

Issue No. 3

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<http://www.pwag.co.uk>

### Inside this issue:

Irreparably damaged!	1
We can't do this without you!	1
Unsafe?	2
More than twice the height!	2
Planning Process Extension of Time.	2
We are looking for volunteers.	2
Your local P.W.A.G. representatives.	2
How to object to this wind farm.	2

### Latest News!

#### Wind farm at Birkin.

Wind farm plans for Sutton Lane at Birkin.

#### Wind farm at Brotherton.

"Scottish & Southern" are developing plans to apply for planning permission to erect 3 wind turbines 135metres high between Brotherton and Ferry Fryston.

#### Wind farm at Kellingley.

"Your Energy" announce plans to apply for planning permission to build a wind farm between Knottingley and Whitley Bridge.

#### Wind farm at Hemsworth.

Banks have not ruled out building a wind farm at Hemsworth.

#### Disclaimer

This newsletter is for general information purposes only. P.W.A.G. has taken all reasonable measures to ensure that the material contained in this newsletter is correct. However, P.W.A.G. gives no warranty and accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or the completeness of the material.

## Irreparably damaged!

### W.M.D.C.'s Landscape Architects statement.

**Summary of response by B Tupper, PLA for Wakefield MDC:-** "The (proposed six) turbines are close to residential dwellings. Their height results in them being visible over a relatively large area and the impact on the Landscape Character of Went Edge will be severe. Their design is unsympathetic, obtrusive and totally out of character in the location that is proposed and will destroy the historic landscape. The proposed site is Green Belt and their scale and appearance will not blend in with the rural landscape. The landscape of the area would be irreparably damaged."

### Planning process extended.

The date for the planning application has been extended to the **30<sup>th</sup> June 2008**. The plans were re-advertised in the local press on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April. W.M.D.C planning department are still faced with a tremendous amount of work in considering this application. Many large applications like this go to a public inquiry. W.M.D.C. also have to take into account public opinion, so we urge you to write in and object to this large industrial development threatening to literally overshadow our lives and homes. Have you see how high the measuring mast is? The



*Proposed wind farm view from East Hardwick looking at Went Edge.*

turbines if built would be more than twice that high and would have a huge impact on everything around them.

## We can't do this without you!

**Below are just a few of the names of people who have objected to the proposed wind farm.**

**Geoff Lofthouse** The Lord Lofthouse of Pontefract Former Labour MP and Speaker of House of Commons F.I.P.D., J.P., K.B./ Councillor **Geoff Walsh** Deputy Leader Conservative Group WMDC / Councillor **Trevor Izon** Labour Cabinet Member WMDC / **Ian Bloomer** President of Pontefract Conservative Club / **Bill O'Brien** Former Labour Member of Parliament for Normanton / **John Parkin** Primary Strategy Manager for Wakefield L.A. / **Roger Farrell** on behalf of Darrington Parish Council / **Steve Sykes** Chairman of East Hardwick Parish Council / **Ken McRitchie** Chair South Pontefract Partnerships / **Reg Greenhowe** Chair of Peacefield Project Chequerfield / **Kevir Berry** Board member St Mary's Community Centre Chequerfield / **John Denison** Chair West Park Mobile Homes / **John Colvill** Chair Carleton Community Centre / **Ken Willoughby** Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and Vice President of West Yorks. Astronomical Society / **Mrs Valerie Bloomer** JP, President of Normanton, Pontefract, Castleford Conservative Association / **Samuel John Brown** Pontefract Probus Club / **Allan Blaza** Pontefract Civic Society / **Michaela Crosland** Manager and Owner, The Grange Children's Nursery, Carleton / **Vicky Marks** on behalf of Darrington Parent and Toddler Group / **John Goodworth** Butcher / **Barry Atkinson** Barry Atkinson Carpets / **Mel Kenworthy** Lilac Heaven, Carleton / **Alistair Young** resident of Badsworth / **Caroline Kaine** mum Ackworth / **Gordon Woolard** Public Servant Chequerfield and the support of **Carleton Community High School** and more...and more..

### You too can have your voice heard.

It is still not too late to object to this planning application **07/1338/FUL**. For more information on how to object visit our website [www.pwag.co.uk](http://www.pwag.co.uk) and select "How to object to the wind farm" and "Standard letters" from the main menu. Or write to Wakefield M.D.C..

## We are looking for volunteers.

Can you help distribute leaflets in your local area? If you can please ring your local representative as we still need help in many areas.

## Your local PWAG representative is:

East Hardwick  
Tony Hames  
tel: 01977 620361

Carleton  
John Craven  
tel: 01977 599685

Darrington  
Ron Watson  
tel: 01977 791104

Pontefract  
Tony Hames  
tel: 01977 620361

Wentbridge  
Tony Hames  
tel: 01977 620361

## How to object to this wind farm.

For more information on how to object visit our website [www.pwag.co.uk](http://www.pwag.co.uk) select "**How to object to the wind farm**" and "**Standard letters**" from the main menu. Or write quoting **Application No: 07/01338/FUL** to: The Service Director for Planning, Wakefield M.D.C., Planning Services, Newton Bar, Wakefield. WF1 2TX.

## Unsafe?

There is much political comment from developers that wind farms are safe and free from accidents. P.W.A.G. are concerned about the close proximity of the turbines to Westfield Lane and have reminded the developers of their duty to carry out a Health and Safety Risk Assessment to clarify the actual risk to pass by. They have failed to

do this despite having a "Duty of Care" under Health and Safety Legislation.

P.W.A.G. has obtained the following statistics for unsafe conditions involving wind turbines which cast doubt on the developers statements and supports P.W.A.G.'s view that safety along Westfield Lane will be compromised.



**Examples of accidents that are never supposed to happen!**

**Total number of accidents: 482**  
**Number of fatal accidents: 45**

Source: (Caithness Windfarm Information Forum)  
[www.caithnesswindfarms.co.uk](http://www.caithnesswindfarms.co.uk)

## More than twice the height!

Proposed wind turbine 125m more than twice the height of the test mast!



The test mast 60m high on Westfield Lane

© Don Bownlow

## A response at last from Banks!

Banks Developments have at last responded to P.W.A.G.'s Objection Document by engaging an Environment and Planning Consultant to comment on our assertions that Went Edge and the surrounding communities would be devastated by the proposal. Surprisingly the consultant does not contest what we have said, but tries to make the case that government policy and environmental targets placed by government on local authorities should prevail over local conditions. How can that be right? Why don't Banks, the government and their consultants look for the most appropriate sites and promote them together so that inappropriate sites such as Westfield Lane do not waste so much time and public money before being thrown out.

P.W.A.G. will respond to the developer's comments just as robustly as in our Objection Document. We have not yet seen any argument that supports Westfield Lane as a site for a wind farm. In fact there isn't one.

If you have not objected to this planning application no: 07/01338/FUL please visit our website [www.pwag.co.uk](http://www.pwag.co.uk) and select "**How to object to the wind farm**" and "**Standard letters**" from the main menu.