS

<b>In attendance</b>	Anthea Brooks, Clerk	AB
	Allan Townsend, Coleford PC and NoCWT Group	AT

<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>		<b>ACTIONS</b>
----------	------------------	--	----------------

1.1	Apologies were received from David Mattick, Vikky Batten and Kiley Pescott.		
-----	---	--	--

<b>2</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</b>		
----------	---	--	--

2.1	There were no declarations or dispensations.		
-----	--	--	--

<b>3</b>	<b>PLANNING APPEAL</b>		
----------	------------------------	--	--

<b>3.1</b>	<b>Appeal Number 14/00034/REF</b>		
	<b>Erection of a single wind turbine to 77 metres, along with accompanying access track, crane hardstanding, substation, associated underground cabling and temporary construction for Mr Peter Hill at Rockhouse Farm, Chantry, BA11 3LS</b>		
	<b>Appeal Reference: APP/Q3305/A/14/2222024</b>		

3.1.2	CC stated that the meeting had been called to discuss the Parish Council's response to the Planning Appeal for the single wind turbine at Rockhouse Farm, Chantry. The Parish Council have the opportunity to make additional comments following their original letter which strongly recommended refusal of the application.		
-------	---	--	--

3.1.3	As representative of the NoCWT Group, AT gave an update on the current situation.		
-------	---	--	--

3.1.4	After discussion it was agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate and ask for the following additional points to be taken into consideration		
-------	---	--	--

- Proximity to heritage buildings in particular Grade 1 listed, St Giles' Church, Leigh-on-Mendip**  
 At the Planning Board it was noted that the visual impact from St Giles' had not been addressed by English Heritage and that the Planning Board acknowledged this anomaly. (appeal paras 14.13, 14.14 and 14.17). Para 14.11 of the appeal suggested that the development to the south west of the village would be screened but that direction is actually to the south east (NOT the south west), would be visible from St Giles' churchyard and would NOT be screened. The development is on the same contour as St Giles' and significantly taller
- Visual impact** – local quarrying and industry is subtly hidden from view and landscaped sympathetically. By its nature it will not be possible to obscure this turbine from many vantage points. The Council would therefore ask the Inspector to visit Cranmore Tower, St Giles' Church, Leigh-on-Mendip village and the property known as Fieldstones on the Old Wells Road in order to demonstrate this point and to observe how dominant the turbine would be. The Council would also invite the inspector to observe the effect on the landscape for walkers on the East Mendip Way particularly when emerging eastwards from Great Gains Wood and Shearmoor Wood and to be cognisant of the fact that the latter is an old Roman road situated at very little distance from the proposed site.
- Local Impact** – the Council wishes to point out the strength of feeling against the proposed turbine in the local community. A public meeting was arranged to ascertain opinion both for and against and demonstrated the strong overwhelming opinion against the development. This was also reflected in public comments received (appeal para 14.16)
- Site visits** – the Council would wish to be notified and invited to any site visit made by the Inspector particularly to those vantage points as mentioned above.

3.1.5 It was agreed that in addition the letter should have as an appendix the 42 questions asked of G2 Energy following their visit to the village last year, not all of which were answered.

3.1.6 It was agreed that the Clerk would draft the letter which would be distributed for comment by 6 September. Once the letter had been agreed the Clerk would arrange to make three copies and deliver to AT for hand delivery to the Planning Inspectorate Offices in Bristol by Wednesday 10 September 2014.

**Clerk**

**4            DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

4.1            The next meeting will take place on Monday 15 September 2014  
at 7.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall